

DANIEL HAD 3 QUALITIES
WITH 3 OUTCOMES:

- ✓ HOPE led to COURAGE
- ✓ HUMILITY led to CREDIBILITY
- ✓ WISDOM led to PERSPECTIVE



The **truth** is not afraid of
accusations or questions.



It's **NOT** an Adventure Story

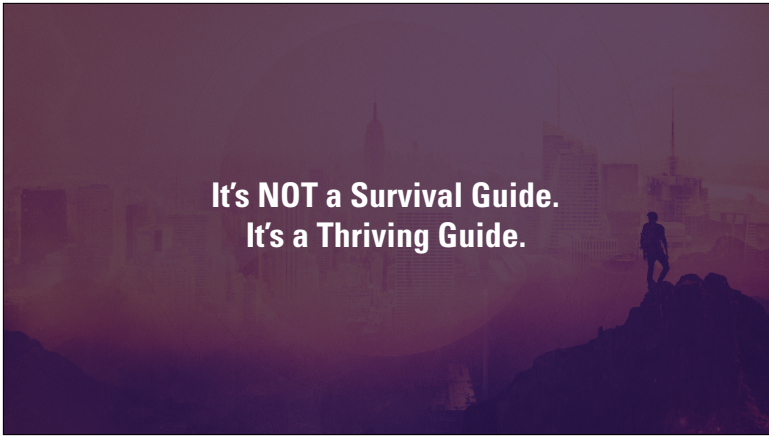


It's **NOT** simply a Prophecy Manual

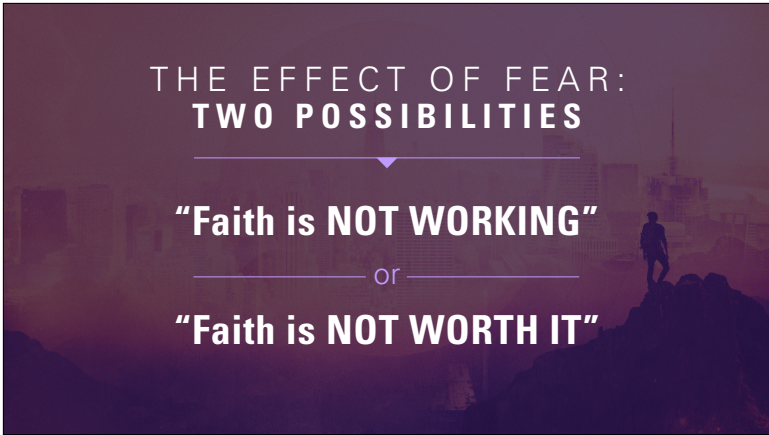




Whenever we turn the bulk of our attention to deciphering the obscure, we tend to miss the obvious.



**It's NOT a Survival Guide.
It's a Thriving Guide.**

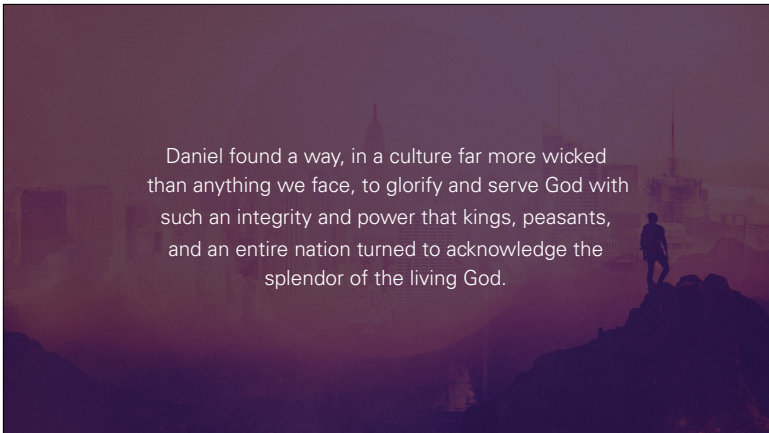


THE EFFECT OF FEAR:
TWO POSSIBILITIES

— ▼ —
"Faith is NOT WORKING"

— or —

"Faith is NOT WORTH IT"



Daniel found a way, in a culture far more wicked than anything we face, to glorify and serve God with such an integrity and power that kings, peasants, and an entire nation turned to acknowledge the splendor of the living God.

MAIN POINT:

The **truth** is not afraid of accusations or questions.

NEBUCHADNEZZAR WAS DESCRIBED AS:

"troubled" (vs. 1)



In the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his mind was troubled and he could not sleep.

DANIEL 2:1



So the king summoned the magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers to tell him what he had dreamed. When they came in and stood before the king, he said to them, "I have had a dream that troubles me and I want to know what it means."

DANIEL 2:2-3

i.e. "disturbed" (comes from a Aramaic word meaning "to be beaten" (vs. 3)

As a result: unreasonable requests,
accusations, and empty promises. (vv. 5-6)



"This is what I have firmly decided: If you do not tell me what my dream was AND interpret it, I will have you cut into pieces and your houses turned into piles of rubble."

DANIEL 2:5



Then the king answered, "I am certain that you are trying to gain time, because you realize that this is what I have firmly decided: If you do not tell me the dream, there is only one penalty for you. You have conspired to tell me misleading and wicked things, hoping the situation will change. So then, tell me the dream, and I will know that you can interpret it for me."

DANIEL 2:8-9




No king, however great and mighty, has ever asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or astrologer. What the king asks is too difficult. No one can reveal it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among humans.

