Kings and Prophets 16-09-22a

This is Thursday the 22nd of September 2016. We're continuing our study of Kings and Prophets looking now at the prophet Daniel the early days of the Babylonian captivity the southern kingdom of Judah has suffered its first Incursion the temple has not yet been destroyed the city has not yet been sacked Daniel and his three friends were taken in the first wave of conquest by Nebuchadnezzar in 605 BC That is the year that Nebuchadnezzar's father died and Nebuchadnezzar went from being the crown prince and general of the armies Who led the attack in 605 to being the king proper in Babylon? And we're going to resume tonight in Daniel chapter 2 which picks up in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign so this is going to be in the vicinity of 603 BC and So there are still some 25 years or so before the final destruction and Capitulation and Relocation That relates to Jerusalem and Judah let's take a moment to dedicate our time and our study and our fellowship to the glory of the Lord Jesus and the furtherance of the growth and productivity of our souls And then we'll begin father what a privilege it is to assemble here and to know that there are others who? gather with us over the internet to spend this time of fellowship and enrichment from the Storehouse and the treasures of your word we thank you for the presence and power of your Holy Spirit that Enables us to understand and to see the Pertinence and the applicability of these truths even though they were recorded so long ago and portray for us events and Things that took place in your plan and purpose for Israel. We know that they are freighted with meaning and with power and strength Conferred on our own souls as we reflect upon them as we think about them as we look at the the timeless principles that pertain to all of your people and had never more so than us in this age where we have your Holy Spirit we Function as the body of Christ and represent him on this earth in your service.

We pray that as we Spend this time that the truths that we observe and the things that we see in your word will be meaningful and helpful and motivating to each one of us that we can Invest the time that you have allotted to us in a way that will bear Fruit that we can lay hold of righteousness by faith equip ourselves for every good work and be prepared to reflect your glory Both now and in the ages to come we pray all these things in Jesus name. Amen We saw the arrival of Daniel and his three friends in Babylon last time the issue of How far to flex in a foreign environment there is certainly flexibility in terms of the curriculum Daniel and his three friends did not Stick at being trained in the lore of the Babylonians their false gods their system of idolatry the hierarchy of their Pantheon the history and culture that they were Steeped in and immersed in in their training. They didn't balk at any of that Where they did draw the line was when they were asked in their personal lives to violate principles Dictated by their covenant relationship to God and this has to do with diet.

It has to do with personal Life and it's a helpful observation to make that as We live in something of a foreign culture. We are our citizenship is in heaven. We are sort of strangers even in our own land and You all especially you young folks and and those of us who were once young know what it's like perhaps to be a believer where you are in the world, but not of it and

They're your peers Recognize that there's something different about you and in many cases you are Included out you are excluded or treated as different or Put in a different category and We realize that we really are strangers and pilgrims because our perspective our faith Separates us it unites us as believers within the body of Christ, but when we are Only one or a few in a much larger group we find ourselves having to analyze our Function to what extent do we go along to get along and to what extent do we? Recognize that things are Non-essential there they don't compromise our integrity.

They don't compromise our morals standards We may have to listen to a lot of things. We don't particularly like to hear We may have to see a lot of things. We don't particularly want to view We may have to even learn and regurgitate a lot of material that we find offensive or false in the light of the Word of God but we realize that this is what God has assigned us and It doesn't call for personal compromise Or a personal commitment such as some of the early Christians Were asked to make when they said we want you to say instead of Jesus is Lord Yesus Koryos, we want you to say Kaisar Koryos Caesar is Lord well now you are being asked to compromise and to basically deny before men the Lord who bought you and We have clear guidance from the Lord Jesus, and he says if you deny me before men I'll deny you before my father.

Well, I'm not going to do that. So if if somebody pushes us to the point of denying that the Lord Jesus is in fact the Lord and the one whom we recognizes our Savior and the Son of God and the One that we await in heaven to return and take us to himself as somebody says I want you to publicly deny all of that. That's going to be a problem But if they want us to learn about Caesar and recognize that they think Caesar is divine and they think that everything came into being by alternate means and so on and they want us to learn that system and Rehearse the answers on tests and things will fine I don't mind saying that according to you.

This is how life came into being according to you. This is how things evolved and Differentiated and according to you. This is how everything works and it's all Matter inventing and organizing itself.

