



## Going Deeper

### Daniel 2:1-30

# Troubled Sleep, Troubled Dreams and a “shakable” Kingdom

1. What did God reveal to you during this week’s teaching? What steps are you committed to taking in light of those new truths?
2. Nebuchadnezzar had troubled sleep because of “troubled dreams”. While it’s not explicitly stated, why does Nebuchadnezzar have so much trouble with his dream (2:31-45)? What kinds of pressures, anxieties and burdens are coming into play for Nebuchadnezzar (and those who lead in Babylon like empires)?
3. Review the culture of leadership that is described in Babylon. What are the dominant themes that characterize authority and leadership in Babylon? Juxtapose those against the leadership culture produced in the Kingdom of God. The chart we looked at Wednesday night is on the back of this page.

Dimension	Babylon/Caesar	Kingdom of God
Motivated by...	Fear (you better or else)	Love/service (Daniel serves the king)
Words are used to....	Flattery (positively); threats (negatively). Essentially words are used to puff up or weaponize.	They are kind but they are also honest (Daniel tells the King the truth). Words are "grace and truth"
Power Source	Self	God
Externally	Looks impressive (Golden Statue)	Looks weak (seed/tree metaphor)
Core Mission	Protect the King and preserve the Empire	Announce the reign and rule of Jesus Christ (this becomes a threat to kingdom of Babylon).

4. One of the unique strategies we see in Daniel (a repeated approach actually) is prayer, worship, adoration in the midst of chaos (2:20-23, 6:10). What is your personal worship with Jesus like right now in the midst of a very difficult year?
  
5. Extra Credit: Dig into the key moments in the Old Testament where a key figure gathers the people together to tell them what is going to happen in the "latter days" (Daniel 2:29). What is the dominant theme in these key Old Testament stories? How do they harmonize together to further build out the expectation of the "latter days" (i.e. "last days")? What should we be anticipating?

#### "The Latter Days"

1. Numbers 24 → Kingdom Vision (Balaam)
2. Deuteronomy 30 → Kingdom Vision (Moses)
3. Isaiah 2:2 → Kingdom Vision (Isaiah, mountain of God lifted up)