

**CURRENT TEACHING SERIES**

# **EPIC TALES**

A dramatic scene featuring a whale's tail fluke rising from the churning blue ocean under a dark, stormy sky with rain falling. The whale's tail is dark and wet, with water dripping from it. The overall mood is intense and powerful.

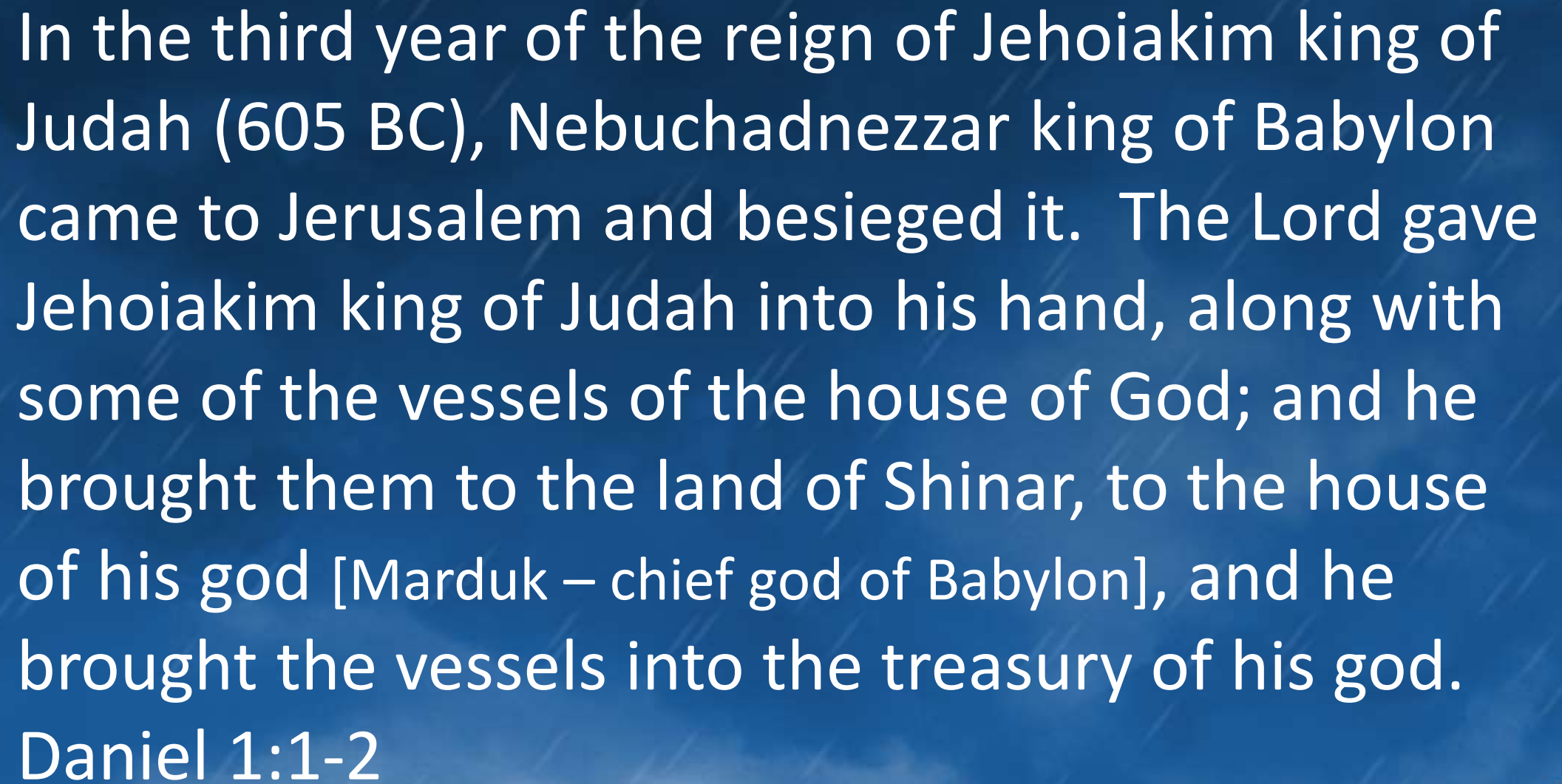
**RELEARNING THE ANCIENT BIBLE  
STORIES IN A BRAND-NEW WAY**

# Daniel chapter 1



**EPIC TALES**

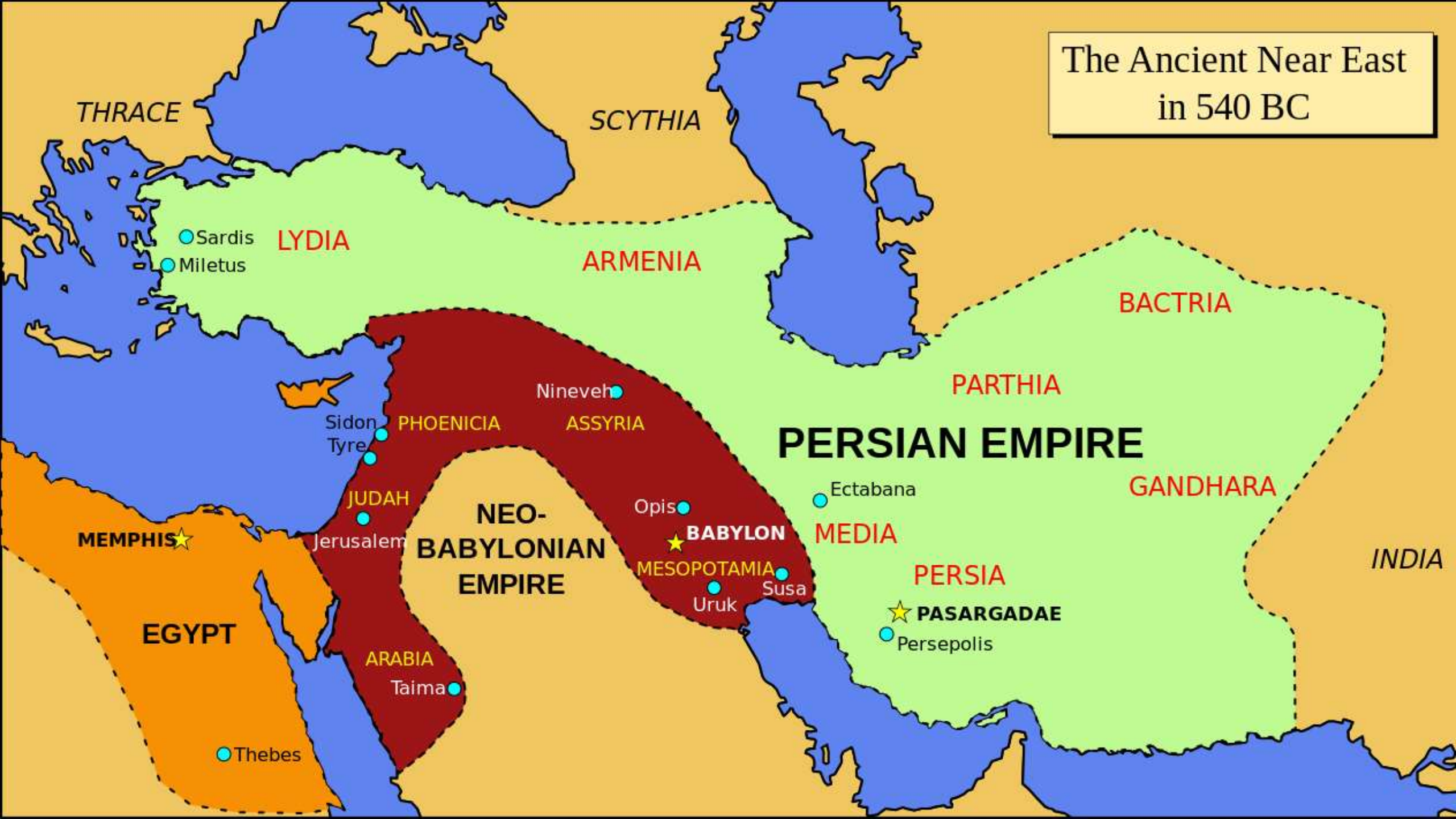


A photograph of a whale's tail fluke emerging from the surface of the ocean. The water is a deep blue with white foam from the whale's splash. The sky is a lighter blue with some light clouds. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

