



What's Next? Thriving in Chaos

Antichrist
The Big Trouble (judgement)
Jesus' Return
Heaven & Earth

I. Judgment Upon God's People

Jeremiah 52:3-7 (NASB®)

³ For through the anger of the LORD *this* came about in Jerusalem and Judah until He cast them out from His presence. . . . Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came, he and all his army, against Jerusalem, camped against it and built a siege wall all around it. ⁵ So the city was under siege until the eleventh year of King Zedekiah. ⁶ On the ninth *day* of the fourth month the famine was so severe in the city that there was no food for the people of the land. ⁷ Then the city was broken into, and all the men of war fled and went forth from the city at night . . .

Jeremiah 52:13-15 (NASB®)

¹³ He burned the house of the LORD, the king's house and all the houses of Jerusalem; even every large house he burned with fire. ¹⁴ So all the army of the Chaldeans who *were* with the captain of the guard broke down all the walls around Jerusalem. ¹⁵ Then Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard carried away into exile some of the poorest of the people, the rest of the people who were left in the city . . .

II. Thriving in a World Falling Apart

A. A Problem

Daniel 2:5-6 (NIV®)

⁵ The king replied to the astrologers, "This is what I have firmly decided: If you do not tell me what my dream was and interpret it, I will have you cut into pieces and your houses turned into piles of rubble. ⁶ But if you tell me the dream and explain it, you will receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor. So tell me the dream and interpret it for me."

B. A Revelation

Daniel 2:11-19 (NIV®)

¹¹ What the king asks is too difficult. No one can reveal it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among men." ¹² This made the king so angry and furious that he ordered the execution of all the wise men of Babylon. ¹³ So the decree was issued to put the wise men to death, and men were sent to look for Daniel and his friends to put them to death. ¹⁴ When Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, had gone out to put to death the wise men of Babylon, **Daniel spoke to him with wisdom and tact.** ¹⁵ He asked the king's officer, "Why did the king issue such a harsh decree?" Arioch then explained the matter to Daniel. ¹⁶ At this, Daniel went in to the king and asked for time, so that he might interpret the dream for him. ¹⁷ Then Daniel returned to his house and explained the matter to his friends Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. ¹⁸ He urged them to plead for mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that he and his friends might not be executed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. ¹⁹ **During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision.** Then Daniel praised the God of heaven.

C. Gifts from God

Daniel 2:19-23 (NIV®)

¹⁹ During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven ²⁰ and said: "Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever; wisdom and power are his. ²¹ He changes times and seasons; he sets up kings and deposes them. He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to the discerning. ²² He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him. ²³ I thank and praise you, O God of my fathers: **You have given me wisdom and power, you have made known to me what we asked of you, you have made known to us the dream of the king.**"

D. Daniel's Reputation

Daniel 5:11-12 (NIV®)

¹¹ **There is a man in your kingdom who has the spirit of the holy gods in him.** In the time of your father he was found to have insight and intelligence and wisdom like that of the gods. King Nebuchadnezzar your father--your father the king, I say--appointed him chief of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners. ¹² This man Daniel, whom the king called Belshazzar, was found to have a keen mind and knowledge and understanding, and also the ability to interpret dreams, explain riddles and solve difficult problems. **Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means."**

III. What is Ahead?

Revelation 14:6-7 (NIV®)

⁶ Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the eternal gospel to proclaim to those who live on the earth--to every nation, tribe, language and people. ⁷ He said in a loud voice, "**Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.**"

Revelation 8:1-7 (NIV®)

¹ When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour. ² And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and to them were given seven trumpets. ³ Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all the saints, on the golden altar before the throne. ⁴ The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of the saints, went up before God from the angel's hand. ⁵ Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake. ⁶ Then the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to sound them. ⁷

The first angel sounded his trumpet, and there came hail and fire mixed with blood, and it was hurled down upon the earth. A third of the earth was burned up, a third of the trees were burned up, and all the green grass was burned up.

A. What is Needed?

Revelation 1:10 (NIV®)

¹⁰ On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet...

John 16:7 (NIV®)

⁷ But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

John 16:12-13 (NIV®)

¹² "I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.

Prayer

Almighty God, by Your Word the world was established, and by Your Word our future is secure. Grant us a revelation of Jesus that we might fulfill all we were created for. Holy Spirit, we welcome You; we choose to cooperate with You. Deliver us from evil, may Your Kingdom and power and glory be made evident in our generation to the glory of Jesus Christ, amen.