DANIEL

Lesson: #2

CAN SATAN READ OUR MINDS? Ch. 2:1-45

Open to Daniel. Last time, I made a mistake in the 8 o'clock service. Bro. Jim Croley was kind enough to tell me. I put on the screen that Dan. was written in 635. That was 14 yrs. before he was born. It was 535. 535 B.C. Today we want to look into the second chap. In the 2nd chap. of Dan., we have Daniel looking down 2600 yrs. of history and seeing all the kingdoms of the world.

What we call the 'Times of the Gentiles'. Then we see him looking beyond that to the KNNINGNE coming of the antichrist. Which will be the fifth kingdom, which will be established out of the fourth kingdom and then the coming of the mysterious stone. That's going to destroy this fifth kingdom and fill the earth like a mighty mountain.

You talk about something that's interesting and challenging and encouraging to Xtns., it's the Book of Dan. We're going to show a number of things on the screen. I do not know whether I can finish the 2nd Chap. I'm just rushing myself and I really hope that you'll understand if I can't. We'll just have to take up where we've left off.

An outline of the Book of Dan. would be this. This is easy to remember:

- 1. The Dream of Nebuchadnezzar V. 1.
- 2. His demands upon -his brain-trusts to tell him what the dream was, which he forgot and also to interpret it.
 - 3. The decree. He told them he'd cut them in pieces if they didn't.
 - 4. The decision of Dan. 14 thru 23.

- 5. The disavowal of Dan. (24 and 30). Dan. didn't take any credit, whatsoever. He mm gave all the glory to God.
- 6. The disclosure of the dream (31 to 33). He told them exactly what the dream was.
- 7. The destruction of the stone. (34, 35) and when we get to this, we are going to show you the dream. It was really in the form of a man.

 And we will show that to you on the screen, when we get to it.

I want us to begin at V. 1 of the second chapter of Daniel and get right into it. Some of it we can cover fairly carefully; we want to spend most of the time on the last part of the chap.

- V. 1(read) now it was one dream but there were many parts of the one dream. So it's called dreams. His spirit was troubled and his sleep left him. That is, he couldn't sleep.
- V. 2(read) magicians (that would be the fortune tellers) astrologers (that would be the star gazers and those who made the monthly predictions based upon the stars) sorcerers (that would include those involved in the occult who were working in communication with the dead and mediums) Chaldeans (this was a group of the wisest, most educated people of all). This is his braintrust! He calls them to him.

see it, but in the original, it was Aramaic.

Now the Chaldeans are the spokesmen for the brain trust, because they're the most educated- the outstanding. 'Live forever' was just a way of addressing the king in those days. Like England 'God save the King'; 'Oh, king, live forever'.

V. 5(read) 'gone from me'. Now really we don't believe it was gone from him. He's gonna put them to the test, by saying 'I forgotten the dream', so he can test to see if they really know what they're doing. He cannot test the interpretation, but he knows the dream. Most scholars translate this to read 'the order from me is sure'. If you're reading a revision, you see this.

So I do not believe he'd really forgotten the dream. I think he just wants to really test these wise men out. You must must tell me the dream and, also, you must interpret it. Because he's pretending that he's forgotten what he dreamed. Latter part of V.5: I will just cut you in pieces, he says, and he's certainly capable of doing that. He put the eyes of Zedekiah out. And he killed Zedekiah's son. This was a King of Judarock, right in his presence.

He's gonna put them in the furnace and they know he means business. He says 'I'll tear you limb to limb, unless you do it and make your houses as rubble'.

- V. 6(read) the great honor would be public recognition and the gifts would be some kinds of material gifts - we don't know. Doesn't matter.
- V. 7(read) see? They say 'King, tell us the dream. We're ready to interpretxit

pret it'. They had 'Dream Manuals'. They were trained and they knew everywhatevery what everything was supposed to mean in a dream. But they didn't claim to be able to know the dream. Only the interpretation of thedream. Nebu. is putting them to the test. Look at

V. 8(read) Nebu. says 'you're stalling for time. You're really not able to produce'.

V. 9(read) 'nne decree' or one sentence we would say - for you. He's already told them what that would be; he's gonna cut them in pieces. He's man acusing them of being liars. He evidently thinks they've minxintexpxeted mislead him in the past when he asked for interpretations. They've really fooled him. He doesn't trust them. He's putting them to a test.