I can I can tell you the answers you want to hear on that Just don't ask me to Affirm that that's how I understand things to have happened or that that's my personal belief If you want me to regurgitate, you know secular materialistic Philosophy in your biology class fine. I can I can tell you your answers But if you ask me do you believe it and I'll penalize you if you say you don't well you're gonna have to penalize me because I Can learn it extremely? Well, I'll learn it better than all the rest of you, but I'm not gonna say I believe it I think these things had a different source I know better and you're not gonna get me to compromise that and if it hurts me it hurts me So we differentiate between essentials and non-essentials. That's what we saw last time.

Didn't we in Daniel chapter 1? Daniel says look, we'll learn all your stuff will be the best and brightest we're going to come out at the top of your class and we know all of your pan theology and all of your Goofy history and your alleged deification of the king and all the rest of it We'll

we'll put all of that down on the papyrus when you ask us to take the test but when it comes to what we eat and how we function we are not going to defile ourselves with food that is Manifestly Defiling according to our beliefs and so But Daniel was tactful. He wasn't he didn't put God to the test he used diplomatic skill To provide a middle ground to his captors. And by the way, this is a useful observation to make rather than being obstreperous and Intransigent and Non-compromising if you really want to Shine a light that invites people to come to the truth of Jesus Christ Find a way to offer Middle ground leave somebody a way to meet you Don't tick them off.

Don't say it's my way or the highway Think about it and find a way to meet in the middle and say let's let's And I even hate to use this word You've seen the bumper sticker and it just is like fingernails on a chalkboard, but we can in fact coexist But we have to be able to coexist on our terms, which does not involve Compromising our core beliefs those things that we know are essential if somebody says well We'd really like to have a faith-based group, but some of us don't believe that Jesus was the Son of God Thanks, but no, thanks. I will not compromise on who the Lord Jesus Christ is if he's not the Son of God then I'm not talking to you. And if you don't believe that he is that's fine for you, but don't make me Try to Leave that as a as a soft topic You have to understand that if you want me along you're gonna have a guy that believes the Lord Jesus Christ is absolutely deity and the Son of God he died for my sins There is no other way to be saved and go forward and have eternal life and dwell with the Father except through him And as long as you understand that that's my core belief and you don't ask me to compromise it or give it up or deny it We're good, you know, let's let's agree to disagree, but if you force me to agree then I'm out right and so Daniel finds a way on behalf of himself and his friends to Accomplish this and look at his position.

He's the captive but he is the one that proposes the agreeable solution and God blesses him in that so that these guys end up being Better at everything and healthier to boot then There is no remaining reason for them to object If you guys want to eat that your own selves, you're gonna eat the pulse or whatever it was It's not hurting you all of our Requirements and objectives are being met so good enough I just don't want to be answerable for you if you get weak and sickly because you're Living on some kind of strained peas and everybody else is eating meat but that wasn't the case God blessed them and gave them health and vitality and wisdom and Excellence in the things that they did so that there could be no objection. We want to be so good at what we do That our good cannot be spoken of as evil right That's the application when you look at Daniel chapter 1 We are not trying to Force everybody to see things our way. We are also not allowing them to force us to see things their way We can get along so long as they recognize that we are unwilling to compromise our core beliefs, but We want it to be that they can find no fault pilot when he put Jesus on trial He said I find no fault in this man.

I You know, he when he was crucified he was completely unjustly Convicted and crucified because the court found no fault in him and that should be the court Decision on us. So that was chapter 1 now we come to chapter 2 Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar, what year is this going to be now? You can say it out loud if he came in 605 and took Daniel and his

three friends and this is his second year What year is it? 603 they get smaller as you get closer to Christ in the in the BC time, right? Nebuchadnezzar had dreams and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him There's a little interesting Hebrew question there that I won't go into On whether his sleep left him or he fell back asleep And and the dream may have repeated There's a similar well Anyway, I don't have time to go into that But if you're interested in Hebrew look at the end of that verse and and research the the verse The word that is translated his sleep left him even in Daniel. The word doesn't always mean left.

Sometimes it means Came back. Anyway Not important to us here But it comes to him in the night now. Let me ask you something We know that you all know this story everybody knows this story the Kings gonna have a dream Nobody can answer it.

