

Aveleigh Year of The Bible, Sept. 30 2018
Sermon Series: FAITH UNSHAKABLE!— Part 4 of 9
Nine Weekly Reflections On Daniel's Life & Book
Text: Daniel 2 p. 948

Sermon, DANIEL'S FOURTH TEST: WHEN YOU'RE ASKED TO DO THE IMPOSSIBLE

"Nobody can do what you ask! . . . What you're asking is impossible . . ." Daniel 2:10-11 (Mes)

INTRO: WHAT GOD SAYS ABOUT PREDICTING THE FUTURE

GOD SAYS NO ONE KNOWS THE FUTURE EXCEPT GOD, *"No one can tell the future!"*
Ecclesiastes 8:7 (CEV)

ALL PSYCHIC & MEDIUMS FRAUDS, God: *"I make fools of psychics and fortunetellers and I frustrate the predictions of astrologers... their 'wisdom' is foolishness."* Isaiah 44:25

God: *"I am against anyone who goes to mediums or fortune-tellers for advice, because that person is being unfaithful to me. So I will cut him off."* Leviticus 20:6 (NCV)

THE TEST OF A TRUE PROPHET OF GOD IS 100% ACCURACY

"If you want to know if a prophet's message is really from God, here's how to test him: If any part doesn't come true, that prophecy is false and not from God. He was presumptuously speaking his own ideas and you should pay him no attention nor fear him.
Deuteronomy 18:21-22

SO, WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU'RE ASKED TO DO THE IMPOSSIBLE?

1. DON'T PANIC OR BE AFRAID. *"When Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, came to kill them, Daniel handled the situation with wisdom and discretion."* Daniel 2:14 (NLT)

2. ASK WHY. *"Daniel asked the king's captain, 'Why has the king issued such a harsh decree?' So Arioch told him all that had happened."* Daniel 2:15

3. ASK FOR TIME TO CREATE A SOLUTION.

"Daniel went at once to see the king and requested more time so he could interpret the meaning of the dream for the king." Daniel 2:16

4. ENLIST PRAYER SUPPORT FROM YOUR FRIENDS. *“Then Daniel went home and told his 3 friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah what had happened. Then he said, “PRAY that the God who rules from heaven will be merciful and explain this mystery, so that we and the other advisors won't be put to death.” Daniel 2:17-18*

5. PRAY AND EXPECT GOD TO GIVE SUPERNATURAL HELP.
God: *“Call to me and I'll answer you, and I'll show you marvelous and wondrous things that you could never figure out on your own!”* Jeremiah 33:3 (Mes)

6 WORSHIP GOD ! *“During the night God revealed and explained the mystery of the dream to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven.”* Daniel 2:19

7. USE WHAT GOD SHOWED ME TO SAVE OTHERS. *Then Daniel rushed to see Arioch, who'd been ordered to execute all the king's advisors. He said ‘Call off the execution, and take me to the king and I'll explain the meaning of his dream.’” Daniel 2:24*

8. POINT PEOPLE TO GOD. *Daniel replied, “No wise man or psychic or fortune teller or astrologer can explain the mystery of your dream. BUT there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries and he has chosen to show you what will happen in the future . . . And now, God has revealed this mystery to me, not because I'm smarter than everyone else, but for your benefit, so that you O king may understand it.” Daniel 2:27-30*

PRAYER: *Loving God, When we are asked to do the impossible, grant us Faith Unshakable. Amen.*

- 1. Four For The Road, No one knows the future except God—not mediums, psychics, fortune tellers. They are just frauds and fakes. To consult any of these counterfeits is failure to trust God. According to Daniel 2:17-19, who did Daniel enlist for help and prayer when he found himself faced with an impossible situation? Who are the people you turn to when you have a challenge that seems impossible to overcome?**
- 2. Share a time when you called out to God and he answered you. How did that experience give you confidence and faith to ask him what you need?**
- 3. The test of a true prophet is 100% accuracy. After Daniel prayed and sought God, the Lord revealed to him what the king's dream had been. As a result of Daniel's sharing that revelation with the king, others were saved and the king praised Daniel's God (see Daniel 2:24, 27-30). Who in your life does God want you to talk to about him?**
- 4. There are eight steps Daniel took when he was asked to do the impossible (Daniel 2:14-30): 1) don't panic or be afraid; 2) ask why; 3) ask for time to get a solution; 4) enlist prayer support from friends; 5) pray and expect God to give you supernatural help; 6) worship God; 7) use what God shows me to save others; and 8) point people to God. In preparation for facing the impossible, which step most needs strengthening? How will you go about fortifying this area?**

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Call to worship

Leader: Ripples of praise flowing to the four corners of the earth,

People: Echoes of blessings ringing through canyons,

Leader: O God, our God, how glorious is your name in all the earth.

People: Bushels of love ripening in every home,

Leader: Handfuls of honor pouring from every life,

People: O God, our God, how glorious is your creation! How wondrous is your name, spoken by little ones, shouted by wise ones, sung by humble ones!

Prayer of confession, Oh God, how fear compels us. It drives so many of the decisions we make each day. It keeps us awake at night and full of worry by day. The world tells us to be afraid, but that is in such contrast to the command you have given us so many times in your Word. Do not be afraid. Do not be afraid. You've said it over and over, and yet we confess that we don't trust you. We believe that humans know better than our great God. Lord, release us from fear. Drive out the lies that we hold onto so tightly. Let us trust fully in your promise that you are always with us. We surrender our concerns to you. Replace them with your peace. Amen.