



EXILES

LIFE IN BABYLON

¹⁰ The astrologers answered the king,
“There is no one on earth who can do
what the king asks! No king, however
great and mighty, has ever asked such a
thing of any magician or enchanter or
astrologer.

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 humans.”

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?"

Arioach 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 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 deposes kings and raises up others.
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, God of my
ancestors:

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.”



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To live as a witness in Babylon,
we must:

1. recognize God's revelation

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 humans.”

Revelation: “removing the veil”

²² He reveals deep and hidden things;
he knows what lies in darkness,
and light dwells with him.

You know when I sit and when I rise; you
perceive my thoughts from afar.

Psalms 139:2



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To live as a witness in Babylon,
we must:

1. recognize God's revelation

2. rely on God's revelation

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.

Prayer is the gate to God's revelation

⁹...it is written: “What no eye has seen, what no ear has heard, and what no human mind has conceived” the things God has prepared for those who love him ¹⁰ these are the things God has revealed to us by his Spirit.

1 Corinthians 2: 9-10



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To live as a witness in Babylon,
we must:

1. recognize God's revelation

2. rely on God's revelation

3. respond to God's revelation

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.

Worship is our response to
God's revelation

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.



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Jesus is God's revelation!

To live, we must recognize, rely on, and
respond to Jesus!

¹³ “Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. ¹⁴ But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it.”

Matthew 7:13-14



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