If you'll tell me what my dream was, then I'll believe your interpretation of the dream. 'Till the time be changed' or hoping the situation will change; therefore tell me the dream........

V. 10 (read) no one on earth can tell you your dream. Now the brain trust says 'there is not anybody on earth who can tell you your dream and not only that, there's not anybody that would ask this, except you. You're unreasonable to ask this'. All right. Can satan read your mind? I've had many people to ask me this question. I think here is the best answer to it in all of the Scrip.

These people are in league with satan, demons, the occults - they cannot read Nebu. mind. Satan cannot read our minds. C. S. Lovett, if you read widely; C.S. Lovett is writing a lot of books and he's written a little book on this 'Can Satan Read Your Mind?' He makes this statement 'it would occult the. Nrepd min

be real dangerous to assume that satan does not have as much control over your mind as the H.S.' I think that's tremendously dangerous false teaching. That is equating satan with God. I do not find that taught in the Bible. If satan could read your mind, here's a crowd that could have read Nebu. mind. They could not.

I would hate to believe that satan could read my mind. That lays me completely open to satan to play havor with my life. I do not believe satan can read the mind. In Matt. 16:23(read) I believe that he spoke to him and I think we're justified in speaking to him because he cannot read our mind.

These people could not read the mind of Nebu. Look at

V. 11(read) now they're saying 'NO ONE can tell you what your dream is, except god.' These fellows are mislead but even the devil speaks truth; they are right. The Bible teaches the H. S. knows our mind I Cor. 2:11. God knows our mind. I do not believe He's given that right to satan. But do you get the picture here? God is setting up DAn. The brain trust has come in; they have said 'no man on this earth can'. No one except God. And that's right.

That's exactly right. This, of course, is gonna move Dan. right into this vacuum. See how God is working? See the providence of God, in working? And just showing how bankrupt man is and Dan. is gonna come right in and tell the dream and also give the interpretation of the dream. Not a man on earth - only God. That paves the way for Dan. So it's paved. So Dan. volunteers to interpret the kings dream in

V. 12(read) why was the king angery? Two reasons: he's afraid. He's

scared to death. And <u>SECONDLY</u>: they've criticised him. So he's very, very furious and the Hebrew words mean that he's really angry to the point of murder.

V. 13(read) there that is, it went forth publically that the wise men (not SHOULD be slain) but WERE BEING slain (they were already being slain). He was just slaughtering these people. Cutting them in pieces, just like he said. Last part of this verse: they sought Dan. and his three buddies that we called them the three asbestos boys, that we met in last chapter: Shad., Mesh., and Abed.

So they searched out Dan. and his three friends to kill them.

V. 14 (read) 'guard' there means 'the kings executioner'. It's very, very interesting that the top man of the king, Arioch, went to Dan. You see, this is gonna bring Dan. face to face with Nebu. You see, God's in all of this. He's setting everything up for Dan. Dan. answered with counsel and wisdom - he always did. He had the wisdom of God.

Arioch was the one who was doing all this slaughter,

- V. 15(read) 'so hasty' really 'so harsh' from the king? Dan. did not know it until the decree was published publically. He has deep compassion. Why? Why would you be murdering these people this way?
- V. 16(read) that is that he would tell the king what the dream was and then he would interpret the dream. Now the king wouldn't give the wise men or the brain trust time. But he gave Dan. time. Wonder why? Because he believed in Dan. We saw it in Ch. 1:20 (read) he believes that Dan. is a man

of God. He believes that Dan. can be trusted and what Dan. says will be true. So he's willing to give him time. Well, why does Dan. -need time? If God has gifted him to interpret dreams? Here's an amazing thing.

God's called me to preach. Why do I pray? God's called you to teach, some of you to teach. Why do you pray? This is simply the way God works. No matter what God's given us, He calls on us to pray and to depend upon Him. So DAn. wants to pray. But he doesn't just want to pray, he wants to get somebody else to pray.