Everybody's in the threat of their life. Some of the wise men have actually been slain Daniel says wait, I'll answer and everybody lives and they're all grateful but let me ask you something you're Up in heaven and and God is putting this the sequence of things together and he's figuring out what's going to happen What is our context this is kings and prophets right we have seen the progress of the southern kingdom in contradistinction to the northern kingdom 721 northern kingdom goes out a Syrian Captivity and dispersal and they are no more. You got Judah and Benjamin down there and they persist for another 150 years and now they too have gone the way of their sister in the north and been judged by God for apathy Apostasy disobedience self-interest self-centeredness Abuse of the poor all of the idolatry and high places and Josiah tried to bring him around He was the last good King kind of reminds me of I mean, you know, if you'll forgive a political comment It's kind of like having President Reagan or somebody, you know, you have somebody that really reflects Values and there's sort of a temporary abeyance of decline and then as soon as he's gone It just you know, it's like the hockey stick.

It just it's Exponentially worse so Here we are now and and God has said, all right Judgment is here. You're taking captive it into captivity all of the curses You know the blessings of curses on Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim. It's all curses now out you go So what do you do with the people now that they're in judgment? God could say your iniquities are separated between you and your God your sins if it is faced from you He will not hear come to me in 70 years and I'll see if you've learned your lesson Right.

That's what he could do instead you have some of the most intense prophetic activity during this time of judgment ever a Goodly portion of Jeremiah's prophetic output is Processed and set down and edited and refined during this period Ezekiel His whole prophetic output is during this captivity Daniel was some of the most profound and interesting and important prophecy ever comes during the captivity now my question is why didn't Daniel get all of this hot scoop about the 70 weeks and the beasts and the You know hunched shoulders and the ribs between the teeth and the the coming empires and all that Why didn't it come during the time of Josiah good King Josiah with his wonderful reform and at the book of the law and putting everything back in order and everything is up and everything is good and everybody's on board and the

idols have been torn down and what a wonderful sort of Antiseptic squeaky clean time for God to infuse them with with all of this great prophecy. That's going to be poured over Century after century forevermore. Why didn't it come in the reign of Josiah? Why didn't it come to the last really great good King in Judah? Who gets this dream? Nebu Ketnazer He's a pagan.

He's a Gentile. He's a conqueror. He's the guy that's going to destroy God's temple He's going to destroy God's city.

He's going to take captive God's people. He takes these four guys and Emasculates them and forces them into his program. He's the guy that gets the dream Now who saw that coming? In the history of Israel when has God started communicating these vastly important earth-shattering future defining prophecies To a Gentile when's the last time that happened that that's a genuine question.

When's the last time that happened? Think back Who was the captive slave that rose into the government and who was the king that had the dream? Pharaoh Joseph once before God's people ended up in a real tight and in a bind and a captive comes But the revelation wasn't to the captive. He's not the slave saying hey everybody I just had a dream and you know, there's going to be seven bad years. And how does God work it God? uses the dominant Pagan power the dominant Gentile power Gives them the revelation, but they can't do anything with it without the key held by the captive and there's a sense in which God uses the key of prophetic interpretation to unlock the chains of the captive and elevate the captive to the second highest position in the land does this not just echo and reflect in many ways the last time God's people Were in trouble back then it was the house of Jacob and they were in a severe famine Joseph is Taken captive and he is in the dungeon But then you've got that dream of the seven fat cows and the seven lean cows and you got the seven This is really interesting because there was no such thing as maize there was no such thing as you know all my life I thought The you know The seven ears of corn the seven fat ears ate up the seven lean ears You remember that and it says corn but there was no such thing as corn in those days corn is an invention from South America Central America and and you know the southern North America and the the natives Bred that stuff from little tiny that nobody had ever seen an ear of corn yellow corn no such thing in ancient Israel So when it says corn corn is the Old English word that means vegetable food But it was probably heads of wheat or heads of barley or something like that at any rate he has these dreams and There is desperation on the part of anybody to figure out what it means and God's man is highlighted so Here's my real question you think about Joseph and Pharaoh in his dream you think about Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar in his dream What is our? Take away from this what is our application when we look at this a lot of things you can say but What do we do with this? If you were the person teaching this and you said okay time for we've observed and we've interpreted now.

