

“But There Is A God In Heaven”

Introduction. Nebuchadnezzar was the king of Babylon. Daniel 2 records that he had a dream that troubled him greatly. He called all of his wise men and magicians together and said to them, “Tell me the meaning of my dream.” They replied, “We will try to do that if you will tell us the dream.” The king said, “I have forgotten the dream, but you claim to be wise and great men, surely you can tell me what I dreamed and you can tell me the interpretation. If you cannot do this, you will pay with your lives.” They were helpless to interpret the dream (vv. 1-13).

In the city of Babylon, however, there was a young man who was a true friend of God. This young man was Daniel. He went before the king and said, “Give me a little time and I will tell you the dream and the interpretation thereof.” He then went home and called three of his friends together and said to them, “I want you to pray with me and ask God to reveal to me the dream and the interpretation.” In the middle of the night, after they had prayed long and earnestly, the vision came and Daniel thanked God for revealing the truth to him (vv. 16-23).

The next day Daniel went before the king and said, “There is not a man upon the earth who could tell you your dream and the interpretation of it, but there is a God in Heaven and He has revealed the dream to me” (v. 28). He then told the king the dream and its meaning. The king was so grateful that he gave Daniel many rich gifts and made him ruler over Babylon.

You and I, in every hour of trouble, can say, “But there is a God in Heaven.” In the middle of war and bloodshed, sorrow and loss, and when our homes and hearts are being broken, we can remember that there is a God in Heaven.

I. How People Of Old Were Reassured

- A. Moses knew this great truth at the Red Sea.
 - 1. Moses needed to know there was a God in Heaven (Exodus 14:21-22; cp. Psalm 78:13; 106:9).
 - 2. Backed up against the Red Sea with the Egyptians bearing down on him and the Israelites, Moses saw that God has power over His creation.
- B. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego knew this great truth in the fiery furnace.
 - 1. In the bowels of the great fire, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego learned there was a God in Heaven (Daniel 3:23-27; cp. Hebrews 11:34).
 - 2. They were protected by God even to the degree that their hair was not singed nor did their clothes smell of the fire.

- C. Peter knew this great truth in the prison cell.
 - 1. When imprisoned by Herod, Peter was reminded there was a God in Heaven (Acts 12:3-9; cp. 16:26; 27:44; Psalm 18:2).
 - 2. Peter was released by an angel of the Lord and went to the house of Mary the mother of John.

II. How We Can Be Reassured Today

- A. When you sin, there is a God in Heaven.
 - 1. There are two facts to remember about this point. First, God knows your sin (Revelation 2:2, 9, 13, 19; 3:1, 8, 15). You look all around and there are no witnesses to what you have done, but God knows. God knows your sin whether it is committed in the brightness of the midday sun or in the blackness of the midnight hour (John 2:24-25).
 - 2. The second point to remember is that God is quick to forgive us if we will avail ourselves of His plan through Christ (Ephesians 1:7). Christians are not beyond hope if we are penitent, confess our sins, and ask His forgiveness (Luke 15:20-24; 1 John 1:9).
- B. When you are overwhelmed, there is a God in Heaven.
 - 1. There are many hours when God seems close to us. He seems close to us when we worship, when we look up into a starry night, or when we are blessed with physical abundance. But surely God is closer in the time of trouble and sorrow than at other times.
 - 2. I hear people say, "If that would have happened to me, I could not handle it." But it may happen to you someday and it will then be the time to say, "There is a God in Heaven" (Psalm 23:4; Isaiah 40:28-31; 2 Corinthians 1:3-7; 12:7-10). One of the finest and sweetest texts of consolation is the invitation of Jesus (Matthew 11:28-30).
 - 3. God cares and wants us to come to Him (Philippians 4:6-7; 1 Peter 5:7). During all these times, remember there is a God in Heaven, and He has more power than all others (John 16:33; 1 John 5:4).
- C. When you get to the end of the way, there will be a God in Heaven.
 - 1. One day death will knock at your door and you will not be able to keep the door locked.
 - 2. The brevity of life has been described in various ways in the Bible: a shadow (1 Chronicles 29:15; Job 8:9; Psalm 102:11; 144:4), a weaver's shuttle (Job 7:6-10), a runner (Job 9:25-26), a handbreadth (Psalm 39:5), the wind (Psalm 78:39), the grass (Psalm 90:5-6; 1 Peter 2:24), a leaf (Isaiah 64:6), and a vapor (James 4:14).
 - 3. God's promises are sure (John 3:36; 10:29; Romans 8:1; 2 Peter 3:9-11). If you are a child of God, you do not have to fear death (2

Corinthians 4:17-18). He will safely deliver you home on the other shore.

Conclusion. In John 6:16-20, Jesus walked to the boat in the middle of a great storm. They became very afraid when they saw Jesus coming toward them, but then He said some of the most comforting words: "It is I; be not afraid." One day everyone of us will launch out into the blackness of death. I want to hear, more than anything, Jesus say, "It is I; be not afraid."

Do you know, trust, and obey the Savior whom Moses, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and Peter served? If you do, you need never fear. There is a God in Heaven. He will watch over and care for you and take you home safely at last. If you need to correct your life in any way, do it now. Obey the gospel today or come back to God and He will open up the way into eternal life for you.