

Daniel 2:25

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation.

Analysis

Arioch's response reveals political opportunism: "Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation." The phrase "in haste" suggests urgency and possibly self-interest—Arioch sees opportunity for advancement. His claim "I have found" takes credit for discovering Daniel, though Daniel actually approached him (verse 24). This minor dishonesty reveals common human tendency to appropriate credit, even when undeserved.

Arioch's description "a man of the captives of Judah" emphasizes Daniel's foreign status and low social position—a deportee, not native Babylonian. This detail heightens the coming revelation's impact: wisdom comes not from Babylon's elite but from an exiled Jew serving foreign God. The contrast demonstrates that true knowledge comes from Yahweh, not human institutions or educational systems. God often chooses unexpected instruments to glorify His name and humble human pride.

Despite Arioch's self-serving introduction, God uses even flawed human motives to accomplish His purposes. Arioch's opportunism provided Daniel's audience with the king. This teaches that God's sovereignty encompasses human sin and selfishness—He weaves even improper motives into His redemptive purposes. This doesn't excuse Arioch's dishonesty but demonstrates comprehensive divine

providence. God used even the conspiracy against Christ (self-serving religious leaders, cowardly Pilate, traitorous Judas) to accomplish salvation.

Historical Context

Court politics in ancient empires rewarded those who provided kings with desired information or services. Arioch, recognizing Daniel's potential success, positioned himself to share credit and gain favor. This political maneuvering characterized royal courts throughout history. Yet God's purposes transcended human scheming—Daniel's success vindicated Yahweh's supremacy, not Arioch's cleverness. This pattern encourages believers in bureaucratic or political contexts—trust God's sovereignty over outcomes despite others' manipulation or credit-taking. Faithful service honors God regardless of human response.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. What does Arioch's credit-taking despite Daniel initiating contact teach us about human tendency to appropriate undeserved glory?
2. How does Daniel's low social status ('captive of Judah') heighten the demonstration that wisdom comes from God, not human institutions?
3. In what ways does God's use of Arioch's self-serving motives demonstrate providence that encompasses even human sin to accomplish purposes?

Interlinear Text

למלך אָז מִלְּדָנִי אֶל בָּהַתְּבָלֵל הָאֲרוֹן אֶז יְהִי

Then Arioch in haste brought in Daniel before the king

H116 H746 H927 H5954 H1841 H6925 H4430

בְּנֵי גָּבָר מִן אֶמְרֵךְ יְהִי לְהִנְצָהָר
thus and said unto him I have found a man of the captives

H3652 H560 H0 H1768 H7912 H1400 H4481 H1123

למלך אָז פָּשַׁח אֶל גָּלוּתָא
that will make known the interpretation of the king

H1547 H1768 H1768 H6591 H4430 H3046

Additional Cross-References

Daniel 6:13 (Kingdom): Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

Daniel 1:6 (Parallel theme): Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:

Daniel 5:13 (Kingdom): Then was Daniel brought in before the king. And the king spake and said unto Daniel, Art thou that Daniel, which art of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry?

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