It's time to apply What is the application do we wait for somebody near us to have a dream and God's going to give us the how does that work? This is what I would suggest In a time of National judgment or in a time of group adversity That is sort of self-inflicted Economic

downturn perhaps doesn't have to be the nation actually going out and being taken over by somebody else, but through bad decisions through the Corruption that you have in high places where businesses fail the economy tanks our government makes silly decisions over regulates under appreciates free enterprise and the rest of it we find ourselves in Anything from economic malaise to a disastrous Situation not of our own making we have been plugging along. We are faithful We're doing what we're supposed to do situations large and small you could be a student in a class and the rest of the class has messed around or maybe the teacher is delinquent and Hasn't taught what you're supposed to learn and now you've got to pass a standardized test and it's all on you Because there's been no learning. There's been no teaching The rest of the class is all cribbing or cheating or whatever else and and you find yourself Trying to uphold your personal standards in the face of widespread corruption Apathy malfunction and outright evil, right? That was the situation in Joseph's day.

That was the situation in Daniel's day and Every Human factor seems to be against you being in prison falsely accused With no leverage and no hope Joseph is left to cling to his faith Daniel and His friends similar situation. So here's what I would suggest as as an observation interpretation and application Where do these dreams come from? God These guys didn't just eat some bad chow and come up with a nightmare The dream is planted in them by God Right God is at work The heart of the king is in the hand of the Lord and his heart views these dreams that are put there God can intervene at any point at any time and both of these guys are Helpless in the grip of it. They are agitated It interrupts now Pharaoh fell back asleep and had a another dream He's real agitated but sleep overwhelms him and then he has another agitating dream and he gets up the next day and he's so agitated That the whole world is now Under threat same thing with Nebuchadnezzar.

He's gonna wipe out all of the soothsayers wise men and Chaldeans, right? so There is going to be a crisis but that crisis is of God's making and there is input into that situation that is God's initiative What does the believer do Keep doing what we're supposed to do and as the crisis begins to touch us We look to God knowing that it is of his making Knowing that if he chooses to deliver us through it, he will provide the means This is what Daniel does look at how this unfolds now in chapter 2 the Chaldeans said You know, he says He calls them all he says I've had a dream and my spirits anxious to know the meaning the Chaldeans say Oh King live Forever, by the way, Oh King live forever. This is Olam Which is the Old Testament equivalent of ice Ionia sir, you know that where we have forever But do they really expect the king to live forever This means Long life to you Oh King. It doesn't mean infinite life.

They know better every king that's ever been has died, right? So I just pointing out in passing that when you see Olam It means a really long time and The how long is long is dependent on context Oh King live Olam is going to be different than David at the end of Psalm 23 saying I will dwell in the house of the Lord La Olam right the length of this long long thing is determined by context and it isn't always an Infinite forever. They only had one word that meant a really long time and how long is really long context Oh King live La Olam Live indefinitely live past the time that we would know that you died Tell us the dream and we'll tell you what it means King says

my decision is firm if you do not make known the dream to me and its interpretation You shall be cut in pieces and your houses shall be made an ash heap or a dung heap or a heap of rubble This is such a strong word. They don't even know what it means.

It means an utter devastation However, if you tell the dream and its interpretation you will receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor These things are all sort of synonymous and it comes down to the number of them When when there are two things that's pretty bad when there are three things it's it's really the magnitude And over and over again in this chapter You'll have two things and that means the magnitude is great when you have three things It means it's it's as great as it can get either good or bad so he says Make known the dream and its interpretation. You'll be cut in pieces and your houses shall be made an ash heap But if you tell the dream and its interpretation see that's two bad things, but if you do it, right you get three good things Gifts rewards and great honor and these are all almost interchangeable Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation they answered again and said let the king tell his servants the dream We will give its interpretation King answered and said I know for certain that you're you're stalling to cause you to see that my you're hoping that I'll relent that my agitation will will Mitigate if you do not make known the dream. There's only one decree for you You've agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me until the time has changed Therefore tell me the dream and I shall know that you can give me the interpretation Now this also not only the dream is from God, but the agitation is from God and his adamant Policy that you've got to tell me what I dreamed.

