

# THE BOOK OF DANIEL

LESSON 2: CONFIDENCE IN THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD

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SINCE GOD IS OMNISCIENT, HE KNOWS EVERYTHING PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE AND REVEALS HIS PURPOSE HOWEVER AND TO WHOMEVER HE SO CHOOSES (E.G., NEBUCHADNEZZAR) – 2:1-13.

- THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THOSE WHO RECEIVED REVELATIONS ALWAYS COMPREHENDED THEM – 2:1-3; SEE 1 PET 1:10-12.

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- FURTHERMORE, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR MANKIND TO DISCERN THE THOUGHTS OF GOD APART FROM REVELATION – 2:4-13; SEE 1 COR 2:6-13.

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- THOUGH SOME DO NOT UNDERSTAND GOD'S REVELATION AND EVEN ACT IN OPPOSITION TO IT, THE LORD CAN STILL WORK PROVIDENTIALLY FOR GOOD – SEE 2:46-49; ROM 8:28.

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**GOD DOES NOT EXPECT US TO APPROACH DIFFICULTY WITH BLIND OPTIMISM, BUT WE CAN MAINTAIN CONFIDENCE IN CRISES THROUGH OUR FAITH IN GOD – 2:14-24; SEE PROV 28:1.**

**HOW DID DANIEL MAINTAIN HIS CONFIDENCE?**

- **HE DISCRETELY AND DISCERNINGLY INVESTIGATED THE CRISIS – DAN 2:14-16.**

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## **HOW DID DANIEL MAINTAIN HIS CONFIDENCE?**

- **HE SURROUNDED HIMSELF WITH OTHER BELIEVERS AND PRAYED TO GOD – DAN 2:17-18.**

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## HOW DID DANIEL MAINTAIN HIS CONFIDENCE?

- HE PRAISED GOD FOR HIS REVELATION AND THEN TOOK ACTION – DAN 2:19-24.

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**IF SIMILAR CRISES BEGIN WEAKENING OUR RESOLVE,  
WE MUST REMEMBER TO GIVE GLORY TO GOD AND  
PRAISE HIM AS THE SOVEREIGN LORD OF THE  
UNIVERSE – DAN 2:25-30.**

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THE INTERPRETATION OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM SHOULD DEEPEN OUR APPRECIATION OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD AND STRENGTHEN OUR CONFIDENCE IN HIM – DAN 2:31-49.

- NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM REVEALS GOD'S PLAN FOR "THE LATTER DAYS" OR "THE END OF DAYS," THAT IS, THE AGE OF THE MESSIAH – 2:28; SEE ISA 2:2-4; JOEL 2:28-32; ACTS 2:16-21; HEB 1:1-2; 9:26; 1 PET 1:20-21.

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- THE DREAM EVIDENCES GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER THE RISING AND FALLING OF NATIONS AND HIS OVERARCHING REDEMPTIVE PLAN – 2:31-45; SEE HEB 12:28.

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- THE REACTION OF THE PAGAN, UNBELIEVING KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR DEMONSTRATES THE EFFECT DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY HAS ON RECEPTIVE HUMAN HEARTS – 2:46-49; SEE 4:34-35.

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IN SUM, JUST AS KNOWLEDGE OF THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD HELPS US STAY CONVICTED AMID CONFLICT AND COMPROMISE (LESSON 1), SO IT GIVES US CONFIDENCE TO FACE THE CRISES OF LIFE.