

Peace within Political Turmoil

Daniel 2: 20-22

Our text today comes during an interesting and intense moment in the life of Daniel. King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream which brought concern unto him. He called for the wise men of the kingdom to come before him, and not only interpret the dream, but to reveal the details of his dream. He was unable to remember the details of the dream, but knew it was of great significance. Daniel was also brought before the king to reveal his interpretation.

Daniel sought the Lord for wisdom, and God gave him a vision of Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Following the revelation, Daniel offered praise unto the Lord for His grace and faithfulness. While there is much we could consider in this chapter regarding prophecy, I am interested in the words of wisdom and praise Daniel offered unto the Lord. We are upon the threshold of another presidential election in America. While I believe the results of this election will set the course of America for the coming decades, I haven't met anyone who is actually confident in either of the candidates who are running for the highest elected office in the land. Many are concerned for future of our nation, and I share their concerns. However, there is no reason for us to worry over the outcome of the election results. We can rest in the provision and guidance of the Lord regardless of the results. I hope this passage will offer guidance and help bring assurance to you as we face an uncertain future.

I want to consider the [attributes](#) of God revealed within Daniel's words of praise as we think on: [Peace within Political Turmoil](#).

I. The Splendor of God (20) – [Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his.](#) Following his prayer for wisdom, and receiving the answer he needed, Daniel breaks forth in praise because of the splendor and majesty of God. He mentioned:

A. God's Name (20a) – [Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever.](#) Bear in mind, he will soon stand before the most powerful man on earth at that moment in time. However, Daniel doesn't mention Nebuchadnezzar. He is not worried about the position or status of the king of Babylon. He stands within the power and provision of the true and living God. He offers praise to the Lord, exalting His great name!

- There are many names associated with political power in America. No doubt everyone here today has heard the names of Clinton, Trump, Obama, Bush, Reid, Pelosi, Ryan, McConnell, McCrory, Cooper and others more than we care to mention. Many today are depending on one or more of these to bring about the change and national security they desire. Like Daniel, our focus

must not be on mere mortals, but upon the Lord Himself. He has a name above every name. There is no other name, given among men, whereby we must be saved. I am not trusting in the tainted names of politicians; I am trusting in the righteous name of Christ my Lord! [Psalm 103:1-2 Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.](#) ^[2] [Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.](#) Psalm 145:2 – [Every day will I bless thee; and I will praise thy name for ever and ever.](#)

B. God's Nature (20b) – [Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his.](#) Nebuchadnezzar may have possessed great power as a dominant king, but his power and wisdom paled in comparison to God's. He lacked the ability to comprehend, and even remember his dream, but God allowed Daniel to rightly see and discern a dream that wasn't even his. He rejoiced to know that God possessed all wisdom and might!

- I am peacefully resting in Christ my Lord to guard and guide my life. He has promised to be there each step of the way. The life I now live is safe within His care, and He is preparing an eternal home for me in heaven. I have no reason to fear in this life or the one to come. My eternal destiny is secure in Christ my Lord, regardless of the outcome of this election. Men and women are limited in their power and wisdom, but our Lord is not. He never has to seek counsel from another, and there will never be a situation to arise that He cannot handle! [1 Chron.29:11 – Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.](#)

II. The Sovereignty of God (21-22a) – While Nebuchadnezzar had great influence, Daniel knew that God was sovereign. He was aware of:

A. God's Power (21a) – [And he changeth the times and the seasons.](#) Nebuchadnezzar was worried about his inability to remember and interpret a dream, while Daniel knew God was sovereign over creation. He reigned in great power, having the ability to change the times and the seasons. God controlled the rising of the sun, the showers of rain, the winds that blew, and the changing of the seasons. While men were limited, God reigned in sovereign power.

- Many today worry about the outcome of the election, and yet fail to recognize the eternal God who possesses all power. The earth and all it contains were created by Him. He remains in control of every aspect of human life and the world in which we live. Regardless of who is elected, God will remain seated on His throne in absolute power and authority! [Ecc.3:1-8 – To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:](#) ^[2] [A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted;](#) ^[3] [A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to](#)

break down, and a time to build up; ^[4] A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; ^[5] A time to cast away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ^[6] A time to get, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away; ^[7] A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; ^[8] A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace. Like Daniel, Solomon was aware of the times and seasons, and he knew God was in control of both.

