

## Dreams—Daniel 2 and 7

Today we're going to talk about dreams. Do you ever wake up in the morning after having dreamt all night, and you couldn't remember what you dreamed about? Dreams are strange things. Experts tell us everybody dreams, some people just can't remember their dreams. Out of eight hours sleep at night, on the average you'll dream an hour-and-a-half to two hours of those eight hours.

On the morning of April 14, 1865, President Abraham Lincoln met with his cabinet at the White House in Washington, and the Civil War was raging toward an end. Abraham Lincoln said to his cabinet members, "I've been having a strange dream the last few nights." He said, "In this dream, I picture a ship, and it is sailing towards some indefinite shore." He said, "I keep having that dream. I don't know what it means." That very night he and Mrs. Lincoln were attending a show at Ford's theater and John Wilkes Booth shot him in the back of the head, inflicting a mortal wound. The very next day, the ship that was the life of Abraham Lincoln reached the shore of eternity. That was a dream that had personal, national, and eternal significance.

Today we're going to be looking at a dream a king had 2,600 years ago that also had personal, national, and eternal significance.

Daniel 2:1. "In the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his mind was troubled and he could not sleep."

Let's talk a little bit about Nebuchadnezzar. We're going to be meeting him in the weeks to come also, but Nebuchadnezzar, who was this great Babylonian king, was one of the greatest world leaders of the time. In fact, he was the first world leader to conquer the entire civilized world, including what we would call today Italy, all the way around to Egypt.