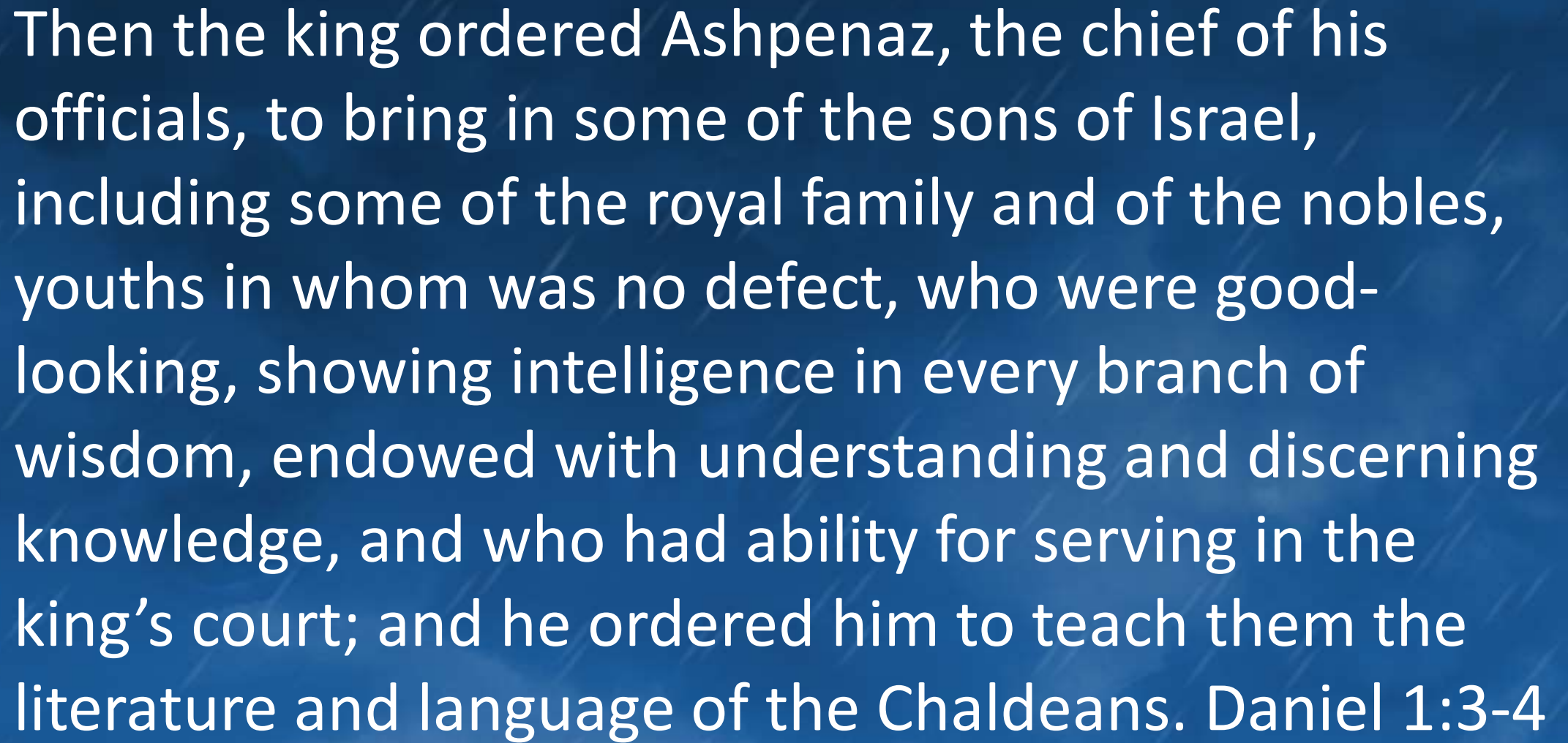
In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah (605 BC), Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. The Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god [Marduk – chief god of Babylon], and he brought the vessels into the treasury of his god.  
Daniel 1:1-2

**EPIC TALES**

The Ancient Near East  
in 540 BC

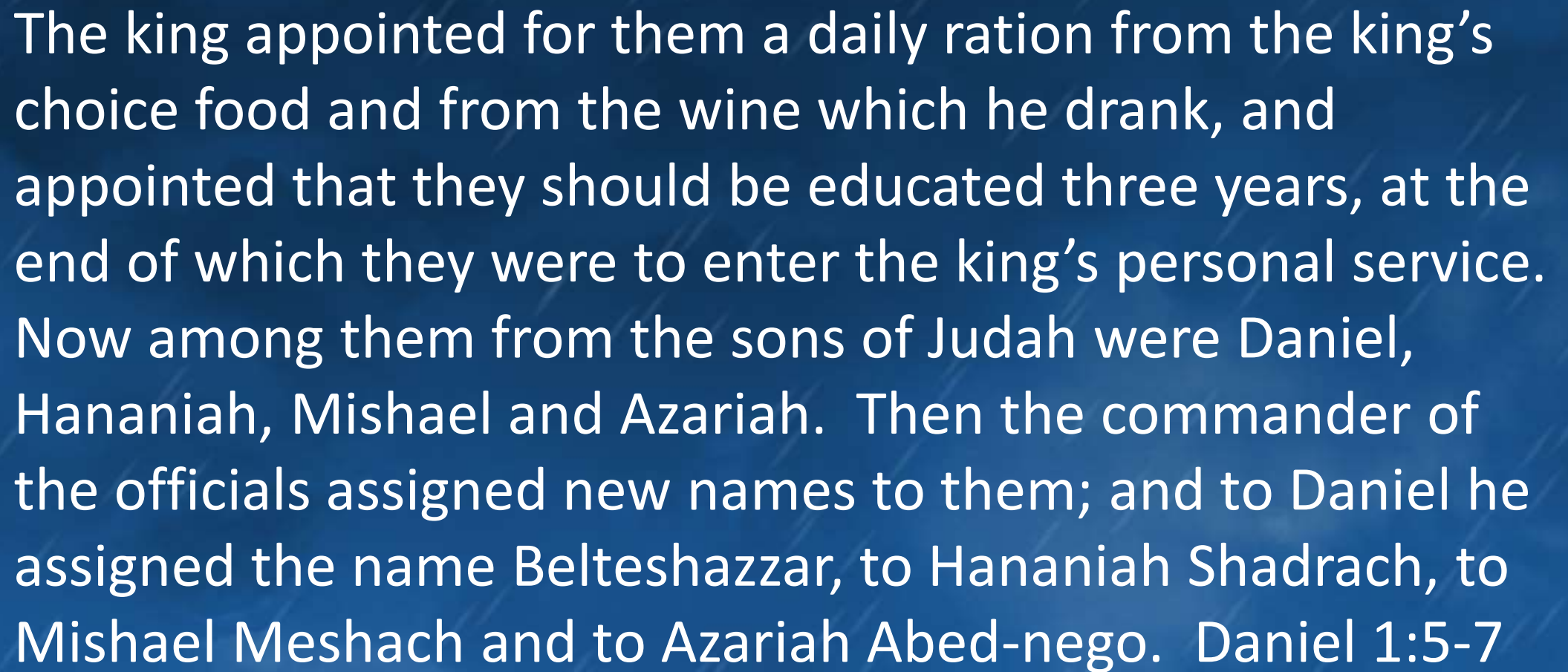




A photograph of a whale's tail breaching the surface of the ocean. The tail is dark and curved, with white foam at the point of exit. The water is a deep blue with white-capped waves. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials, to bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles, youths in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in every branch of wisdom, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and who had ability for serving in the king's court; and he ordered him to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. Daniel 1:3-4

**EPIC TALES**



The king appointed for them a daily ration from the king's choice food and from the wine which he drank, and appointed that they should be educated three years, at the end of which they were to enter the king's personal service. Now among them from the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. Then the commander of the officials assigned new names to them; and to Daniel he assigned the name Belteshazzar, to Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael Meshach and to Azariah Abed-nego. Daniel 1:5-7