V. 17(read) evidently there were in the same residence hall. You see, they're in training. So he goes to his three praying buddies. Can he pray alone? You know I have people to say 'well, I don't need to come to prayer meeting. I pray at home.' You need to pray with others. There's a power in praying with others.

Do you have a real problem today? Pray but call your friends to pray.

Meet in the church to pray. The Bible teaches this throughout. There's a power in corporate prayer that's never in individual prayers. Dan. was one of the greatest prayer warriors of all times, but he can't bear the prayer alone. He looks up his three friends.

V. 18(read) now why does he call God the God of Heaven? Because the Baby-lonians worshipped the moon and the stars. And the sun. Dan. is saying 'the God I serve is over that which you worship!! Andyou're gonna see that the True God is gonna come out with flying colors'. He's saying 'pray that the mercy of God of Heaven would be upon us concerning this secret (that is: the dream).

V. 19(read) that is, the content of the dream. Was revealed to DAn. in a myx night vision. Now as a rule, a dream is at night; a vision in daytime. But here he had a vision at night. God doesn't work the same way all the time. It was at the nighttime and he had a vision. Notice, he calls Him the God of Heaven again at the end of this verse.

This is to remind Nebu. of the superiority of his God over those things which he worshipped. Then, in V. 20, 21 & 22, you have a seven fold ascription of praise to the True and Living God. At 11 o'clock, I will be preaching on Praise. Here is an example of a man praising God. My subject will be 'When all else Fails, Try Praise'.

Here is a man praising God. Though the secret's been revealed, he praises God and he praises Him in a seven fold praise.

V. 20(read) that's the first praise.

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V. 21(read) the second praise. 'Times and seasons' now that doesn't mean the seasons of the year. That means the events of history. Do you believe that? Is God in charge of history? Does He have anything to do with what's happening in our world? Absolutely. God can change anything. This says that He changes the times and the seasons. This is the events of history.

Third Praise: He removeth kings and setteth up kings. Does He do that?

Fourth Praise: He giveth wisdom unto the wise. and knowledge to them that know (or possess) understanding.

Fifth Praise: He revealeth the deep and secret things - V. 22.

Sixth Praise: He knoweth what is in the darkness.

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Seventh Praise: The Light dwelleth with Him. Now the Babylonians said that their gods dwelt in light. But not true. You have a beautiful picture of God here, who has all wisdom; who is the maker and mover and master of history; who knows all the deep secrets (nothing's hid from Him); this is the kind of God who will sustain you and me in the troublesome times of the 20th Century.

If you're having trouble; your trouble is because your view of God is in
**** adequate. Many people's God is so small that their problems are larger

than their God. You take all the confusion in our world today - if you do

not believe what the Bible says, you'd lose your mind, when you think of

the International situation.

But when you realize that God is Lord; then you take hope. I think of the possibility of nuclear cremation. The Bible indicates that there will be a kingdom of people when Jesus comes. There's gonna be a fifth kingdom, established out of the Roman Empire. It's probably forming right now in Western Europe. The center of gravity will not be the U.S. or Japan.

It's gonna be in Europe. When you believe these things, your feet's on the ground and headlines don't move you. God is the God of history. And He has all wisdom and everything in His control and He's not subject to the economy and He's not subject to the foreign policy of the U.S. or the Soviet Union. He's over all and that's the kind of God that you can build a life on.

V. 23(read) notice 'what WE desired'. Who's We? He and his three buddies.

They are four of them. See, he's giving God all the glory. 'made known unto US the Kings matter that is, the dream of the king and also the inter-

pretation.

V. 24(read) 'destroy not the wise men' see the compassion of this man?

V. 25(read) 'in haste' but the Hebrew says 'in alarm'. Old Arioch is scared to death. Look at what Arioch says; he's taking credit for Dan. See the difference? See the difference in a lost man and a Xtn. A man of this world and a man of God. Dan. has taken NO credit, though he knows the dream and he has all the wisdom; he says 'all of it comes from God' and here old Arioch pops up and says 'well, I've found a man of the captives of Judah, that will'

He didn't do that all. He's taking credit for that which God has done. But here you have the contrast between a man of God and a man of this world. Now we're moving to the interpretation:

V. 26(read) Remember Dan. name was Beltechazzar, changed when he went into captivity by the Babylonians. We went into that at length last time.

