

Dan 2:1 Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled & his sleep left him.

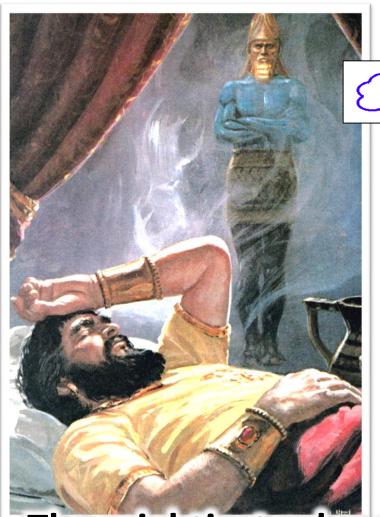
Babylonians counted the rule:

#1 Year of "ascension";

#2 The first year of the reign

#3 The second year of the reign

Hence Daniel finished 3 years of training (1:18).. it is now 3 yrs later & yet just "2nd of Neb's reign!"



v.1b <u>Nebuchadnezzar</u> had <u>dreams</u> and his spirit was troubled..

(Prov 21:1) The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord and He turns it wherever He wishes.

God controls this king and the kings of all future nations

The mightiest ruler on earth & God can trouble him with something so insubstantial as a dream.

Dan 2:2 Then the king gave orders to call in the magicians, the conjurers, the sorcerers & the Chaldeans, to tell the king his dreams. Magicians: Priests, using incantations, muttered to idolatrous gods. **Conjurers**: mediums claiming to call up dead. **Sorcerer**: to whisper spells, and control spirits. **Chaldeans:** astrologers from SE of Babylonia.

Dan 2:2b So they came in & stood before the king.

v3 And the king said to them, "I had a dream, & my spirit is anxious to understand the dream.



Babylonians were noted for their use of the *omen-interpreter Astrologers*. (Isa 47:13)



Dan 2:4 Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in <u>Aramaic</u>

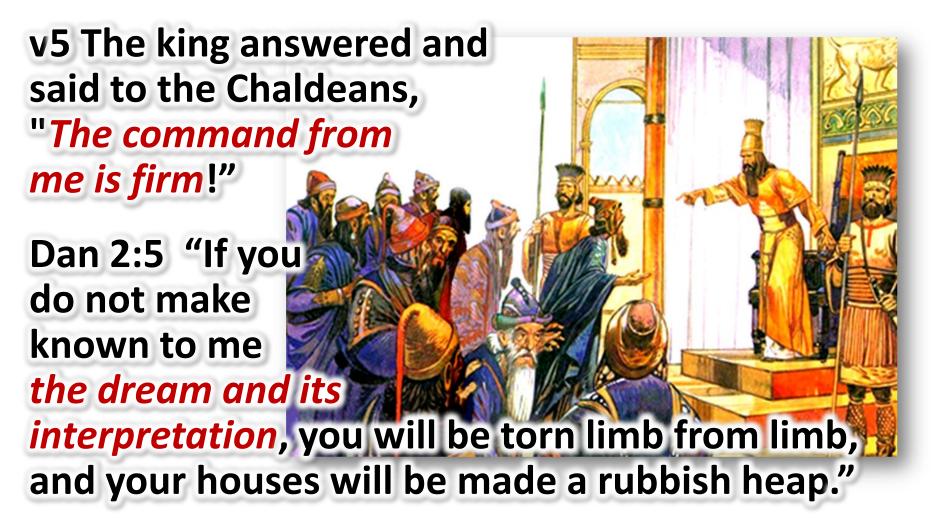
The text is in <u>Aramaic</u> from this point in Dan 2:4 to 7:28.

Chapters 2-7 deal primarily with foreign world powers & written in <u>Aramaic</u> so they could read it

"O king live forever" (Dan 2:4) Typical Oriental greeting to a ruler by Hebrew & Gentile alike.

Also said to Artaxerxes & Darius (Neh 1:2; Dan 6:21)

Dan 2:4 *Tell the dream to your servants*, and we will declare the interpretation.



Nebuchadnezzar is tired of supporting a bunch of snake oil wizards uttering mumbo-jumbo.

He would have proof this time!

2:6 Offers them Gifts, reward and great honor if tell dream + interpretation.

2:7-8 They try to bargain for time, for king to tell they dream and they'll fake an interpretation.

2:9 Nebuchadnezzar knows they have conspired to speak lying words.

