DANIEL FAMILY DEVOS

5

Prophecy

Scripture: Daniel 2:31-49

Memory Verse: Isaiah 46:9b-10

"I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, 'My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure."

For My Family:

Last time, we saw that the Lord had revealed the king's dream to Daniel, and not just the dream, but the interpretation as well. Through this dream, the Lord revealed something to Daniel, the king, and anyone else willing to listen, about events that were still to come in the future. When the Lord shows people something that He promises will happen in the future, we use a special word: prophecy. The word sounds like another word we used when talking about Deborah. If you remember, she was a prophet, someone who hears from God and delivers that message to the people. Prophecy is the message that is revealed from God and then shared with all of us, either through people like Deborah and Daniel, or through His Word.

The interpretation of the dream was a prophecy about the kingdoms that would come after Babylon, which were the Persian, Greek and Roman Empires. Ultimately, the dream speaks to us about God's kingdom, led by Jesus Christ, that will stand forever. It's a kingdom greater than anything that has ever come before.

The Bible is full of prophecy. There is prophecy about children being born to Abraham and Zechariah, prophecy about God's judgment coming against Israel's enemies, and even Israel itself. There is prophecy about where specific people would go, or where armies would fight, like those revealed to Elisha. There are also many, many prophecies about Jesus and His birth, death, resurrection, and eventual reign on earth. Lots of the prophecies that we read about in Scripture have already been fulfilled, but there are lots that we are still waiting to see happen. Even in the dream that the Lord gave Nebuchadnezzar, we see some things that happened already (proving the prophecy to be real) like the Persians, Greeks, and Romans having great empires that eventually fell, but also things that haven't happened yet, like Jesus setting up His own Kingdom that will last forever.

When the dream was revealed to the king, it caused him to glorify God, just as Daniel had hoped. When we read through the prophetic passages of Scripture, it should cause us to do the same, to praise God and worship Him for all the things that He has done, is doing, and will do in our lives. Praise God that one day, He will return and make all things new, and His throne will stand forever!

Questions for Young Children:

What is prophecy?

When Nebuchadnezzar heard the prophecy, what did he do?

Which part of Daniel's prophecy still applies to us today?

Questions for Teens and Pre-teens:

In what ways did Daniel's prophecy come true? (For more info, go to www.enduringword.com/bible-commentary/daniel-2)

In what ways are we still waiting for Daniel's prophecy to come to pass?

What was the purpose of God revealing this dream to Daniel? (Hint: What did it cause Nebuchadnezzar to do?)