\*Names were changed by Nebuchadnezzar to omit a testimony to YHWH, to encourage the Jewish teens to forget God and their homeland

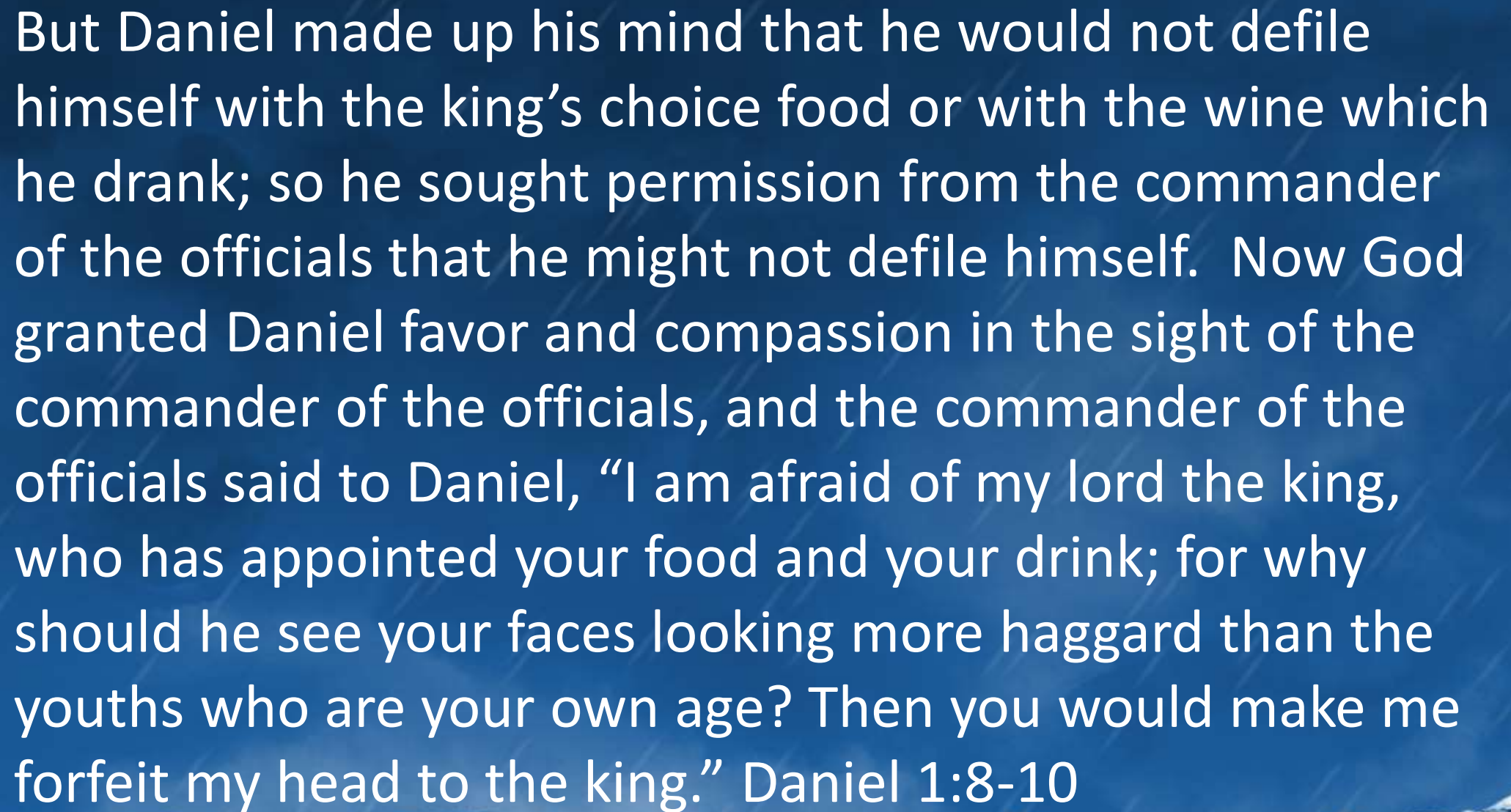
**EPIC TALES**



# Hebrew Names → Babylonian Names

- Daniel means “Elohim has judged?”
- Hananiah means “YHWH has been gracious”
- Mishael means “Who is what Elohim is?”
- Azariah means “YHWH has helped”
- Belteshazzar means “Bel, protect the king”
- Shadrach means “I am fearful of a god”
- Meshach means “I am humbled before my god”
- Abed-nego means “servant of (god) Nebo”

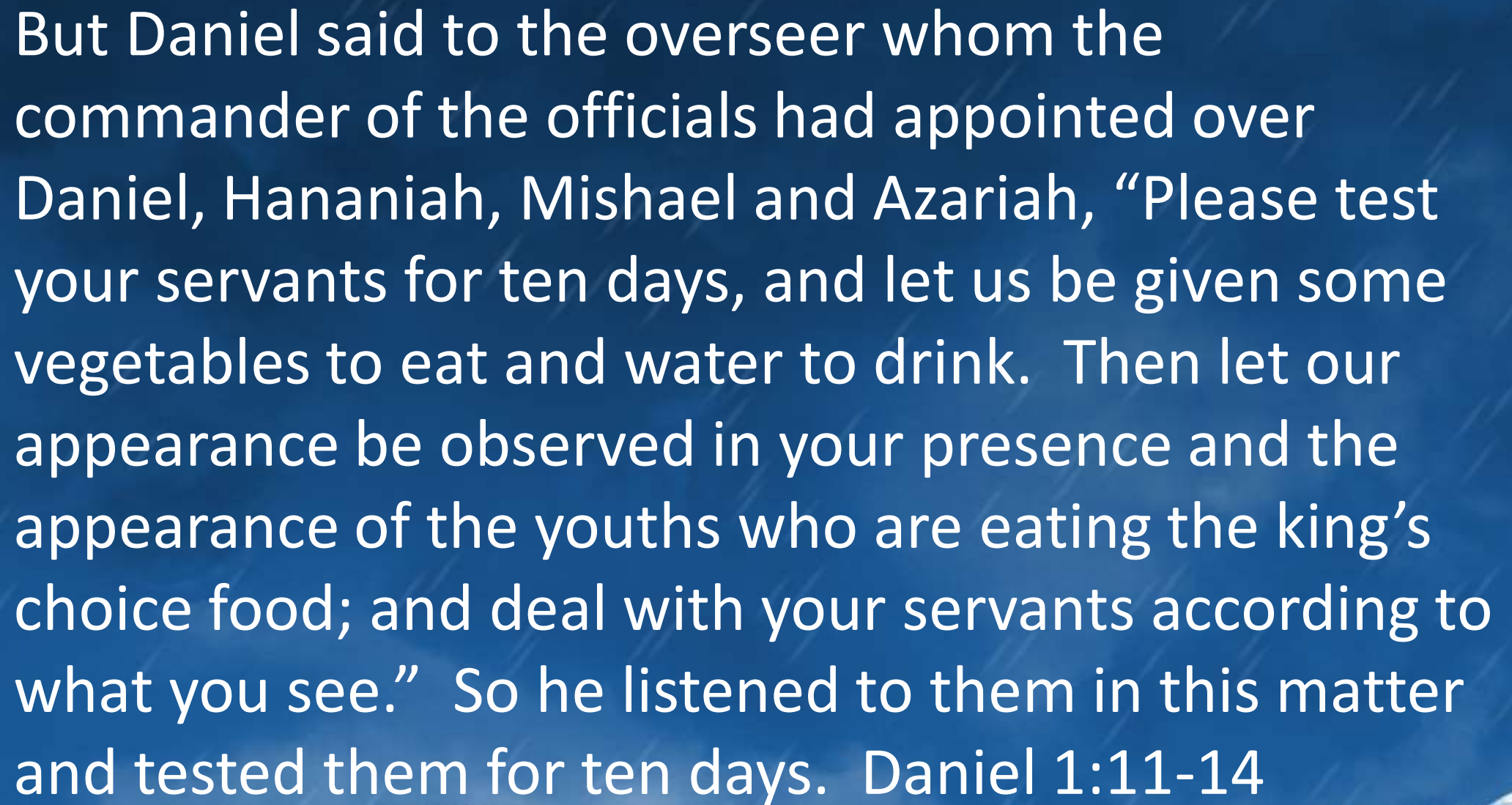
**EPIC TALES**

A photograph of a whale's tail breaching the surface of the ocean. The tail is dark and curved, with white foam at the point of exit. The water is a deep blue with white-capped waves. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself. Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials, and the commander of the officials said to Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink; for why should he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would make me forfeit my head to the king." Daniel 1:8-10

