

The Book of Daniel

2:1-30

Introduction

Without God's intervening favor, Daniel is faced with the prospect of death. So, he rushes to his community for prayer. The result is amazing – he is used by God to communicate to Nebuchadnezzar's dream without even knowing what the dream was about.

Discussion

1. What does the connection between Daniel and Matthew tell us about the inspiration of scripture? What does it tell us about the Bible in general?
2. It was suggested that the language change in Daniel (from Hebrew to Aramaic and back to Hebrew) was to parallel the story of redemption. What does this say about God's love of the nations?
3. Daniel had faith that God would intervene, so he got together with his community to pray. How important is cooperative prayer as a body of believers?
4. The wisdom Daniel received was not his own, but it was given to him by God. What is stopping us from receiving wisdom from God?
5. Even though Daniel was in a culture hostile towards him, it seems that he wanted to see those people saved. This is quite opposite of Jonah's story. Today, would we rather see judgment or salvation for our culture? Why or why not?

Application

The importance of cooperative prayer is stressed to us in the picture of Daniel running to his friends in time of need. Do you seek after cooperative prayer enough? If not, how can we encourage one another to pray in community more than we currently do?

Prayer

Please pray for the outgoing missions teams that will be taking the gospel to Portland, Sarajevo, and Chicago this summer.