

# EXILES

LIFE IN BABYLON





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THE BOOK OF  
**DANIEL**

1. Daniel **Knew** Who God Was

2. Daniel **Knew** Who He Was

3. Daniel **Knew** His Calling

1. **Recognize** God's Revelation
2. **Rely** on God's Revelation
3. **Respond** to God's Revelation

**Daniel 2:24 - 49**



**24** Then Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to execute the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, “Do not execute the wise men of Babylon. Take me to the king, and I will interpret his dream for him.”

**25** Arioch took Daniel to the king at once and said, “I have found a man among the exiles from Judah who can tell the king what his dream means.”

**26** The king asked Daniel (also called Belteshazzar), “Are you able to tell me what I saw in my dream and interpret it?”

**27** Daniel replied, “No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about,

**28** but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come. Your dream and the visions that passed through your mind as you were lying in bed are these:

**29** “As Your Majesty was lying there, your mind turned to things to come, and the revealer of mysteries showed you what is going to happen.

**30** As for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because I have greater wisdom than anyone else alive, but so that Your Majesty may know the interpretation and that you may understand what went through your mind.

**31** “Your Majesty looked, and there before you stood a large statue—an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance. **32** The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze,



**33** its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay. **34** While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them.

**35** Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were all broken to pieces and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth.

**36** “This was the dream, and now we will interpret it to the king. **37** Your Majesty, you are the king of kings. The God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory;

**38** in your hands he has placed all mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds in the sky.

Wherever they live, he has made you ruler over them all. You are that head of gold.

**39** “After you, another kingdom will arise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. **40** Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron—for iron breaks and smashes everything—and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others.

**41** Just as you saw that the feet and toes were partly of baked clay and partly of iron, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay. **42** As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle.

**43** And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay.

**44** “In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever.



**45** This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands—a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces.

“The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy.”

**46** Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honor and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him.

**47** The king said to Daniel, “Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery.”

**48** Then the king placed Daniel in a high position and lavished many gifts on him. He made him ruler over the entire province of Babylon and placed him in charge of all its wise men.

**49** Moreover, at Daniel's request the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego administrators over the province of Babylon, while Daniel himself remained at the royal court.

# Daniel 2:47

The king said to Daniel, “Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for *you* were able to reveal this mystery.”

We can be people  
of influence  
while living in exile.

# Be an Influence

## 1. Build a Sure Foundation



# Daniel 1:4

<sup>3</sup>“, to bring into the king’s service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility – <sup>4</sup> young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king’s palace.”

**33** its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay. **34** While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its **feet of iron and clay and smashed them.**

