

The Book of Daniel

2:31-49

Introduction

Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream, speaking the truth about the temporary nature of human kingdoms. The foundation of human government is fundamentally flawed because it is built on fundamentally flawed beings. However, the good news found within Nebuchadnezzar's dream is the stone that comes to crush all temporary kingdoms and replace it with the eternal kingdom of God.

Discussion

1. What are the pitfalls of ascribing meaning to every single detail in biblical apocalyptic literature?
2. Nebuchadnezzar's dream essentially demonstrated that God will replace humanity's temporary kingdoms with an everlasting kingdom. With this in mind, why does humanity have a proclivity to trust in temporary governments?
3. During Daniel's day, the Babylonians believed that the gods could be manipulated to bend to human will. Do we treat God the same way?
4. Daniel took a great risk in telling the king the hard truth about his dream, but he trusted that God's will would be done. Do we exhibit this kind of trust in difficult circumstances?
5. What does Nebuchadnezzar's proclamation say about people who claim to know God, but act contrary to that claim?

Application

What are ways we can keep ourselves from placing hope in temporary kingdoms, focusing instead on the eternal kingdom of God?

Prayer

Please pray for the outgoing missions teams traveling to Portland and Chicago this week.