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BIBLE ADVENTURES SCRIPT:

A1567 ~ Nebuchadnezzar's Dream.

Welcome to Bible Adventures. Help for today. Hope for tomorrow. Jesus is Lord of all.

The English expression “Dog in the Manger” came about because a dog will jealously guard its bone even though it’s not hungry. It will stay in the barn to watch over the bone so nothing else can take it away. It will hold off other animals from eating from their manger box if they are coming too close to it. In today’s Bible Adventure, there is a jealousy problem in the court of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon.

The king had brought in many people from the nation of Judah. He had the best of them trained in all the learning of the wise men of his own country. Daniel and his three friends were the top performing young men. They gained favour with the king because they did better in their tests than all the other older, more important advisors to the king. Daniel and his three friends told the king that their God had given them their wisdom and understanding. But the rest of the advisors feared they would lose their jobs if continually outshone by these young Judeans, so they thought up a way to get back into the king’s good favour.

DRAMA - [The Bible In Living Sound.](#)

King Nebuchadnezzar's advisors found they were in competition with a gang of four slaves from Judah. They didn't want things in the king's court to change, even if it were changing for the better. The head advisor decided that when they were next called to the king's throne room for some reason, they wouldn't include the Judean men. Such was a subtle form of control but the head advisor's plan backfired on them. The advisors thought they were clever if they made up stories to explain away the king's dreams but this time, King Nebuchadnezzar couldn't quite remember the details of his dream to tell them.

A dream is a succession of images, sounds and emotions that the mind experiences while sleeping.

When a person is asleep, their mind is still active and will continue dreaming even though they may never remember any of it. If doctors give drugs to stop a person from dreaming, the person ends up going mad.

Dreams are a normal function of the human brain. Sometimes after dramatic events that occurred in the daytime, a person will dream terrible things at night, causing nightmares. A nightmare is a bad dream from which a person awakes feeling unrefreshed, fearful and tense.

It can't be overstated that a person who prays to God about their day's activities at bedtime has the advantage of telling the Lord all the bad and good things of the day. Confession of sin brings peace of mind and results in a better night's rest. Saying one's bedtime prayers was once typically a common part of daily life, emphasised especially important for children.

It's possible these days to place too much importance on dreams. Throughout Bible times, God used dreams to convey His messages to individuals but these days, we have the Bible to reveal God's way to us. Some people want to place dreams as more important than the words of Scriptures. But this is wrong. God's Holy Spirit who directed the writing of the Bible will not contradict Himself in some person's dream. We are warned not to let ourselves be deceived by such supposed extra revelations.

The people living and actively working under the kings of the Old Testament lived in dread. They feared they might offend their king in some way and swiftly lose their lives. They lived in terror in those unjust times. A king could punish someone wrongly in a moment of anger but so he wouldn't lose face in front of his people, would allow the injustice to be carried out on the unfortunate victim. Ruling people by causing them to be fearful of losing their lives was a normal way kings maintained order in their kingdoms.

When the Lord Jesus was born in a manger in Bethlehem, He was known from the night of His birth as someone extraordinary. A choir of angels sang and announced His coming. Wise men from the Babylon area saw a bright new star to follow. They had been trained by Daniel and each generation after him for 500 years to keep searching for this long expected star. When it came, they were sure a new king had been born.

Herod the Great, a king over the Jewish people at the time although not of Jewish blood, believed the rumour that a descendent of David had been born to become a Jewish king in time. Herod was a bloodthirsty man. During his reign and at the time of the wise men reaching him, he had just put some of his relatives to death for a believed plot against his life. Killing all the baby boys born around the time of Jesus's birth was again one more example of his brutal kingship.

Yet Jesus didn't act in the way earthly kings behaved. He lived humbly and never tried to harm the Jewish people. He didn't try to make a name for Himself by overthrowing the Roman political system in charge at the time.

When the Lord Jesus stood on trial before the Roman Governor Pilate, Pilate wanted to know if Jesus really was a king. He questioned Jesus after the chief priests and elders of the Jews had made all their accusations against Him. But the Lord Jesus didn't answer or make any defence on His own behalf. This surprised Pilate. He had the power to save Jesus from death or to condemn Him to die but Jesus sought no mercy from him.

In modern times, the “life-or-death” power of kings and high officials over their people is now reduced to a minority of nations around the world. Even when a country has a justice system of law courts, it doesn’t necessarily mean that justice is always served in them.

In the 1st New Testament letter of Timothy, Chapter 2, the Apostle Paul says: “I urge, then first of all, that requests, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for everyone – for kings, and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness.” Those in authority include the judges and magistrates in our legal systems.

When the Lord Jesus returns to earth again as He promised, He will come as the all-conquering King of kings. Are you looking forward to His return at all, with either joy or dread? While there is still time to make a choice to follow the King of kings, call on Jesus’ name and ask Him to rule over your life.

The drama is from The Bible In Living Sound.

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