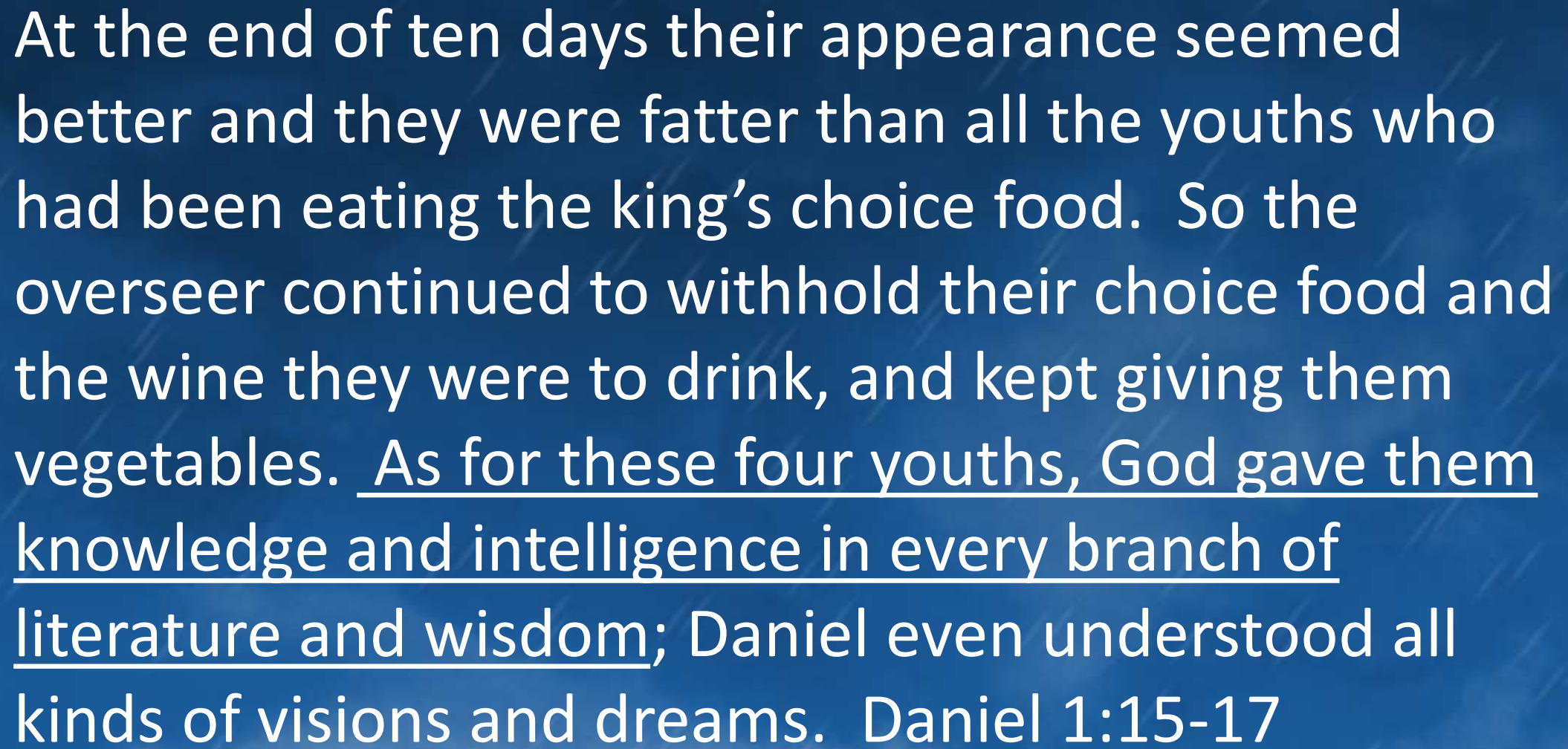
**EPIC TALES**



A photograph of a whale's tail fluke emerging from the ocean, set against a blue sky and sea. The whale's tail is dark and appears to be in motion, creating a splash of white water at the base. The background is a vast expanse of blue water and sky, with some whitecaps visible in the distance.

But Daniel said to the overseer whom the commander of the officials had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, “Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then let our appearance be observed in your presence and the appearance of the youths who are eating the king’s choice food; and deal with your servants according to what you see.” So he listened to them in this matter and tested them for ten days. Daniel 1:11-14

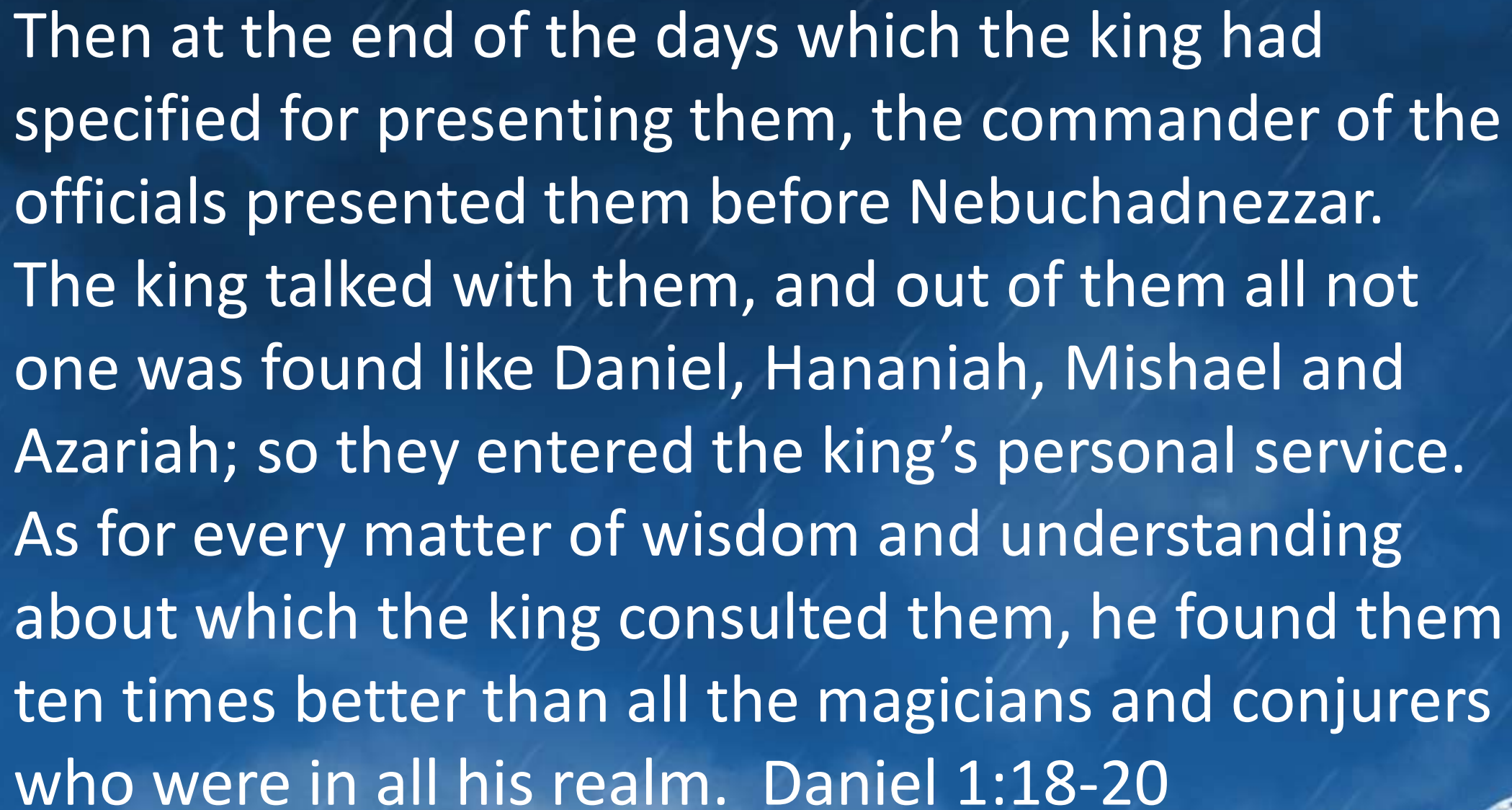
**EPIC TALES**

A photograph of a whale's tail fluke emerging from the blue ocean, set against a background of a blue sky with light rays. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