DANIEL 2:10b-11

THE TRUTH ABOUT THOSE
WHO LIVE LIVES APART FROM
TRUST IN GOD:

1

**Human
Insecurity**



"The human heart is restless until
it finds its peace in God."

AUGUSTINE

THE TRUTH ABOUT THOSE
WHO LIVE LIVES APART FROM
TRUST IN GOD:

2

Human Hostility



This made the king so angry and furious that he
ordered the execution of all the wise men of
Babylon. So the decree was issued to put the wise
men to death, and men were sent to look for Daniel
and his friends to put them to death.

DANIEL 2:12-13

"If there is a God, how can I bear
not to be that God?"

FRIEDRICH NIETZSCHE

NEBUCHADNESSAR
HAD THE SAME STRUGGLE WE ALL HAVE:

He refused to allow God to be the God and Lord of his life either as a king or as a human.

THE END RESULT:

They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy.

ROMANS 1:25, 29-30

IN CONTRAST, DANIEL'S...

1

Speech was guided by wisdom and tact.

VV. 14-15

IN CONTRAST, DANIEL'S...

2

Fear was confronted with pre-emptive prayer.

VV. 17-18

IN CONTRAST, DANIEL'S...

3

Perspective was established by a spirit of worship.

VV. 19-23

IN CONTRAST, DANIEL'S...

4

Character was marked by boldness and grace.

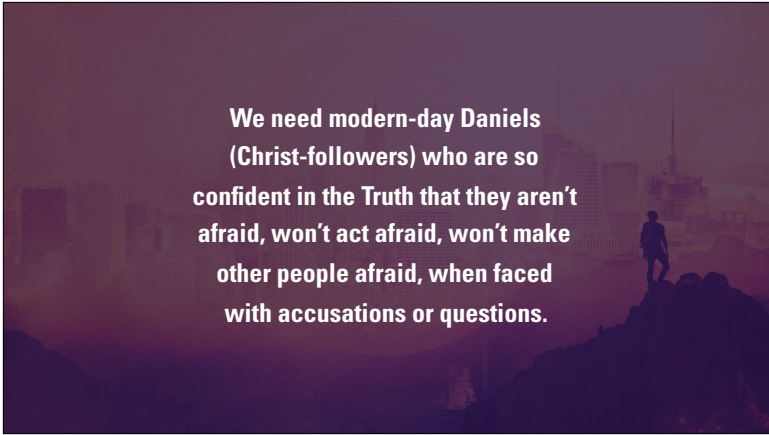
VV. 24-30

... BUT there IS a God in heaven who reveals secrets.

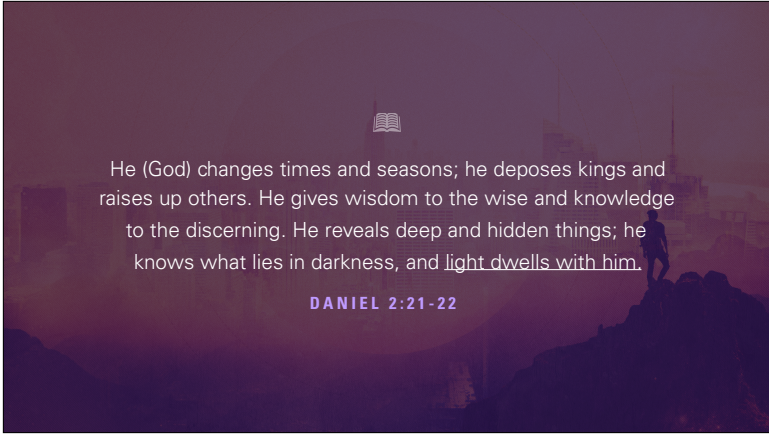
DANIEL 2:27-28


As for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because I have greater wisdom than anyone else alive, but so that Your Majesty may know the interpretation and that you may understand what went through your mind.

DANIEL 2:30

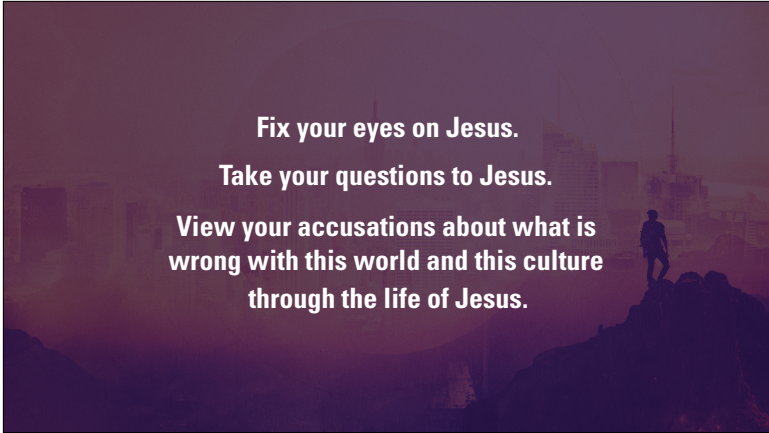


**We need modern-day Daniels
(Christ-followers) who are so
confident in the Truth that they aren't
afraid, won't act afraid, won't make
other people afraid, when faced
with accusations or questions.**





He (God) changes times and seasons; he deposes kings and
raises up others. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge
to the discerning. He reveals deep and hidden things; he
knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him.

DANIEL 2:21-22



**Fix your eyes on Jesus.
Take your questions to Jesus.
View your accusations about what is
wrong with this world and this culture
through the life of Jesus.**



Christ-followers have the best chance to
be at their best when the world is trying to
do its worst by showing that...

The **truth is not afraid of
accusations or questions.**