Nebuchadnezzar's  
**DREAM**

1 HEAD  
Gold

**Babylon**

605 B.C. - 539 B.C.

2 BREAST & ARMS  
Silver

**Medes and Persians**

539 B.C. - 331 B.C.

3 BELLY & THIGHS  
Brass

**Greece**

331 B.C. - 146 B.C.

4 LEGS  
Iron

**Rome**

146 B.C. - 476 A.D.



DANIEL 2:31 - 45

5 FEET  
Iron & Clay

**Divided Nations of Europe**

476 A.D. - Present day

6 STONE  
Rock

**God of heaven**

Forever

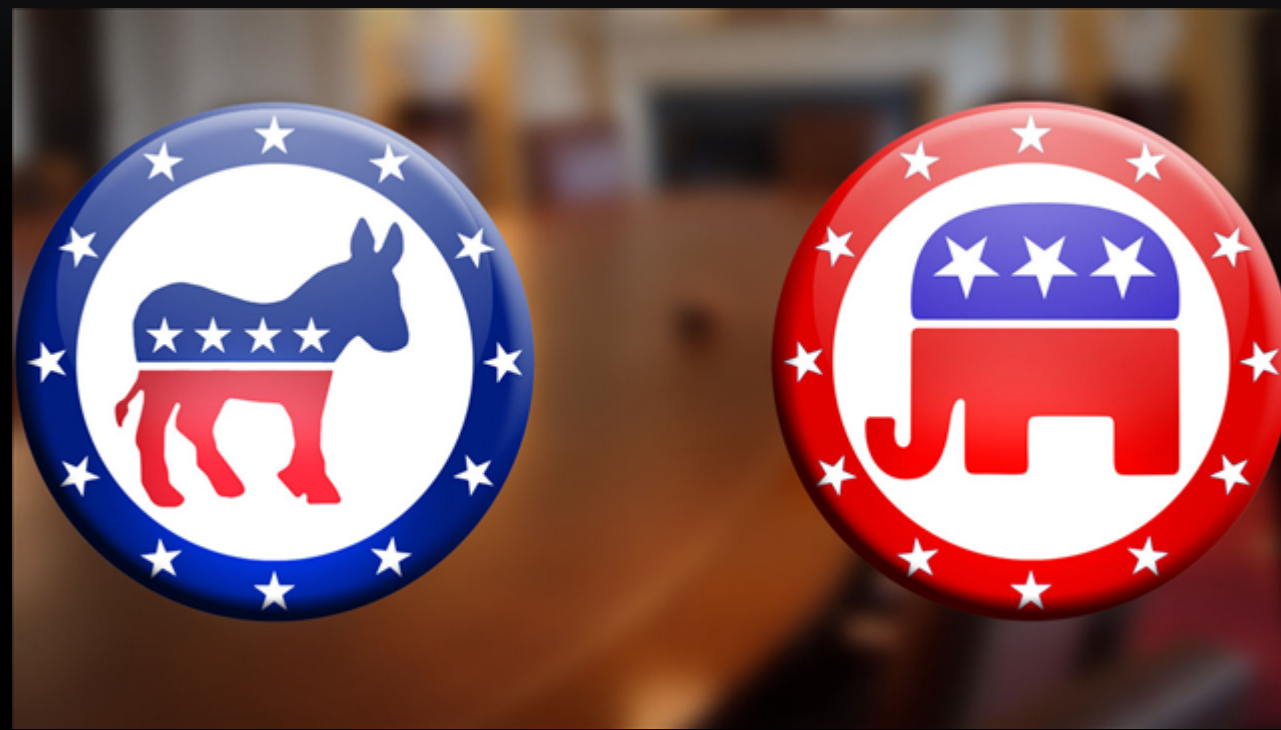


**Matthew 7:24 - 27**

**24** *“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. **25** The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock.”*

<sup>26</sup> “But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. <sup>27</sup> The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.”

“During this time of donkeys  
and elephants, don’t forget you  
belong to the lamb.”



*- Author Unknown*

# Be an Influence

1. Build a Sure Foundation

2. Respond with Humility

a. React with Wisdom and Tact



**24** Then Daniel **went to Arioch**, whom the king had appointed to execute the wise men of Babylon, and said to him, “Do not execute the wise men of Babylon. Take me to the king, and I will interpret his dream for him.”

**14**“When Arioch, the commander of the king’s guard, had gone out to put to death the wise men of Babylon, Daniel spoke with **wisdom and tact.**”

**25** Arioch took Daniel to the king at once and said, “**I have found** a man among the exiles from Judah who can tell the king what his dream means.”



# Acts 16:25 - 30

# Be an Influence

1. Build a Sure Foundation

2. Respond with Humility

a. React with Wisdom and Tact

b. Be in a posture of Prayer and  
Worship

**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.**

# Be an Influence

1. Build a Sure Foundation
2. Respond with Humility
  - a. React with Wisdom and Tact
  - b. Be in a posture of Prayer and Worship
  - c. Give God the Glory



