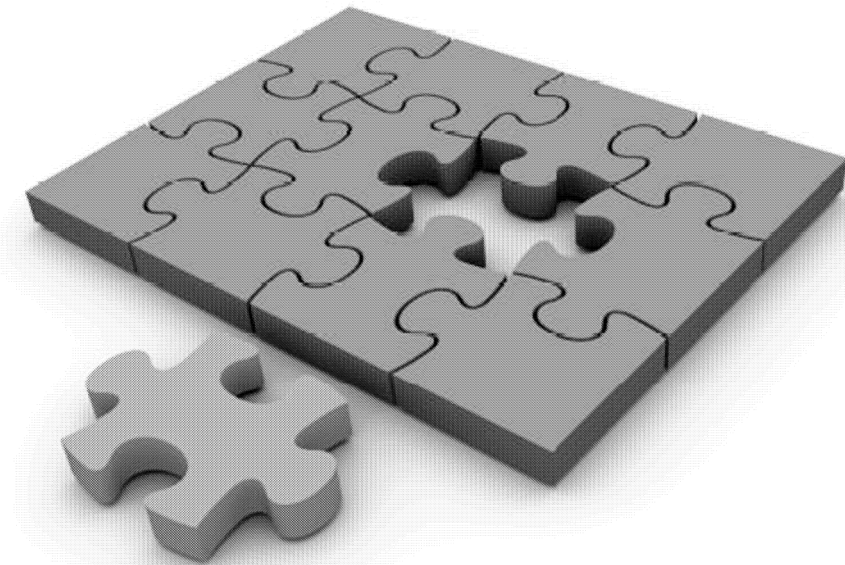


## Studies in Daniel – (Study 4) Babylon: Potent or Impotent?

Reading: Daniel 2:1-13



# Living a godly life in an ungodly world

So far in our studies, Daniel and his friends have featured prominently. As we move into the first part of chapter 2 they are conspicuous by their absence, with the focus turning firmly on King Nebuchadnezzar.

- 1) What examples from both the Old and New Testaments can you think of where God reveals his great purposes through dreams and visions?

### Read Daniel 2:1-13

- 2) Someone has observed that “if chapter 1 reveals the powerful single-mindedness of Babylon the second chapter displays its impotence (helpless or powerless)”. *How do we see this in verses 1, 10 and 11?*
- 3) These opening 13 verses do not include any direct reference to God. *Is there anywhere in the passage that indicates God is at work? How can we relate this to God at work in the world today?*
- 4) Why did Nebuchadnezzar make the difficult demand on the magicians and sorcerers to reveal as well as interpret the dream? What does this reveal about the king?
- 5) Why do you think this matters now to the king when it appears not to have bothered him before?
- 6) What was the real reason that the wise men had trouble explaining the dream?