Nebu. said 'are you able to tell me what the dream was and also interpret it.' In other words 'you mean to tell me that you, a 16 yr. old boy, can tell me the dream? And also interpret? When the wise men of the kingdom have failed?'

'Daniel, you mean to tell me you would say you can do this?'

V. 27(read) he makes the statement. He says 'your brain trust cannot tell you what the dream was. They don't have the wisdom. The devil didn't give them the ability to read your mind.'

V. 28) read) BUT - 'a God that revealeth secrets'. That's a new mame for

God. First time we have run across that in the Bible. 'Revealer of Secrets'.

'Latter days' - when is this? 535 yrs. B.C. How long ago is that? About

25 or 26 hundred yrs. When are the 'latter days'? All the ages of the

Gentile nations, which began with Babylon; goes clear the rough the ages, un
till the last kingdom and the kingdom of antichrist and the Kingdom of JC

comes again.

You know probably the greatest proof the Bible's the Word of God? Is prophecy and fulfilled prophecy. I tell you I'm so glad to be a Xtn and so glad to have a Bible. I've built my life on this Book. Bro. and Sis., we've got a Book that we can trust. A man, living in 535 B.C., who could see what's happening in the world in 1983. Now you can trust a God that can do that.

That's the king of God we have. In Jesus.

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Let's read to V. 31 and then we'll look at the statute.

V. 29(read) or, as you were lying there, your mind turned to things to come. See? That's all he's saying. He's saying 'King, as you were lying on your bed, your mind turned to things in the future'.

V. 30(read) isn't this a marvelous statement. He said 'it's not revealed to me because I'm wise any more than it would have been to any living being....

BUT... and here's a way to translate that, following the 'but': that I shall make known.....

He disavows any wisdom in it. He says God just let me know so that you would know, because you need to know.

Then in V. 31, he has the great vision of the ages and what a vision it is. He has the vision of the four Gentile kingdoms and the first was put in yellow and you can't read it, can you? Can you see the yellow? My scrib

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thought you could read the yellow, but the yellow doesn't show. But the

FIRST: Babylon. Let's look at it in <u>V. 31(read)</u>: no wait, that's not the one I want. Daniel sees an image (now you can see that, can't you?)

O.K.? The dream of Nebu. was a dream of a statute of a man, called an image, but really what it was, was a statute. You say 'why a man?'

Because it shows the history of Man. It shows man in a descending value, beginning with work gold and going to clay. You know Darwin said 'man began in mud and he evolved to gold'. The Bible doesn't teach that. The Bible teaches he began with gold and descended to mud. You can see it here. But let's back now at

- V. 31 (read) he saw this statute. 'Terrible' means 'awesome'. It was $\frac{V.32 (\text{read})}{\text{Collossal}}$, massive. This statutes head was of fine gold and his breat and his arms of silver; his belly and thighs of brass. Notice? His breast would be of silver and his arms. The head of gold. We'll see this in just a few moments.
- V. 33(read) so wak what you have here you have in the statute of this man, you have the four great kingdoms, up until the last kingdom and the fifth kingdom is not mentioned except it's referred to that it's going to be formed out of the fourth kingdom. This statute of the man is a picture of the Gentile ages. Now if I can find these others here on the projector.... the four kingdoms are depicted by elements.

The First we can't see because it's in yellow but the Second Kingdom is the Mead and Persian. The thing that signified it was silver. The Babylonian Kingdom was & Gold. The Persian Kingdom was silver. Then the Third

Kingdom was the bronze Kingdom of Greece. And we know that the Greek soldiers wore Bronze helmets. And the final kingdom is the Kingdom of Rome and it is the iron kingdom. If you'll look up here on -- look up on the statute, we'll point it all out.

