

APPLICATION

5 Keys to Thriving while Living in Babylon



_____ to the True King

We have *purposed* to follow God over all



Deep Ties to _____

We need each other's fellowship and _____!

Acts 2:42 - "And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."

Acts 12:12 - "[Peter] came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying. And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate..."

DANIEL CHALLENGE #1 - Invite one-another over for _____
Make a commitment to *at least* a monthly meal with fellow believers from church. (*Who will you invite? When?*)



Courageous Testimony: _____ but _____

We honor the earthly king – but we *obey* God



Reliance on _____: Daily and Urgent

Our _____ comes from God – not human might

Zechariah 4:6 - "Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts."

DANIEL CHALLENGE #2 – Start a '_____
Make a commitment to pray for someone else's needs

- ➔ Who are you faithfully praying _____?
- ➔ Who are you faithfully praying _____?
- ➔ _____ will your prayer time be?



Gardening with an Eye on the _____

Make Babylon *better*, while we wait for the *Eternal* Kingdom



THE BOOK OF DANIEL

How to Thrive while Living in Babylon

Part 3: "There is a God in Heaven"

TODAY'S TEXT: Daniel 2:1-28

2:1 – The King's Dream

Dreams and Visions?

- ➔ Regularly used by _____ to communicate with people

Pagan Kings:

Abimelech (**Genesis 20:3**), Pharaoh (**Genesis 41**)

The Fathers of our Faith, Prophets, and Kings:

Abraham (**Genesis 15:1**), Jacob (**Genesis 28:10-17**),
Samuel (**1 Samuel 3**), Solomon (**1 Kings 3:5**)

New Testament Pagans:

Cornelius (**Acts 10:1-6**), Pilate's Wife (**Matthew 27:19**)

New Testament Believers:

Joseph (**Matthew 2:13-22**), Ananias (**Acts 9:10**), Peter (**Acts 10:9-15**), Paul (**Acts 16:9-10**), John (**The Revelation**)

- ➔ Regularly used by the _____ to try to _____
Deuteronomy 13:1-5 – "If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him."

Galatians 1:8 – "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed."

Therefore: We _____ on the 'More Sure Word'

2 Peter 1:19 – “We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

God certainly still speaks to people in many different ways – but we should always check any 'word from the Lord' against the SURE Word of the Lord: **the Bible**. This is our safeguard to know if God is truly speaking to us or not.

2:2-3 – Magicians, _____, Sorcerers, & Chaldeans - oh my!

“Magicians” = *ḥarṭōm* = Diviner, having occult knowledge, horoscopist

“Astrologers” = *aššāp* = Conjurer, enchanter (**Babylonian loan-word*)

“Sorcerers” = *kāšāp* = Witchcraft, sorcery, to whisper spells

“Chaldeans” = *kašdîmâ* = The land bordering the Persian Gulf / Chaldea
= famous for their Astronomy and Math (*base 60 counting!*)

2:4-9 – The King Gets Tired of the _____

“Syriack” = *ārāmy* = The Syrian language, Aramaic

** Aramaic had become the widely adopted language of administration and diplomacy across the ancient Near East*

** Jesus often spoke Aramaic: was probably raised speaking it at home*

Psalms 12:1 – “Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men. They speak vanity every one with his neighbour: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak. The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things: Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?”

- ➔ Lies are designed to put us in _____... the Truth sets you _____!
John 8:32 – “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”

2:10-11 – The Request: Impossible for any _____!

Acts 17:23 – “For as I passed by, and beheld your devotions, I found an altar with this inscription, TO THE UNKNOWN GOD. Whom therefore ye ignorantly worship, him declare I unto you. God that made the world and all things therein, seeing that he is Lord of heaven and earth, dwelleth not in temples made with hands...”

2:12-13 – The King's _____

Proverbs 20:2 – “The fear of a king is as the roaring of a lion: whoso provoketh him to anger sinneth against his own soul.”

2:14-16 – Daniel's Example of _____

“Wisdom” = Right Actions on the Right Principles

- ➔ Doesn't _____ in the face of Fear
Isaiah 41:10 – “Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.”
- ➔ Seeks to _____ before Reacting
Proverbs 18:13 – “He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.”
- ➔ Approaches the King humbly and _____
Matthew 18:15 – “Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.”

2:17-18 – Facing the Impossible: Urgent _____

1 Timothy 2:1-2 – “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty.”

Acts 12:5 – “Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.”

“A prayerful church is a powerful church.” - Charles Spurgeon

2:19-23 – The God of the _____

Luke 1:37 – “For with God nothing shall be impossible.”

Proverbs 2:6 – “For the LORD giveth wisdom: out of his mouth cometh knowledge and understanding.”

2:24-28 – I'm *not* God... but I do _____ Him!

2 Corinthians 4:6-7 – “For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.”