Nebuchadnezzar assembled the "worlds best" but the 'Psychic hotline' was as fraudulent then as now!

Dan 2:10 The Chaldeans answered the king and said, "There is not a man on earth who could declare the matter for the king, inasmuch as no great king or ruler has ever asked anything like this of any magician, conjurer or Chaldean.



Dan 2:11 "Moreover, the thing which the king demands is difficult, and there is no one else who could declare it to the king except gods, whose dwelling place is not with mortal flesh."

Dan 2:12 Because of this the king became indignant and very furious, and gave orders to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. Dan 2:13 So the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they looked for Daniel and his friends to kill them.

Dan 2:14 "Then Daniel replied with discretion and discernment to <u>Arioch</u>, the captain of the king's bodyguard, who had gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon."

Dan 2:15 He answered and said to Arioch, the king's commander, "For what reason is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch informed Daniel about the matter.

Dan 2:16 Daniel went in and requested of the king that he would give him time, in order that he might declare the interpretation to the king.

Question: "HOW" did Daniel go in and make request of the king? Dan 2:16

IF he spoke personally to the king at this point why is he later introduced to the king in detail by Arioch? (Dan 2:25)

PERHAPS he went to the palace & made request by the mediation of a court official, who had access to the king.

Why did the king grant Daniel time? Daniel will give the <u>interpretation</u> (v.16) & the <u>dream</u> (v.31)

Fakes wanted time for king to change **QUESTION**.. Daniel wanted time to ask God for the **ANSWER**.

Dan 2:17 Then Daniel went to his house and informed his friends, Hananiah, Mishael & Azariah, about the matter..



18 in order that they might request compassion from the God of heaven concerning this mystery,

(LFL)

so that Daniel and his friends might not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

What if we gathered our friends more often to pray?

Dan 2:19 Then the mystery was revealed to



Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven

VISION: what is "seen" while yet awake. (Dan 1:17)

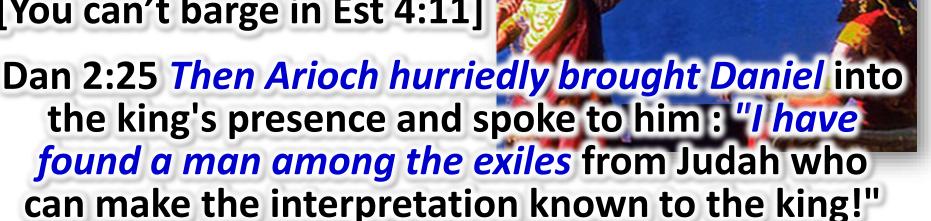
Repeated use: Gen 15:1 Abram; Lk 1:22 Zacharias; Act 9:10 Ananias; Acts 10:10, 17 Peter; John Rev 9:17.

v20-23 Daniel <u>thanks God</u>. How about us? (Eph 5:20) v.20 Let His Name be blessed for <u>wisdom & power!</u> v.21 <u>Providence:</u> Removes Kings.. Gives Wisdom. v.22 <u>Omniscience:</u> Reveals hidden things.. He knows v.23 <u>Answers prayer:</u> "O God of my fathers, I give

thanks. You have made known the king's matter."

Proper protocol (Dan 2:24) **Daniel asks Arioch** for an audience with the King.

[You can't barge in Est 4:11]



Dan 2:27 "Neither wise men, conjurers, magicians, nor diviners are able to declare it to the king. 28 "However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King ... what will take place in the latter days.



Dan 2:28 However, there is a <u>God</u> in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days.

Other instances of phrase: (Jas 5:3) It is in the *last days*. (Acts 2:16-17) In *latter days* (Heb 1:1-2) In these *last days*

Last phase of Jewish history (Dan 10:14) "What will happen to your people in the latter days.

Dan 2:31-35 Daniel Reveals the Actual Dream.

1st (2:36-38) Nebuchadnezzar's Babylon. Head of Gold

2nd (Dan2:39a) Medo-Persia (Dan 5:30-31; 6:8, 15) Silver

3rd (Dan2:39b) Alexander's Greece (Dan 8:5-7, 20-21) Bronze

4th (Dan2:40 -43) Imperial Rome (Luke 2:1) Iron and clay

Dan 2:44 "And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.

Dan 2:45b the great God has made known to the king what will take place in the future; so the dream is true, and its interpretation is trustworthy."

Dan 2:46 King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face & did homage to Daniel, & gave orders to present to him an offering and fragrant incense.