- The HEAD: gold and that would be Babylonian. We know, of course, that Babylonia was a place that's called 'the City of Gold'.
- The BREAST and the ARMS: the Meads and the Persians. DEpicted by silver.
- The STOMACH and the THIGHS: this would be Greece and depicted by bronze.
- The LEGS and also the TOES: This is the Roman Kingdom. The legs, of course, being the longest and Rome being the kingdom that lasted white the longest. The Babylonian Kingdom just lasted from 605 to 539 B.C. Less than a hundred years.
 - The Meads-Persian Kingdom lasted from 539 to 330 B.C.
 - Then the Greek came and lasted from 330 to 146 but
 - The Roman lasted from 146 B.C. to 476 A.D. in the WEST and lasted to 1453 in the EAST. This is significant and we'll point this out as we move on in to an exposition of the lesson.

Now, in V. 34(read) now here's something tremendously interesting. It say that a stone made without hands, hit the image, but not the head, not the breast, not the ixxx arms, not even the legs but the feet. Now keep this in mind - THE FEET. It struck the feet. Now we'll come back to that when we get near the end of the chap.

Stone Hit the feet or 10 toos

V. 35(read) and what you have here in the stone (and this is throughout the Bible) you have the stone hitting actually the feet or the ten toes and this is the Kingdom of the antichrist that is going to be reconstituted out of the old Roman Empire. And it's going to be hit by the stone, which is Jesus, who is going to come and destroy the final kingdom of man.

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It's interesting that it just hits the feet or the toes. Because that is what Jesus is going to destroy, is this final kingdom that is going to come upon the earth.

- V. 36(read) and <u>V.37(read)</u>, and 38(read) 'head of gold' that's Nebu.; that's BAbylon. But look at
- V. 39(read) 'Inferior to thee' (this is the Mead-Persian Kingdom). So the second kingdom would follow the Babylonian Kingdom and the Mead-Persian (that was silver) the third kingdom would be the Greek Kingdom or the bronze kingdom.
- V. 40 (read) 'strong as iron' that's Rome. Here describes the tremendous military power of Rome. Breaking the world with a rod of iron.
- V. 41(read) 'shall be divided' now this is describing the condition that is going to exist in this final kingdom. It's composed of iron; it's also composed of clay. It's gonna have internal weakness. The Kingdom of the antichrist is gonna be destroyed by the Lord. "But there shall be in it..... (finish reading rest of this last part of the V.)
- V. 42(read) (first part) this is a difficult phrase to xx translate.

Here's the way I would translate V. 43: and just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united anymore than iron mixed with clay.' This will be the condition of the final kingdom that's going to be established out of the old Roman Empire. It's gonna be filled with all kinds of weakness and inter-turmoil. It's gonna be destroyed by Jesus when He comes.

V. 44(read) what kings? He's not been talking about any kings? Its referring back, really, to the toes. And when we get over to the 7th chap. of Daniel, V. 7; V. 24: it speaks of the 'ten horns'. These are the ten kingdoms that will constitute this final kingdom that's going to be reconstituted out of the old Roman Empire.

The Original Roman Empire was never in ten divisions. But the kings that are mentioned here are these kings that will rule over these ten areas of the reconstituted Roman Empire.

It says 'God of heaven will set up a Kingdom, during the days of these kings, 'and that's the kingdom that the Lord is going to bring. It says 'the Kingdom shall not be left to other people' (that is to say: this Kingdom is not gonna be followed by another kingdom). Like Babylon being followed by the Mead-Persians; the Mean-Persians being followed by the Greek and Greek being followed by Rome.

This final kingdom will have no successor. This is the kingdom that Jesus, Himself is going to bring when He hits the toes - the ten toes - that's gonna constitute the kindgom of the antichrist. Now people have raised the question and you can't help but raise it: since this is Rome and Rome

that is Old Rome was centered in Germany, France, Italy, Spain. That was the center of the Old Roman Empire. TEn toes - ten horns - ten kingdoms. Is the European Economic community or the European Common Market - is this fulfillment of this Scrip.? Well, we have to be careful and cautious and nto dogmatic, but this organization was organized in 1957.