At the end of ten days their appearance seemed better and they were fatter than all the youths who had been eating the king's choice food. So the overseer continued to withhold their choice food and the wine they were to drink, and kept giving them vegetables. As for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom; Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and dreams. Daniel 1:15-17

**EPIC TALES**



A photograph of a whale's tail breaching the surface of the ocean. The tail is dark and curved, with white foam at the point of exit. The water is a deep blue with white-capped waves. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar. The king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's personal service. As for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king consulted them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and conjurers who were in all his realm. Daniel 1:18-20

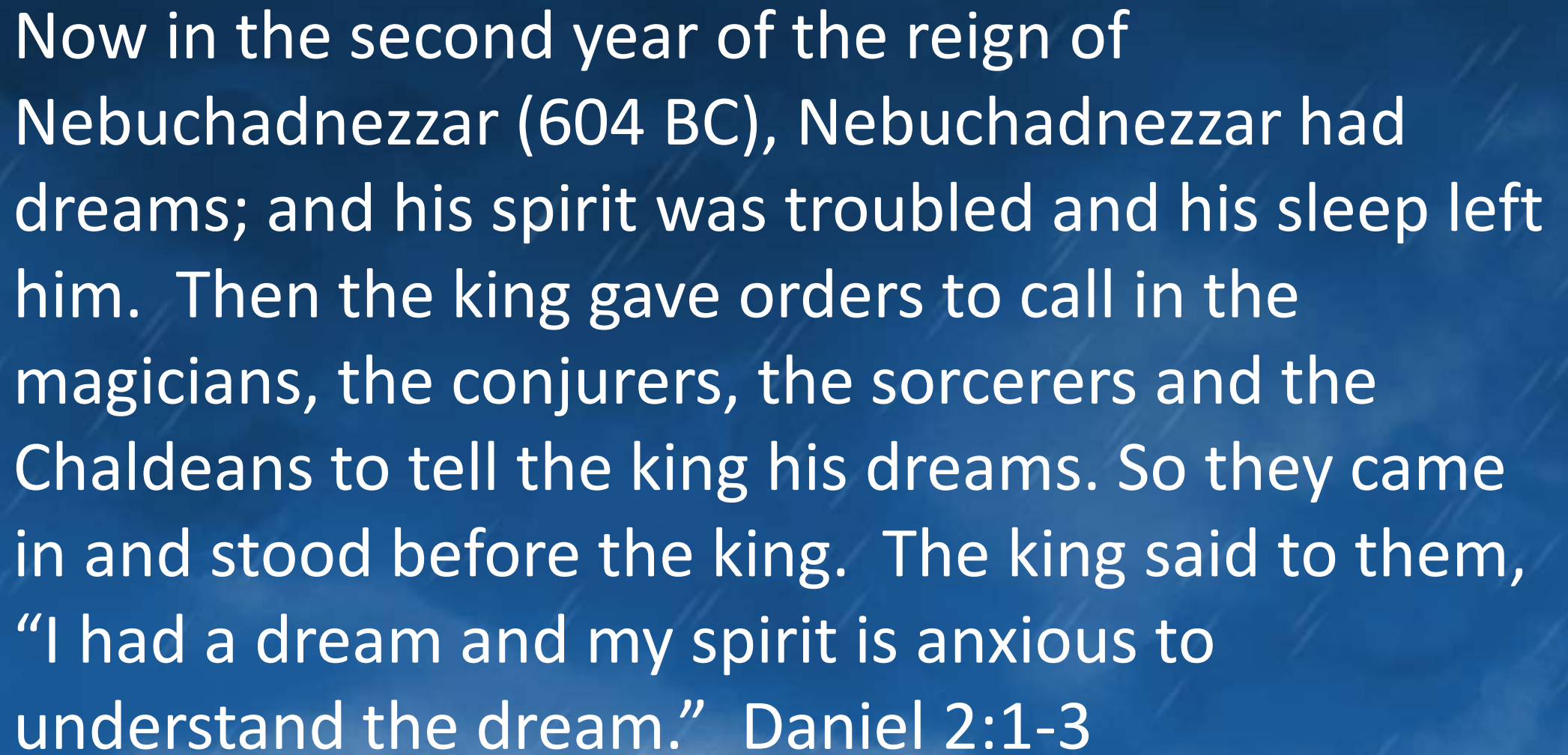
**EPIC TALES**

# Daniel chapter 2



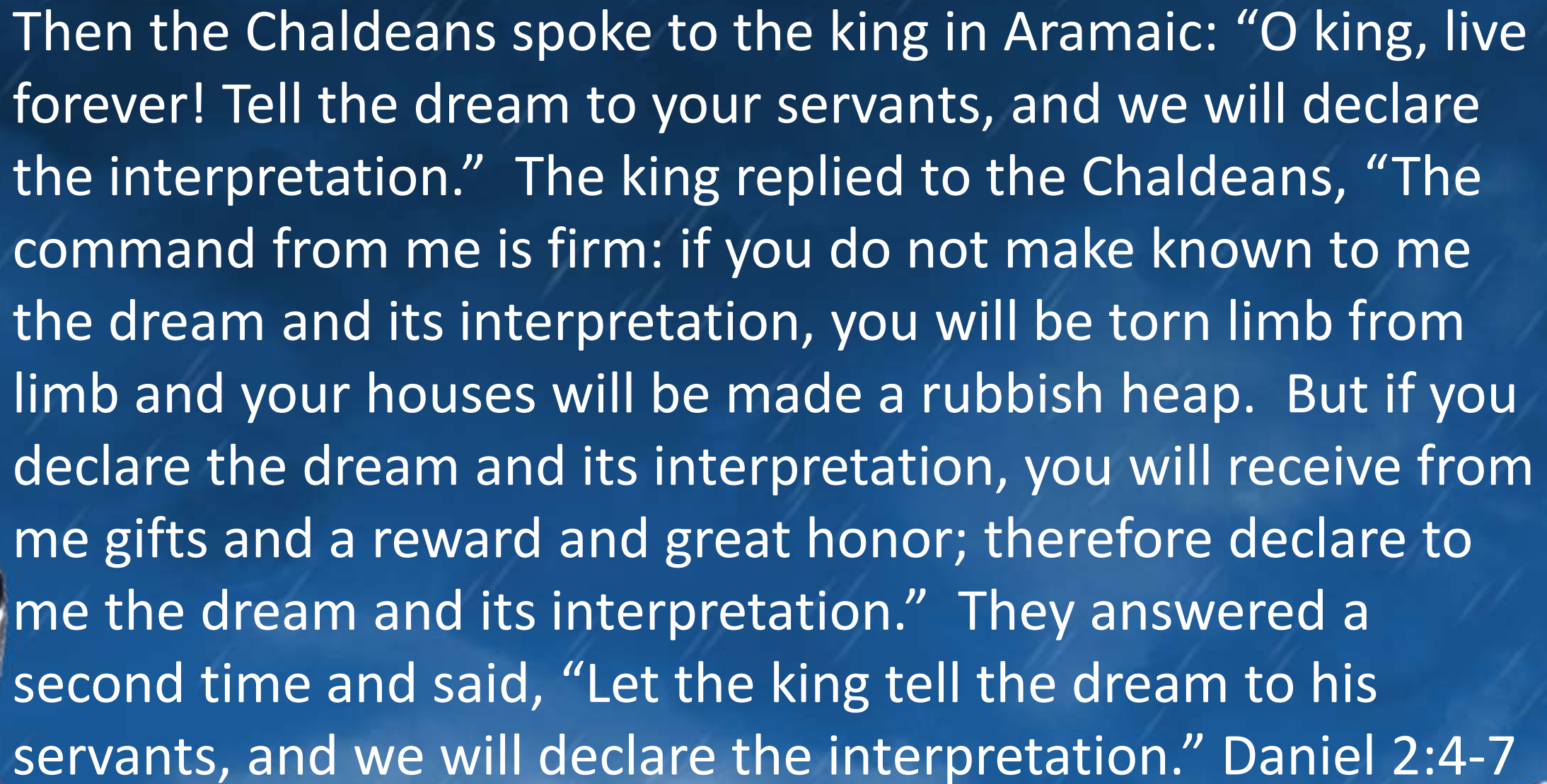
**EPIC TALES**



A photograph of a whale's tail fluke emerging from the dark blue ocean. The tail is dark grey and has a white patch on its upper surface. The water is choppy with white foam at the base of the tail.

Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar (604 BC), Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him. Then the king gave orders to call in the magicians, the conjurers, the sorcerers and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king. The king said to them, “I had a dream and my spirit is anxious to understand the dream.” Daniel 2:1-3

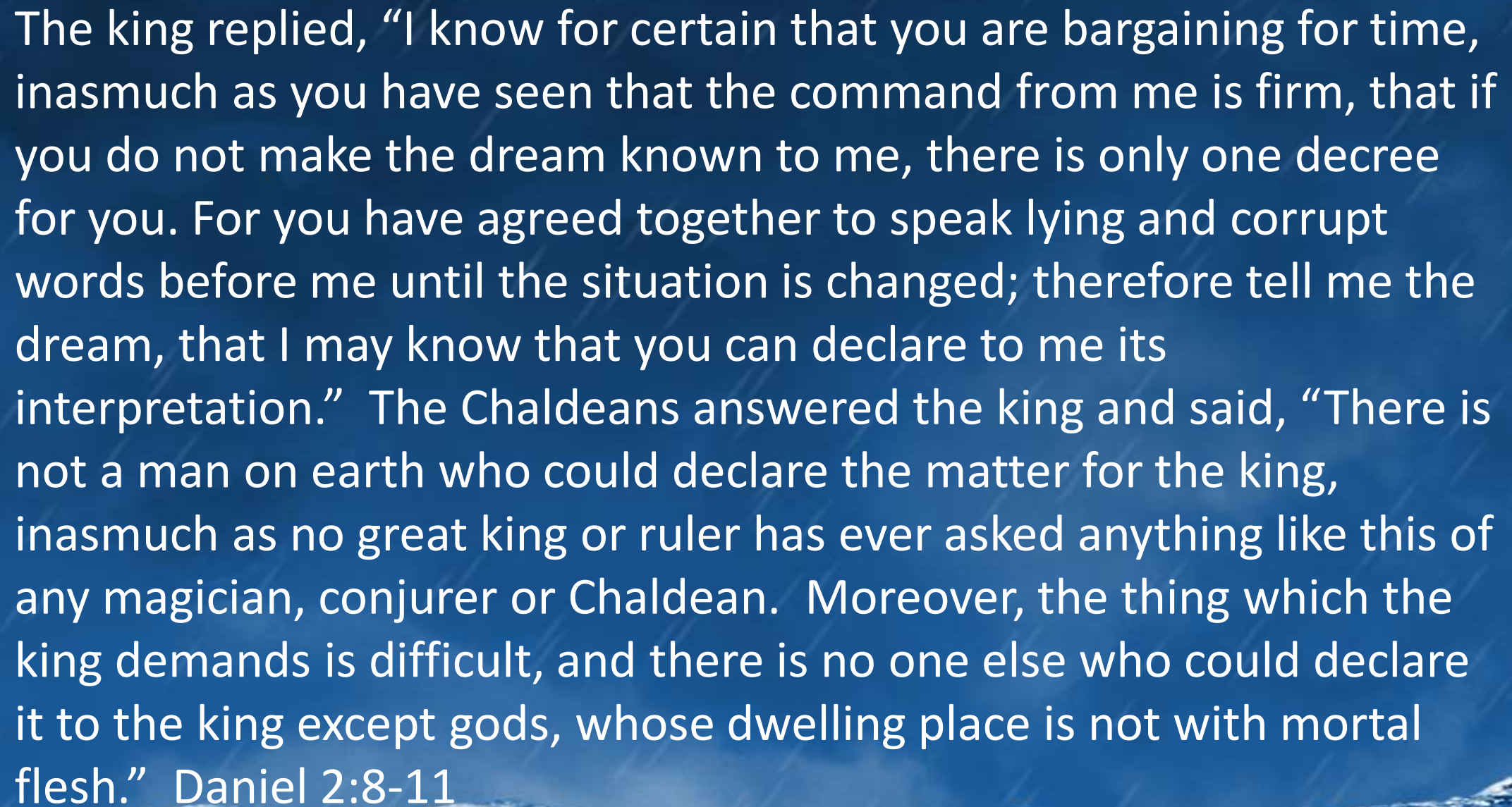
**EPIC TALES**

A photograph of a whale's tail fluke emerging from the blue ocean, set against a background of a blue sky with light rays. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic: “O king, live forever! Tell the dream to your servants, and we will declare the interpretation.” The king replied to the Chaldeans, “The command from me is firm: if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you will be torn limb from limb and your houses will be made a rubbish heap. But if you declare the dream and its interpretation, you will receive from me gifts and a reward and great honor; therefore declare to me the dream and its interpretation.” They answered a second time and said, “Let the king tell the dream to his servants, and we will declare the interpretation.” Daniel 2:4-7