**27** Daniel replied, “No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about,

**28** but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come.

# Be an Influence

1. Build a Sure Foundation

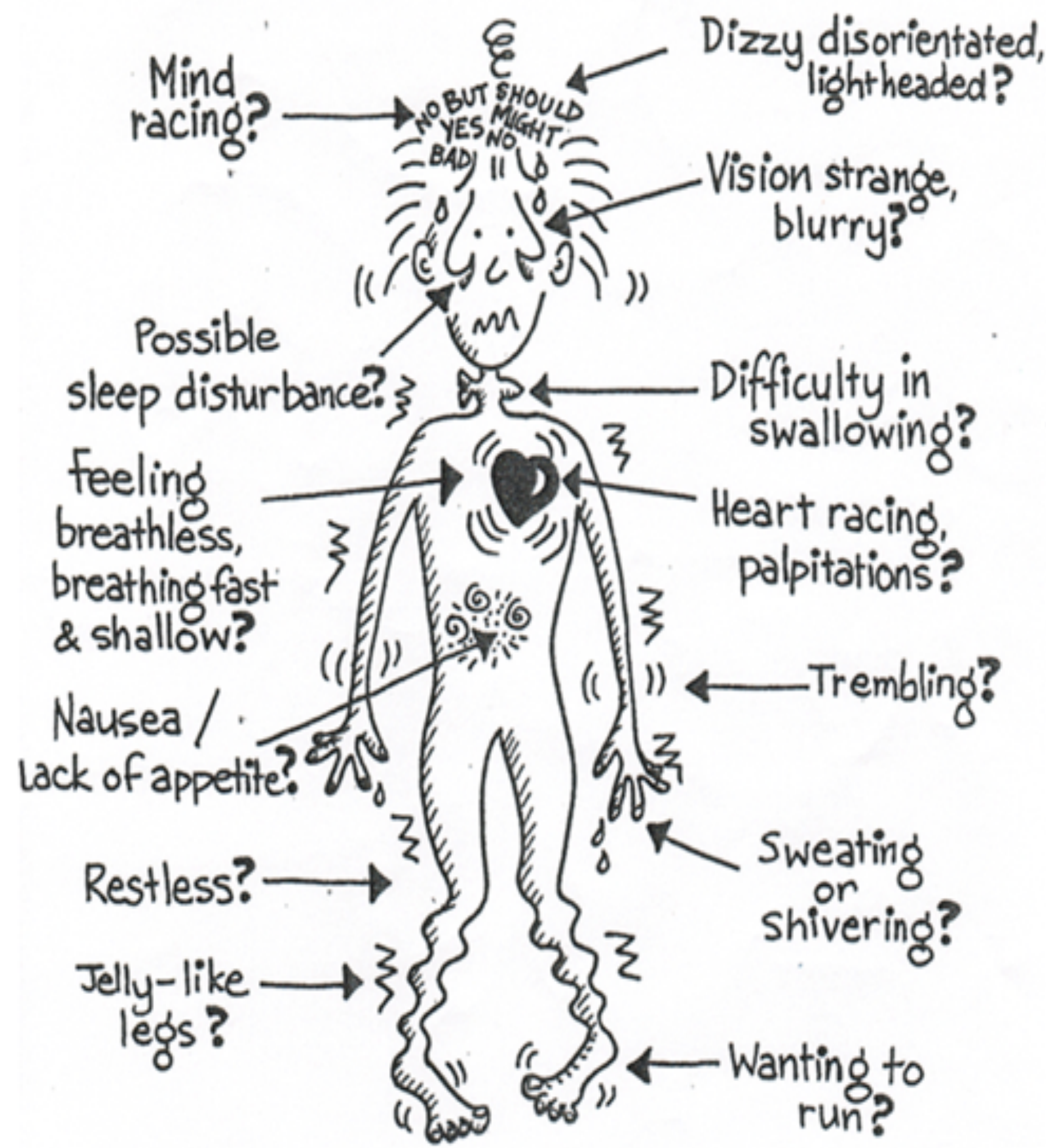
2. Respond with Humility

a. React with Wisdom and Tact

b. Be in a posture of Prayer and Worship

c. Give God the Glory

3. Have confidence that you ARE on the winning team

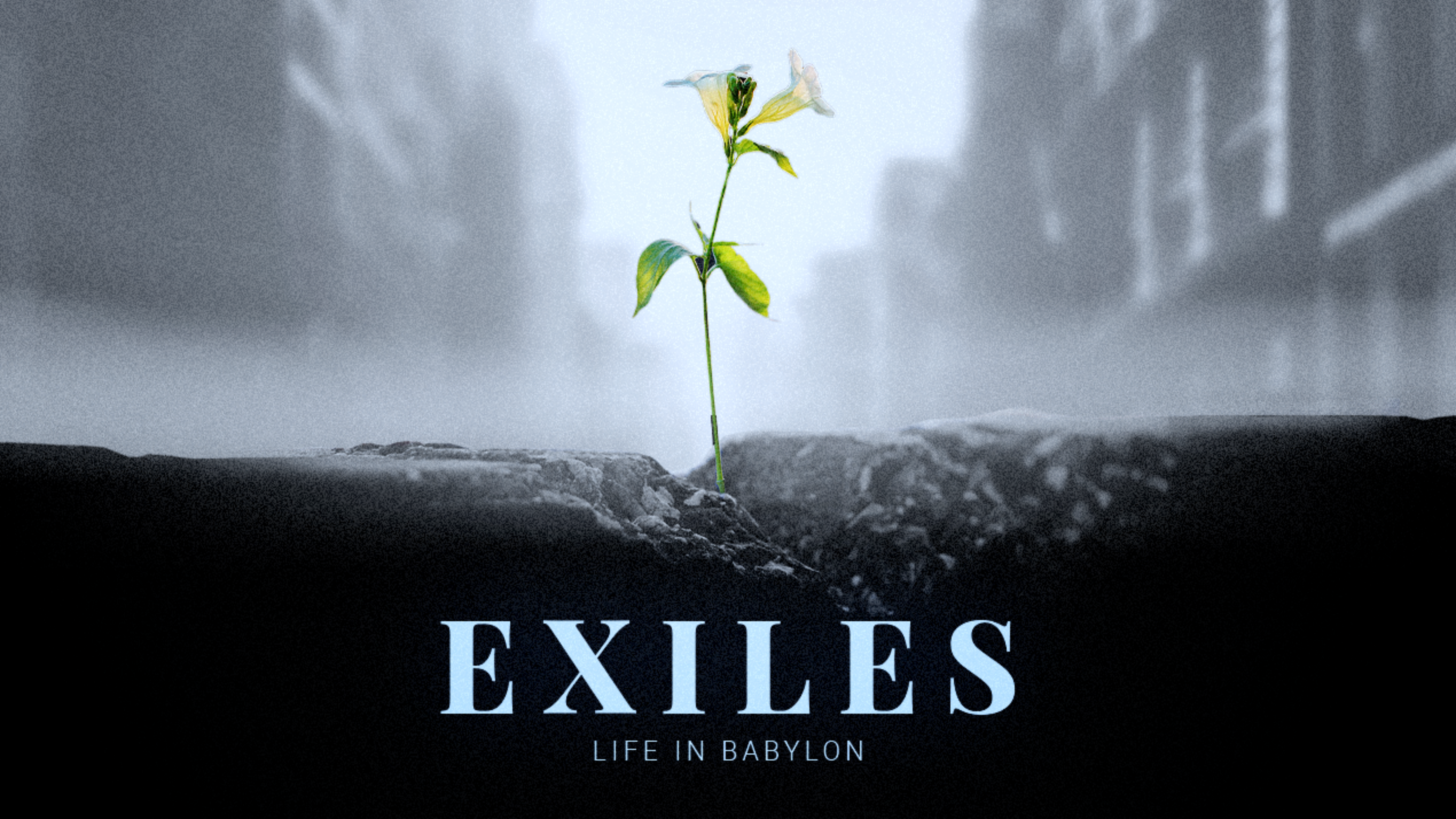


Shaky Man is taken from the book by Bev Aisbett (1993) "Living with IT: A Survivor's Guide to Panic Attacks"

44 “In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, *but it will itself endure forever.*”

# Be an Influence

1. Build a Sure Foundation
2. Respond with Humility
  - a. React with Wisdom and Tact
  - b. Be in a posture of Prayer and Worship
  - c. Give God the Glory
3. Have confidence that you ARE on the winning team



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