

# TUESDAY NIGHT

at the  
Crescent

## "A Question of Values"

An in-depth Study of the Book of Daniel

Subject: "God's View of Science"

A study of Daniel 2:1-30 and the difference between science and divine revelation.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1989

1. There is such a thing as divine revelation. The worth of the whole Book of Daniel lies in this truth. This passage is saying;
  - (a) That God intervened with Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel.
  - (b) There is a distinct difference between a person using their IQ and the authority of divine revelation.
2. The main difference between science and revelation;  
A scientist starts with the evidence. Science is imperial. It is not a final arbiter. Revelation starts with something no one could ever know except God were pleased to reveal it. God's revealed word then becomes the evidence which we, by His grace, seek to interpret.
3. It is vital that we understand that divine revelation does not just reveal the future. Nebuchadnezzar sought for someone to tell him what his dream was, i.e. to tell him what he had dreamed without him revealing any details. His wise men told him such a thing was impossible. (2:1-10). God, however revealed the past to Daniel by revelation. (2:19)
4. Let it be categorically stated that true science and the Bible are not rival views of the world but are complimentary views.
5. The practical truth from this passage gives the christian good insight about how to successfully deal with an unexpected attack by the world;
  - (a) We must avoid reacting without thought to a situation. It is vital to remain calm and carefully think through what the proper course of action should be. Notice Daniel's two great qualities; discretion and discernment (2:14). Christians get these qualities by giving themselves to the word.
  - (b) We must avoid feeling time-pressured. Daniel graciously requested time from the King (2:16).
  - (c) We must share our burdens with trustworthy friends (2:17-18).
6. Notice Daniel is a model as to how to react when God works;
  - (a) He learned about who God is from what had happened in his daily life and he saw and recognised that God was responsible for the good things that were hapening. (2:19-23).
  - (b) He was careful to point others to the source of the life they saw in him. (2:24-30).

"The true measure of humanness is not the picture presented to us by the biologist or psychologist, or sociologist, or all three together. It is presented to us by Pontius Pilate when, not realising the full import of what he said, he pointed to Jesus Christ and declared, "Behold the Man!"

