

1. Daniel 2 presents for the first time the outline of the program of God for the period of Gentile supremacy and chastisement of Israel.
2. Nowhere else in Scripture - with the exception of Daniel 7 - is a more detailed description given from the time of Daniel (600 years before Christ) to the second coming of Christ.
3. The record stretches from the decree to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem to the second coming of Christ.
4. Nebuchadnezzar had a dream and he recognized that this dream was important. (2:1)
5. The ancient Babylonians believed that dreams were messages from the gods - so a right understanding of the dream was critical for their future.
6. In this case Nebuchadnezzar apparently feared that the strange revelation contained an ominous message for him.
7. The kingdom counselors are summoned to the king. (2:2-4)
8. Next we see the desperation of the counselors. (2:5-13)
9. The statement of the counselors in Daniel 2:10 wipes out astrology and other forms of human prophecy! Out of their own mouths they condemned their own practices.
10. Then in verses 14-16 we see Daniel's request for time to determine what the dream consisted of and also to seek an interpretation of the dream.
11. By delaying his obedience to the decree of the king - Arioch was risking his own life. Arioch allowed Daniel time to speak to Nebuchadnezzar. (2:17-23)
12. Daniel's prayer of praise closed with thanks that God had revealed the king's dream to the four who had trusted Him.
13. The dream is explained to Nebuchadnezzar. (2:24-45)
14. Daniel's answer sets the matter in its proper light and gives God the glory. (2:25-30)
15. Before Daniel revealed the dream's contents, he reminded Nebuchadnezzar of the circumstances of the dream. (2:29)
16. Evident throughout this passage is the reality that true knowledge concerning spiritual matters and the future come only from God. (2:30)
17. Nebuchadnezzar's dream is revealed. (2:31-35)
18. The interpretation of the dream. (2:36-45)

