

Opening Question – What would you most like to know about your own future? Who would you trust to give you a reliable prediction?

A Question of Image ([1:00 – 31:58](#))

- 1) A core part of Nebuchadnezzar's education policy was for Daniel & his friends to learn the literature and language of the Chaldeans. What were the challenges and benefits of this for Daniel & his friends as the story unfolds?

Daniel 2: Reason and Revelation

- 2) Why was the king so desperate to know the future?
- 3) What was the purpose of king Nebuchadnezzar's test?

Why was it important then? Why is it still important today?

- 4) Lennox says that many people are "naturalists" today, "they don't believe there is access to a world beyond, in fact they don't believe there is a world beyond." How does the book of Daniel itself address/deal with this problem?
- 5) How did Daniel know the vision was from God?¹ How did he know what the vision was?
- 6) What is the difference between clever forecasting and revelation (2 Peter 1:19-21)?
- 7) What would you say to a person who asks, "how can you believe there is a world (& life) beyond this one—and if there is, that we have any access to it"?
- 8) Who do people tend to turn to for insight into the future today & why?
- 9) Are reason & revelation mutually exclusive, why or why not?
- 10) There are many things about the future that we will never know, but what difference did (and does) it make to know that "the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed..." (2:44)?

¹ In the contemporary world where people are rightly sensitive about religious extremism, how do you respond when someone says: "God told me..."?