

## CHRISTIANITY IN A POST-CHRISTIAN WORLD: PART 2<sup>1</sup>

### I. REVIEW FROM WEEK 2

#### A. WHY DANIEL?

#### B. DANIEL IN THE CITY—ENGAGED YET DISTINCT

1. Two Names
2. Cultural Reorientation
3. Living Jeremiah 29—seek the ‘shalom’ of the city
4. Protesting Food
5. Seek Favor through Wisdom not Power through Privilege
6. We have to give the world what only we can give them—Gospel.

### II. MEANING OF THE DREAM

#### A. NOT REALLY A CODEX FOR TELLING THE FUTURE BUT A PARADIGM FOR ALL AGES

#### B. NEBUCHADNEZZAR IS THE DAZZLING IMAGE, THE TOWERING FIGURE

1. Globally every human kingdom, including the U.S. is transient
2. Personally, we all want to create a dazzling, powerful image of ourselves—it’s in fact what we dream about! This may be through money, power, acclaim, relationships, body image, popularity, family, charity work, etc.
3. Every human and/or personal kingdom will be brought down—every one is inherently weak, it gets weaker and less profitable as it goes—they all have feet of clay and God will bring them down. If we build our lives on anything but God, we will crumble. What is our foundation? What is the difference btw. you and colleagues who are not Xians?
4. We dream of the wrong things, the wrong kingdoms. Why? We don’t know our foundation. We’re dreaming of clay feet when God offers us solid rock. We don’t know that we’re already dazzling, towering, golden in the eyes of Christ. Otherwise, we wouldn’t be so troubled like Nebuchadnezzar.

### III. THE ROCK

#### A. MADE BY NO HUMAN HAND (2.34)

#### B. ROCK LEAST VALUABLE MATERIAL THERE—How does the KOG come? Not like other kingdoms

#### C. ROCK BEGINS SMALL BUT GROWS (2.35, 44-45)

1. Jesus is present but has not yet made everything right
2. Already, not yet
3. What should we expect to accomplish politically, in our family, in our jobs?

#### D. JESUS IS THE ROCK—LUKE 20.17-18—Two names, dazzling figure, worthy of worship

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<sup>1</sup> Some material from this class comes from Tim Keller’s sermon series on Daniel. See [www.redeemer.com](http://www.redeemer.com) for more info