By the Treaty of Rome, incidentally. It now has ten nations. In 1971, England became a part of it and

Side 2 of Tape

in '75, the European Common Market elect to the Parliament and in the same year, they began to issue uniform passports. I know of no current event that would seem to tie in to Scrip. more precisely. Now the Eureopean Common Market - it could be a preliminary state; it could be replaced by something else. BUT it looks very likely to me, that what were we are witnessing is certainly the preliminary stage, or the beginning, of the fulfillment of the ten toes.

This fianl kingdom that's gonna come upon the earth will be characterized in these ways! there will be ten nations in it. There were never ten nations in the original Roman Empire. These are the ten toes. The ten horns. Also, it will consist of internal decay and all kinds of diversities; the iron and the clay. It will exist just prior to the coming of the Lord and Jesus, Himself will destroy it.

Then set up His Own Kingdom. It appears that there's no place that we see for Japan and America and the Orient in this scheme at all. That it's Western Europe and the area of the Old Roman Empire. Now it's very interesting that through history, the Fifth Kingdom has been and tried to establish

it. Charlemane tried to establish it in 800. Napoleon at the beginning of the 19th Century. Kaiser in WW I. Hitler in WW II. Mussoleni said 'I envision the resurrection of the Roman Empire'. Stalin tried, but NOR none of them have succeeded.

No one has ever been able to establish a fifth kingdom. You say 'well, how about the British Empire'? The British Empire is not even in it. Do you realize the British Empire did not become an Empire until the 19th Century and they lost it in the 20th. Rome began in 773 yrs. B.C. and lasted in the Western until 476 A.D. (1200 yrs.) but if you take the main age of Rome, it would go for over 500 yrs.

And England, really, is a part of the Roman Empire and the Roman Heritage, as we are. As we are! So what Dan. saw was all of Gentile history. He saw the great Babylonian Empire, rise and fall. He saw the Mead-Persian rise and fall. The great Greek civilization rise and fall. And he saw Rome, but he saw more than that.

Cut without hand

He saw a stone, cut without hands -- what does that mean? That's Jesus, cut without hands. That's the virgin birth; born of the Spirit, but without hands. That's the resurrection by the H.S. - cut without hands. He sees that mighty stone coming and hitting the toes and putting down that final kingdom and establishing a Kingdom that will live and exist forever and that is the Eternal Kingdom of our Lord, JC.

How close are we to it? Well, I cannot say. But I DO know this: that the European Common Market appears to me to be at least a beginning of the fulfillment of this final kingdom that Dan. saw as taking place when JC comes

again.

I just want to put here on the board for you to see some of the upcoming things that are before us. Previews of Upcoming Lessons:

Next Sunday we will deal with 'The Golden Image'. This is a type of the imagexes antichrist (Rev. 13,14, 15). Beautiful.

In the Third Chap. of Dan., we have the Asbestos Boys. We really meet them: They would not budge, bow or burn.

The 4th Chap.: we have Nebu. reverting to the beast. It's what we call 'Lycanthropy' - this is a psychological term. He thinks he's a beast. An AMAZING thing. These things we're going to look at and then,

The Chap. we've got Dan. interpreting many, many 'techalufarson' (??)

6th Chap. 'God gives lions lockjaw'.

And then 'The Ancient of Days'.

So we're gonna be cowering these things in the days ahead. Let me tell you this, in closing. I read that two men were working in a factory and they went to their cars and as they made their way to the car, on the bumper of one of the mens was the statement 'Maranatha'. This other fellow said 'what does Maranatha mean?'

He says 'it means 'the Lord is coming' '. The man said 'I wank don't be
Mieve that'. The Xtn spoke to him and win said 'well, I have news for

you - that means He's not coming for you'. That's how important what we're

xtxx studying is. Jesus IS coming. He really is! And it appears to me

that we are witnessing the final stage of world history. We could be

witnessing that hour before the stone will come and hit the toes - the ten

toes, which is the reconstituted Roman Empire.

Now we'll come back to this ixim in the 7th Chap, under the form of the ten horns. I hope you'll study with us.

Let's stand and pray.