

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM (Daniel 2)

(I) A DREAM THAT DISTURBS. Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that greatly disturbed him. He lost his sleep because he sensed that his kingdom was about to be taken from him. He was deeply shaken because without his kingdom he is finished. (Contrast this with the New Testament attitude: *To be alive is a blessing. To die is to win it all!*)

God put a dream in the subconscious mind of Nebuchadnezzar. (The Psalmist says, "You created my innermost being"). He commands his sorcerers to tell him the dream and the interpretation or face death. He is doing this to test if their god is real or fake.

It's easy to talk religion, and continue being religious. But only the truth will save us. *How much of our Christian life and church life is just religiosity? And how much of our church life is based on pure biblical truth?*

(II) A PRAYER THAT REVEALS. When Daniel heard about the order to kill all the wise-men in Babylon, he requested the king for more time. He organised a prayer meeting with his friends and they begged for God's mercy. Daniel found that God's mercy is double-edged: (1) the revelation of mystery, and (2) the deliverance from death.

Daniels' prayer after receiving mercy is very specific. We often say very general praise to God. But the Psalms are personal and the praise offer is usually very specific and experiential.

When was the last time God did something for you for which you can praise and thank him specifically? (Not just in a general way like "God I thank you because you are the creator") This is a test for true spiritual conversion and true biblical spirituality.

The dream interpreted: #Head of Gold=Babylon. #Chest of silver=Persian. #Middle and thighs of bronze=Greece, Alexander the great. #Legs of iron, feet of iron and clay=Rome. #Stone=Jesus and the Kingdom.

It is surprising that Nebuchadnezzar received Daniel's interpretation with delight even when the interpretation was not favourable to him. The days of his kingdom are numbered. He will be conquered by a kingdom inferior to his own, ultimately to be crushed into pieces by a small stone. Why was he strangely relieved? Here, I think, is the answer: *When God speaks, it may not be the answer you want, but GOD himself is the answer you seek. It strangely silences you and satisfies you.*

At the end of Chapter 2, Nebuchadnezzar is impressed, but not converted yet. One can be impressed with Christianity and church, but conversion is a different thing. We will not enter the Kingdom of God by being merely impressed with His Son.

(III) THE DREAM THAT RESTORES. At the end of chapter 2 Daniel presents a dream, still unfulfilled in his day. The "stone uncut by human hand" which appeared during the Roman rule is Christ and it represents how he came to establish the Kingdom of God on earth.

For us today, this Kingdom is a reality because of Christ, but not fully realised yet (Kingdom already/not yet). Daniel looked ahead and saw a great mountain. But actually it is two mountains – the *first coming of Jesus* where he inaugurated the Kingdom, and the *second coming of Jesus* where he will come to established his Kingdom on earth. We live in the valley between the two mountains, and we must constantly learn to look up.

The gospel is not only backward looking. The early saints at the end of their lives were not looking backward. They were looking forward to the Kingdom that will never be shaken; the Kingdom that will have no end; the Kingdom we will one day call home!

- Pastor Kedo Peseyie



CHRIST THE POWER OF GOD
AND THE WISDOM OF GOD

City Church

MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE

- Leader : Bokato Hesso
- Speaker : Pastor Kedo Peseyie
- Ushers : Thungchamo Ezung & Ajen Longkumer
- Keyboard : Vizolenuo Solo
- Flower : Aying Murry

Call to Worship Praise & Worship

Mass Prayer

- Announcement
- Special Song : 1. Beginner Class
2. Children's Choir
- Offertory
- Responsive Reading: Proverbs 31:10-31*

- Message
- Prayer for Mothers*
- Hymn No.312 : Count Your Blessings
- Benediction



City Church **Jumble Sales Day** towards the end of this month in aid of church building. (Date to be announced). **Collection of items is going on. Worshippers may either submit the items for sale to the women department or the church office.** For more details kindly contact the Women Department or the church office.

VISION statement of the City Church:

City Church seeks to honor and worship Jesus Christ as Lord and the only God; and to build the Body of Christ (The Church) with all who love Him as disciples, proclaiming Him as the Savior to all nations.

AIMS of the City Church:

Worship: *To Worship God and exalt His name together as a Church.*

Fellowship: *To build the body of Christ with all who love Him through mutual sharing, help and growth.*

Evangelism: *To witness for Christ both by proclamation and by lifestyle so as to cause others to experience God's great salvation.*

Discipleship: *To establish members as disciples of Jesus Christ through systematic Bible Studies and teaching and equip them for effective service.*

Mission: *To send out people in obedience to God's call and command to reach the un-reached for Christ.*

The Woman who Fears the Lord

(Proverbs 31:10-31)

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.

Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.

She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.

She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.

She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar.

She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her family and portions for her female servants.

She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.

She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks.

She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.

In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers.

She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.

When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet.

She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple.

Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.

She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes.

She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.

She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:

“Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.”

Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

Honour her for all that her hands have done, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.



Happy
Mother's
Day

INFORMATION

- Next Thursday Women Fellowship will be colony-wise fellowship at 5pm.
- Enroute today at 3pm.
- Wednesday Bible study at 5pm.

PRAYER:

- Take this time to thank God for those who had made a difference in your life, especially in your spiritual journey and development of faith. Thank God especially for mothers, grandmothers, and many other women of faith.
- Pray for the leadership in our State of Nagaland: *political* leaders, *administrative* leaders, leaders in *education*, *business*, and *church* leaders in different denominations and associations. Pray that they may lead with integrity, wisdom and faithfulness, so that the people will live well and seek God.
- Continue to pray for those who are sick and in need of healing grace: (1) Mrs. Akokla in Kolkata, Toshinara Ovung's sister. (2) Tolika's mother in Guwahati. (3) Any others...

Sunday, May 6th, 2018

Tithes: ₹ 1,29,600 Offering: ₹ 9,140 Thanksgiving: ₹ 200
Building Fund: ₹ 64,000 Mission: ₹ 3,500 Nagamese: ₹ 2,710 Total: ₹ 2,09,150

citychurchkoh@gmail.com, Facebook: "City Church Kohima".

Contact: 0370-2242687/ 8131862333