He is so anxious to know what this dream means He's not going to be fobbed off with with a guess or with something that well It means in ten years something will happen and he's got to wait ten years to find out if they're right Because this is an unprecedented request and that's what they say So the third time now remember three is the number of the most The third time the Kalyan's answer and say there's not a man on earth who can tell the Kings matter No King Lord or ruler see the three of them These all kind of mean the same thing one is one is Malik one is Rav Rav means The big cheese the biggest it means a much or a lot of a thing and and or ruler Has ever asked such things of any by the way, the ruler is Shalit s h a l i t because it reminds me remember there used to be a movie reviewer with a wild hairdo and a big Mustache named Gene shallot. His name is from that third word shalit means ruler or overseer shalit, but Has ever asked such that and you wouldn't want to go to your Gene shallot with your dream and hope that he was going to Interpret it. He didn't even know what was a good movie It is a difficult thing that the King requests difficult means rare in other words unprecedented They're basically saying you're asking the impossible here.

Nobody's ever asked this nobody's ever been able to fulfill such a thing There is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods. This is the plural from L Whose dwelling is not with with flesh and They basically say, you know, don't ask us go see the priests They're trying now to to deflect his attention and you know Find me a priest or something So the king is even more angry and very furious and gave the command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon So the decree went out and they began killing the wise men and they sought Daniel and his

companions to kill them and you would imagine that they being sort of junior and Wise men in training that they would kind of start at the bottom and work their way up and hope that the the big-cheese guys Would last long enough that the king would relent and change his mind Then with counsel and wisdom Daniel answered Ariok you see the re at the beginning of that and this is the word for lion in Hebrew re re l lion of God Ari means lion. So Ariok means lion like and this guy is the captain of the king's personal detachment And they are the ones who are going to go around.

This is kind of like the Karathites and the Peloponnes This is the king's guard and they're gonna go execute these guys. He's basically functioning as an executioner Captain of the king's guard had gone out to kill the wise men of Babylon The answer is it says to Ariok why is the decree from the king so urgent and urgent here also has the idea of hasty, it seems ill-considered it, you know, this this seems like a Disproportionate response you have a bad dream and you're killing everybody over it but this is the level of urgency and disquiet and Frustration that God has planted in Nebuchadnezzar's heart along with the dream He doesn't just say oh, that's interesting. Maybe I'll make a painting out of it I'll in my leisure time and I'll go put a mural on my wall.

He's he knows that it's super important He just doesn't know how or why he doesn't know what it means But he knows it means something and it means something urgently important and he is using everything at his disposal to find out so Daniel went and asked the king to give him time Ariok explains it to him Daniel goes to the king and asks for time now Here's a second point of what I would suggest is a interpretation and application here Daniel doesn't know what the dream is at this point and he doesn't know what it means It's not like he woke up the previous night and said oh, well, you know, God's already revealed that to me and any Daniel doesn't know so here's a really bad situation and they are in imminent danger of losing their lives Daniel doesn't make a promise. He can't keep he doesn't say well I'll tell him the interpretation then go to the Lord say Lord. I'm really on the spot here I said that you could give me the answer He plays for time.

He says let see if you can get the king to Wait, he goes to the king and asks the king and this word for time This is translated season in other places in Scripture and it means a set period of time So Daniel said give me 24 hours or give me 48 hours However long it was but he gave that this is set time. There's several words in Hebrew for time. This means because Nebuchadnezzar told the wise men look I'm not gonna let you guys delay me and Wait until I'm appeased or I forget or I get distracted or he said I know that you are playing for time Well, here's Daniel playing for time, but Daniel doesn't give some kind of pie-in-the-sky by and by he says evidently, he said something like give me 24 hours and He says you won't have to wait long, but I need a little time and the king agrees Something about Daniel and remember he's a youth.

He could be 14 15 16 years old here. They estimate that these young men were taken when they were maybe 14 second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign He'd be 16, but he's extremely young but his Evident self-assurance his self-possession his calm His respect and coming before

the king something about his presentation when the king denied all of his own wise men any delay He grants Daniel this time and evidently it was a short time Or or he would have been impatient with Daniel as well But God evidently gave Daniel favor before the king and gave him the wisdom to ask for just a short set period of time What is Daniel going to do with that time? What does it tell us? He went to his house and made the decision known this decision here is the matter all of this It's the same word in Hebrew every time matter decision thing. It's all the same Hebrew word So he made the matter known he filled him in on the details that he got from Arioch and that he gets as he goes Before the king to Hananiah Mishael and Azariah notice his companions.

