

WHAT DOES DIVINE POWER GIVE US?

God did not leave man without the knowledge of the true nature of those who seek to elevate themselves about God. Daniel had to confront magicians, astrologers and sorcerers in Daniel 2 when they could not reveal the dream of Nebuchadnezzar. The king had a dream and asks his magicians, astrologers, sorcerers and wise men to tell him the dream - not the meaning of the dream - but the dream. The king also knew that these men could not really give any supersensory answer when he said: *"For you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed"* (verse 9). They finally confessed they had no supersensory powers in verse 10 and 11: *"There is no other who can tell it to the king except with the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh."* Later in chapter five, the wise men could not interpret the writing on the wall that told of the death of Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans.

When men believe they have the power of foretelling the future by their own psychic powers, they create themselves as God. The desire of men is to go beyond a belief in God and become his own God. Religion is only a myth and the wisdom of man will seek to take him beyond the feeble efforts of God's Word. To believe in stargazers and psychics is to follow lying spirits and idolatry. To live by a daily horoscope is to live with a scope that will be filled with horror one day.

The Christian is commanded to abstain from such things as falsehood. *"Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in false humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grow with increase that is from God"* (Colossians 2:18-19).

Peter tells us, *"His divine power has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue"* (2 Peter 1:3).

Everything we need to know about our lives today and our lives tomorrow is found in Jesus when He said, *"I am the way, the truth, and the life: no one comes to the Father except through me"* (John 14:6).

Ray Varner