

**Daniel;
The
Opportunity**

1-18-15

Daniel 2:10–11 (ESV)

¹⁰ The Chaldeans answered the king and said, “There is not a man on earth who can meet the king’s demand, for no great and powerful king has asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or Chaldean. ¹¹ The thing that the king asks is difficult, and no one can show it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.”

God is in the business of revealing Himself and the good news of Jesus Christ including the empowering of the Holy Spirit. Therefore we should be ready and not be surprised when HE does move. One of the ways God moves to reveal Himself is to disrupt the things of this world and the plans of man. This also is one of the reasons that we as believers do not recognize the move of God. We have the false view that nothing in this world should go wrong or cause us any distress.

Last week we looked at how God used Daniel in a powerful way to interpret Nebuchadnezzar’s dream concerning the future. God exalted Daniel in a powerful way. **This week we want to look at how God set the stage for this to happen and the attitude of Daniel in this tumultuous situation.** Although the circumstances change, **all through the Bible we see the same principles at work.** Therefore we should be aware when these things happen to us so we can cooperate with God and be used in a mighty way to grow HIS kingdom.

**The Opportunity: Be Alert and Cooperate with God
#1 God Moves – This is Kingdom Awareness -
Ultimately a Sovereign Act of God is taking place.**

Daniel 2:1 (ESV)

In the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his spirit was troubled, and his sleep left him.

God is stirring in the physical situation. Same thing in the book of Esther as Haman was going to kill Mordecai.

Esther 6:1–3 (ESV)

On that night the king Xerxes could not sleep. And he gave orders to bring the book of memorable deeds, the chronicles, and they were read before the king.² And it was found written how Mordecai had told about two of the king's servants who had sought to lay hands on King Xerxes.³ And the king said, "What honor or distinction has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?"

The point is, we as believers need to be alert of the Hand of God moving all around us!

#2 Man Moves – This is Kingdom Awareness - A Situation or Problem Presents Itself.

Daniel 2:9b (ESV)

Nebuchadnezzar said, Tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can show me its interpretation.

Nebuchadnezzar didn't just say interpret the dream. He said, "Tell me the dream." When God puts pressure on an authority or other people, **they put pressure on us.** The same thing happened when God used Moses to put pressure on Pharaoh to let the people go. Pharaoh then put pressure on the people.

Exodus 5:6–7 (ESV)

The same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their foremen, (have the people make bricks without straw!)

The point is, we as believers need to recognize that when others put pressure on us; God is putting pressure on them giving us an opportunity to show God's glory.

#3 The Impossibility Is The Opportunity

Daniel 2:10–11 (ESV)

¹⁰ The Chaldeans answered the king and said, "**There is not a man on earth who can meet the king's demand**, for no great and powerful king has asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or Chaldean. ¹¹ **The thing that the king asks is difficult, and no one can show it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.**"

God wants to create an impossible situation where HE and HE alone will get the glory. Remember God is in the business of revealing Himself.

Judges 7:2 (ESV)

The LORD said to Gideon, “The people with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel boast over me, saying, ‘My own hand has saved me.’

Kingdom Principle: God reduces Gideon’s army from 32,000 to 300 in order to carry out HIS work.

Brothers and sisters, this is a great truth of God: The Impossibility Is The Opportunity!

#4 In The Impossible Align Yourself with God!

Daniel 2:12–18 (ESV)

¹² Because of this the king was angry and very furious, and commanded that all the wise men of Babylon be destroyed. ¹⁶ And Daniel went in and requested the king to appoint him a time, that he might show the interpretation to the king.

¹⁷ Then Daniel went to his house and made the matter known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, ¹⁸ and told them to seek mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his companions might not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon

Since we understand that God is moving in this world, we gather people of God to go before the throne of God.

Hebrews 4:16 (ESV)

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Having aligned ourselves with God we serve as the vessels of God.

#5 Revealing The Glory - Vessel of divine manifestation

Daniel 2:19 (ESV)

Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision of the night. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

Daniel 2:27–30 (ESV)

²⁷ Daniel answered the king and said, “No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or astrologers can show to the king the mystery that the king has asked, ²⁸ but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, ... ³⁰ But as for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because of any wisdom that I have more than all the living, but in order that the interpretation may be made known to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your mind.

Note: Religion is not a private matter! Satan wants to make it a private matter. We are vessels of God to proclaim His glory.

#6 Be Alert To Divine Positioning

Daniel 2:47–49 (ESV)

⁴⁷ The king answered and said to Daniel, “Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings, and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery.” ⁴⁸ Then the king gave Daniel high honors and many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. ⁴⁹ Daniel made a request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel remained at the king’s court.

When cooperating with God, God establishes Divine Positioning: We will be placed where we are supposed to be! Therefore, showing God’s Glory will bring provision necessary to show more of God’s glory

Can we be assured that we will always get that special promotion, raise, and gratitude? No! However we can be assured that we will be where we are supposed to be and have all the long-term provision and protection necessary from God Himself.

Look at who we are!

2 Corinthians 5:21 (ESV)

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.