He still calls them by their Hebrew names He doesn't say hey Shadrach Meshach and Abednego That they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this mystery It's the word means mystery this unknown Look at the you You get some time You you play for or ask for or succeed in getting a space of time. What does he do? He goes to his fellow believers shares with them the situation the matter and They together Go before the Lord in prayer Do we know that Daniel's a man of prayer what's gonna happen much later in the days of the Persian Empire They're gonna make a decree. Nobody can pray Daniel says sorry, that's an essential and he doesn't just pray Silently and pretend like he's playing chess or something He goes to his window as he always does and he looks out probably toward Jerusalem and he prays publicly Visibly he's at the window where everybody can see him and after the decree about no more prayer He does it anyway, how important is prayer to Daniel primary how important is prayer to us? Especially shared prayer we find a few Trusted believers we share the situation and we say let's all go before the Lord and ask his guidance He does this with counsel and the word counsel here means shared consideration.

This is This is the Hebrew word that's used for coming to a conclusion or a Policy in concert with others. That's that's how you usually find it in context So when it says Daniel Back up in 14 in counsel and wisdom Daniel answered Ariok Evidently He's been talking with Hananiah Mishael and Azariah all along and when they all hear about this They say what should we do and Daniel says I'll go Approach Ariok and see what the details are. All they've heard is there's a sentence of death so they counsel together again, they pray together and Daniel and his companions didn't want to perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon, obviously So in 19, then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision So there is enough time that a night is involved and in the same way that God gave Nebuchadnezzar this dream by night He gives Daniel a Copy of the dream and the key to the dream by night in a night vision Why didn't he just call for a musician? Why didn't he fall down in a trance? it's evidently Daniel has Some previous experience with how God reveals things to him.

We've already been told that he's skillful in the interpretation of dreams and Daniel says I need enough time for God to communicate with me in the way that he usually Communicates with me and I would submit to you the different ones of us God communicates in different ways. There are some people that I think God does use signs the people are expecting a sign They ask for a sign and God gives them a sign others of us I think he communicates through the

application of his word and when we meditate and reflect God brings to our mind biblical examples and we kind of get our answer that way. We're different children we're different just like multiple children in a family are different and Daniel knows how God communicates with him and He says I'm gonna need some time because I'll probably get the answer tonight Right and sure enough he does But that doesn't keep him from asking for prayer and praying along with his companions Now what is the first reaction once Daniel gets the answer? Does he say well, I'm gonna have to be sure and thank the Lord for this as soon as I call off the dogs And make Nebuchadnezzar happy.

He stops right there and composes this hymn of praise Blessed be the name of God forever and ever for wisdom and might are his and he changes the times and the seasons He removes Kings and raises up Kings. We know the content of this dream, right? It's the head of gold this shoulders and arms of silver the belly and thighs of brass the legs of iron and the feet of iron mixed with clay and Daniel has seen this dream that God first gave to Nebuchadnezzar. And what is he praying back here? It is God who sets up Kings and determines their times when they are set up and when they are removed That's the content of the dream.

He's already Chewing on the meaning that God revealed to him of this dream and he is thanking God for what that dream reveals Right here that why would you else would you be talking about setting up Kings and their times? Knowledge to those who have understanding he reveals deep and secret things He knows what is in the darkness and light dwells with him In other words God knows things that are dark to men and God will shine the light To those who need the information to those who are asking and seeking If you walk in the light as he is in the light, you're gonna be in fellowship with him, right? What does this tell us when we need an answer from God when we need? to make a decision when we have to set a policy when we have to have a response when we have to figure out how to Function in our lost and fallen world God will reveal to us that Truth that we need if we go to him trust him for it ask him for it Have our fellow believers pray a few trusted companions God is not going to leave us in the dark He will shine the light of his word on our path But we have to acknowledge and recognize and be looking for those answers in the right place And once we receive them our response shouldn't be Quick and hasty application Stop like that tenth leper and Return and thank the Lord Jesus was a ten or twelve lepers. I think it was ten Remember, there was only one that turned back and thanked him be thankful unto him and bless his name for the Lord is good His truth is everlasting and is actually his mercy is everlasting and his truth endures unto all generations. Remember that Be thankful unto him and bless his name in everything give thanks This is the will of God concerning you one of the reasons God was able to bless Daniel with this wisdom is Daniel was a man of prayer, and he was a man of Thanksgiving We want to follow that example.

Well, let's pause here and take a break when we come back. We'll try to finish this chapter