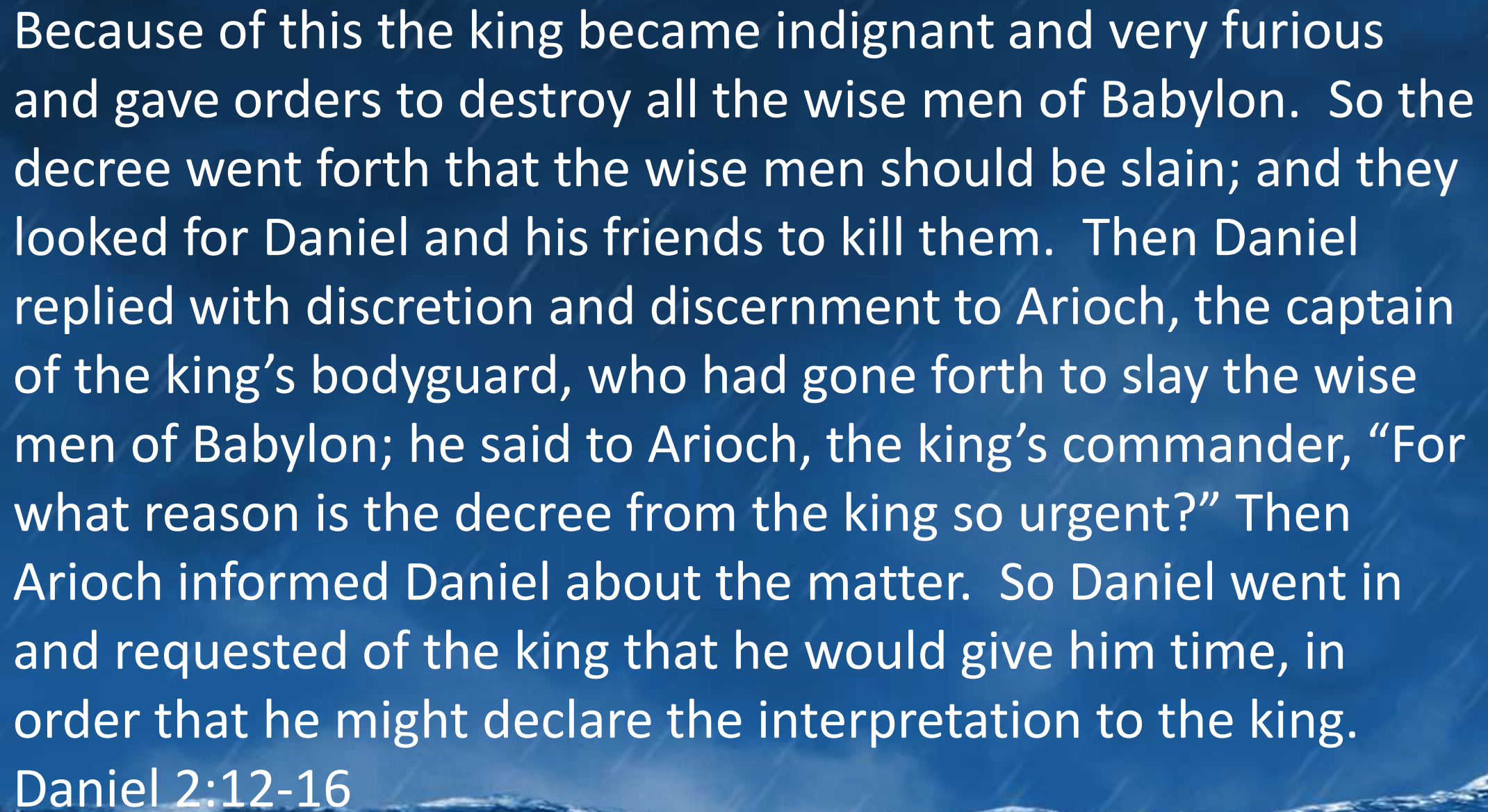
**EPIC TALES**





The king replied, “I know for certain that you are bargaining for time, inasmuch as you have seen that the command from me is firm, that if you do not make the dream known to me, there is only one decree for you. For you have agreed together to speak lying and corrupt words before me until the situation is changed; therefore tell me the dream, that I may know that you can declare to me its interpretation.” The Chaldeans answered the king and said, “There is not a man on earth who could declare the matter for the king, inasmuch as no great king or ruler has ever asked anything like this of any magician, conjurer or Chaldean. Moreover, the thing which the king demands is difficult, and there is no one else who could declare it to the king except gods, whose dwelling place is not with mortal flesh.” Daniel 2:8-11

**EPIC TALES**


A photograph of a whale's tail breaching the surface of the ocean. The tail is dark and curved, with white foam at the point of exit. The water is a deep blue with white-capped waves. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Because of this the king became indignant and very furious and gave orders to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. So the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they looked for Daniel and his friends to kill them. Then Daniel replied with discretion and discernment to Arioch, the captain of the king's bodyguard, who had gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon; he said to Arioch, the king's commander, "For what reason is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch informed Daniel about the matter. So Daniel went in and requested of the king that he would give him time, in order that he might declare the interpretation to the king.

Daniel 2:12-16


**EPIC TALES**



A photograph of a whale's tail fluke emerging from the dark blue ocean, set against a background of a blue sky with light rain or mist. The whale's tail is dark and has a lighter patch near the tip. The water is choppy with white foam from the tail's exit.

Then Daniel went to his house and informed his friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, about the matter, so that they might request compassion from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his friends would not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven; Daniel 2:17-19

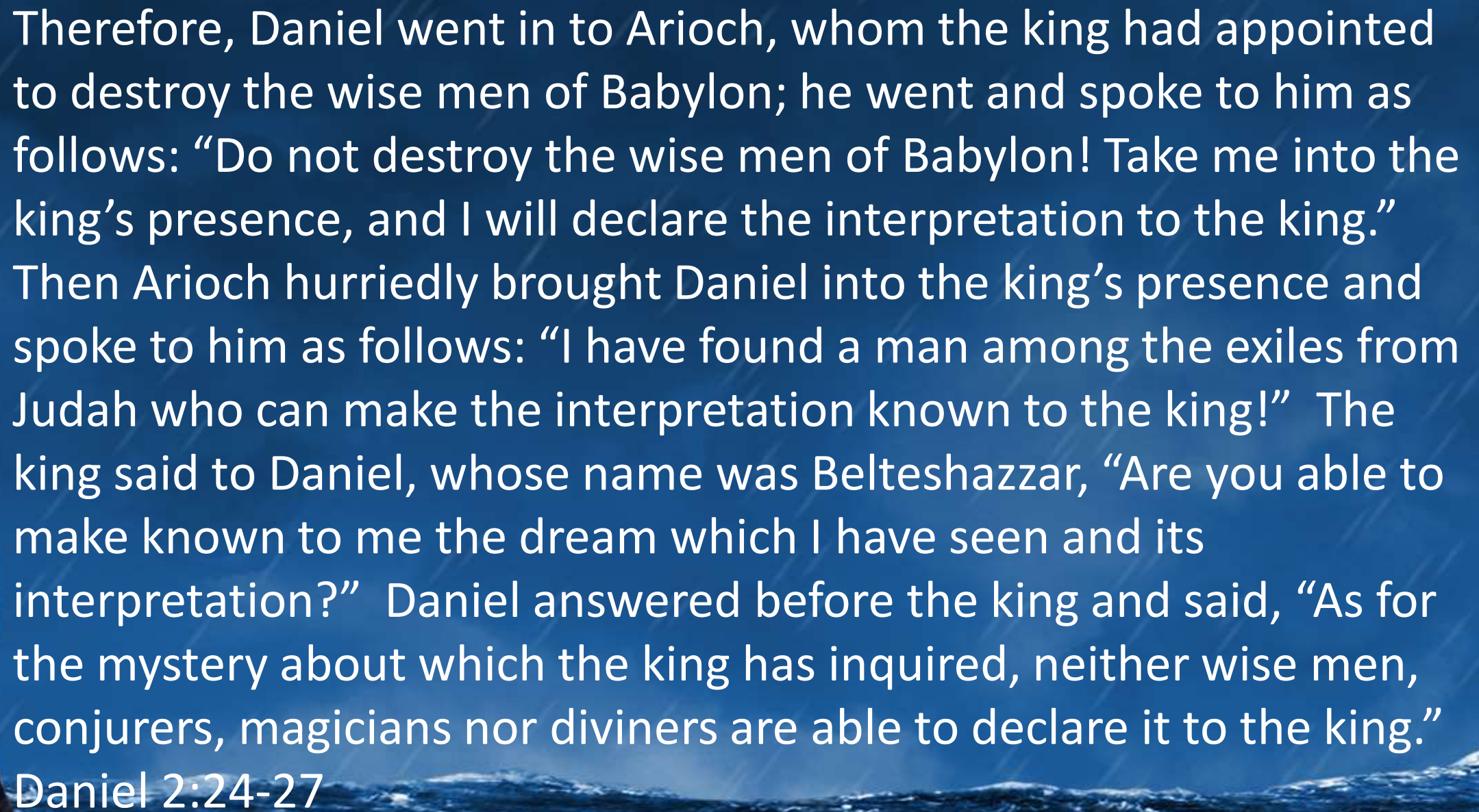
**EPIC TALES**



Daniel said, “Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever for wisdom and power belong to Him. It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men and knowledge to men of understanding. It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him. To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for You have given me wisdom and power; even now You have made known to me what we requested of You, for You have made known to us the king’s matter.” Daniel 2:20-23