B. God's Plan (21b) – *he removeth kings, and setteth up kings*. Daniel knew Nebuchadnezzar's dream dealt with the demise of his kingdom and others to follow. While this would cause great alarm for Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel rested in the sovereignty of God. He knew that God removed kings from their thrones and established the reign of others. The rule of kingdoms were not left to mere chance, but were sovereignly orchestrated by God.

- This portion of the text is what I had on my heart regarding this election cycle. While I agree there is much at stake, possibly the very existence of our nation, I rest in the sovereign plan of God. You may disagree, but God already knows the outcome of this election, and it will happen according to His sovereign will. He has a plan for this earth and those who inhabit it. We are moving toward the soon return of Christ the Lord. God is orchestrating world events according to His divine plan. While we may not understand or even like the path we must travel, we can rest knowing God is in control and His sovereign plans will be fulfilled. Christ is coming again, regardless of who is elected president! *Rev.19:11-16 – And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.* ^[12] *His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.* ^[13] *And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.* ^[14] *And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.* ^[15] *And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.* ^[16] *And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.*

C. God's Provision (21c-22a) – *he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:* ^[22a] *He revealeth the deep and secret things*. Daniel knew true wisdom came from God alone. While men may devise their plans, often motivated by fleshly desires and pride, God was the source of genuine wisdom and truth. Apart from Him, truth would be unattainable. He rejoiced that God had revealed truth to him in his moment of need. Where men were lacking in wisdom, God was able to provide.

- I often pray for godly wisdom to be imparted to those who lead our nation. I know they must seek it, and yet I know godly wisdom is our only hope. We desperately need those who will seek the Lord and govern according to His Word and will for our nation. That wisdom is not obtained from any other source. True wisdom comes from God. We must pray for the wisdom of our elected officials. Without wisdom, we are destined for ruin and despair. [James 1:5 – If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.](#)

III. The Sufficiency of God (22b) – [he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him.](#) Daniel rejoiced for the unmatched sufficiency of our Lord. He mentioned:

A. God's Wisdom – While men were limited in wisdom and understanding, God possessed divine wisdom. He knew what was hidden in darkness. He knew the secret desires and motives of men. There was nothing hid from the omniscient Lord.

- The average politician has developed the ability to speak a message the public wants to hear. While some have good intentions, they lack the wisdom and ability to provide their promises. Others are intentionally deceptive, seeking a vote, while hoping their true motives are not revealed. Rarely do any of them follow through with their campaign promises. As difficult as that is to accept, we can rest in the sufficiency of our God. He knows what is in the darkness. He sees our tomorrow, and those who will influence it. There is nothing hidden from the Lord. [Heb.4:13 – Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do.](#)

B. God's Witness – Not only does God have the ability to see into the darkness, but in Him true light dwells. The American public has lost confidence in government due to their deceptive practices and backroom deals, but we can remain confident in the Lord. He is the light of life for us. We are in the midst of a dark and difficult season, but even now there is hope. While our world grows darker each day, the Son still shines. His promises remain true! He remains seated on His throne, possessing unrivaled power. He is coming again for the church. This life of struggles and pain is not all we have to look forward too. There is hope and assurance in Christ the Lord.

- I hope you security doesn't rest in the outcome of Tuesday's election. I am not depending on Democrats or Republicans; I am resting in my Sovereign. He brought me from the darkness of sin and allowed me to walk in His glorious light. Regardless of who is elected, Jesus will remain Lord of our lives. America may suffer a slow and painful demise, but I am looking forward to a brighter day in Christ. There is no need to look to another. Christ is all sufficient.

Conclusion: I feel like we need to gather around the altar and close the service in prayer for our nation and our elected officials. We have an obligation to lift them up in prayer. I hope you are resting in the Lord today. If not, I urge you to follow the leadership of the Spirit and respond to the Lord.