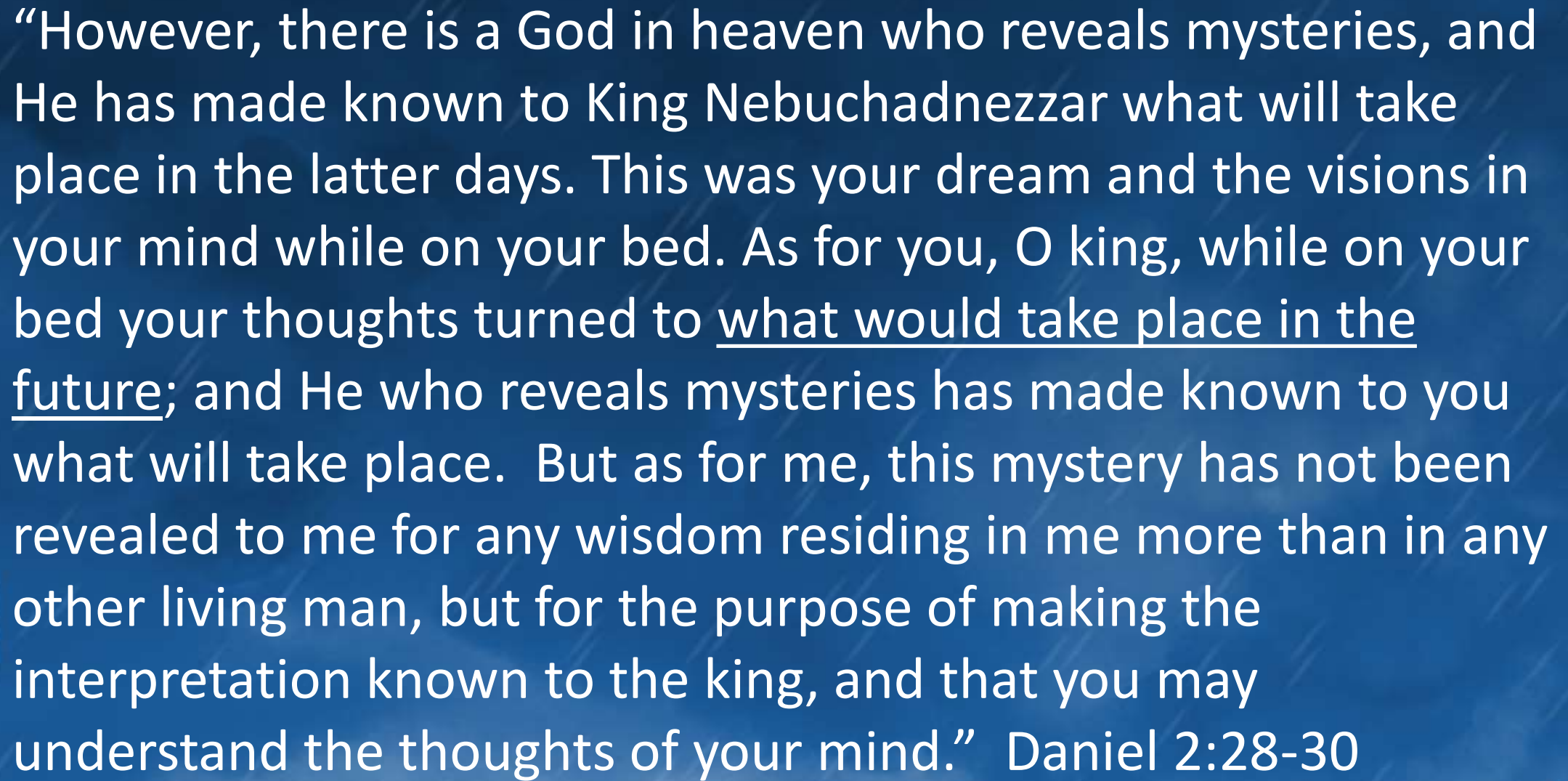
**EPIC TALES**





Therefore, Daniel went in to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon; he went and spoke to him as follows: “Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon! Take me into the king’s presence, and I will declare the interpretation to the king.” Then Arioch hurriedly brought Daniel into the king’s presence and spoke to him as follows: “I have found a man among the exiles from Judah who can make the interpretation known to the king!” The king said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, “Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen and its interpretation?” Daniel answered before the king and said, “As for the mystery about which the king has inquired, neither wise men, conjurers, magicians nor diviners are able to declare it to the king.” Daniel 2:24-27

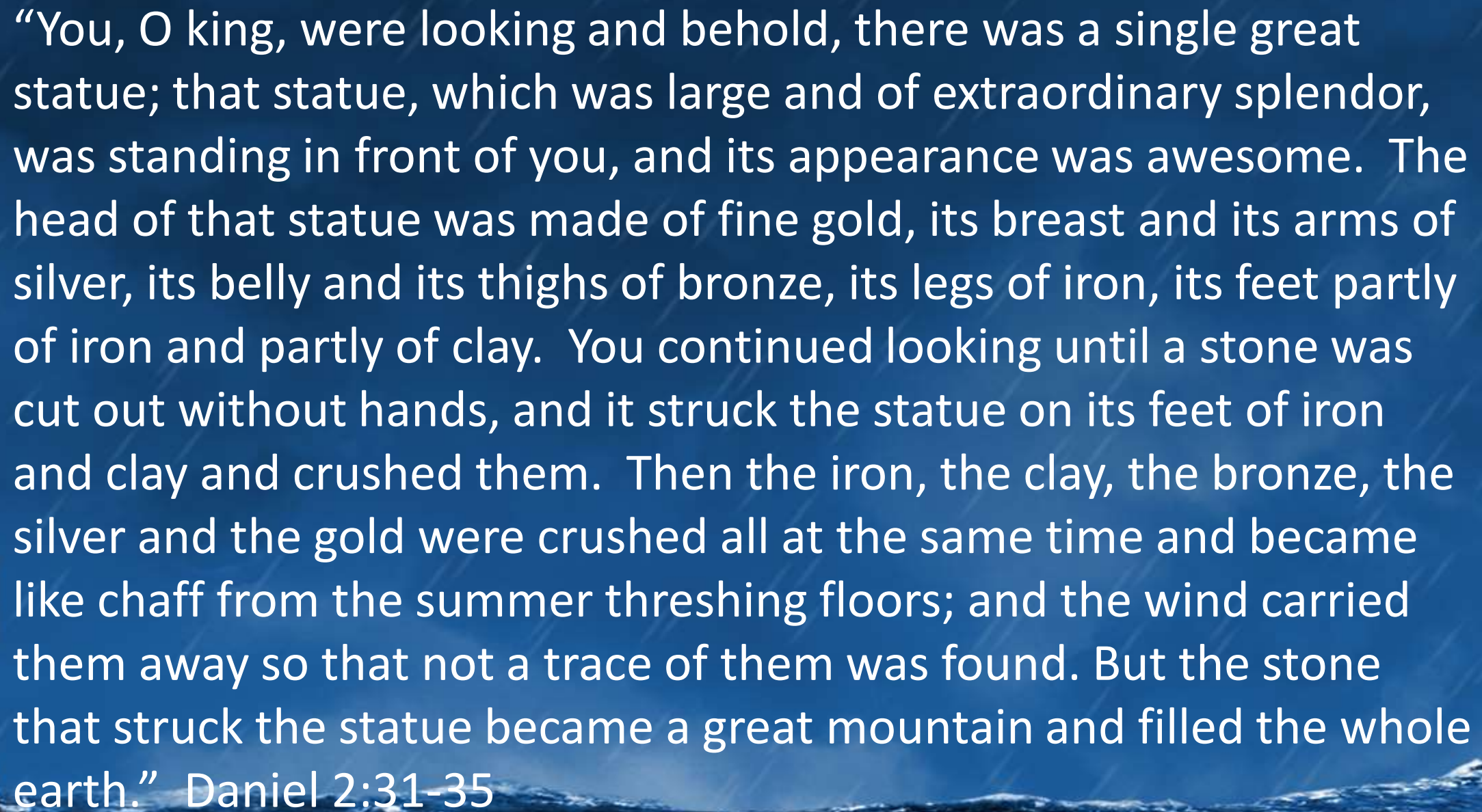
**EPIC TALES**



“However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days. This was your dream and the visions in your mind while on your bed. As for you, O king, while on your bed your thoughts turned to what would take place in the future; and He who reveals mysteries has made known to you what will take place. But as for me, this mystery has not been revealed to me for any wisdom residing in me more than in any other living man, but for the purpose of making the interpretation known to the king, and that you may understand the thoughts of your mind.” Daniel 2:28-30

**EPIC TALES**





“You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome. The head of that statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.” Daniel 2:31-35

**EPIC TALES**

# The Babylonian Empire

“This was the dream; now we will tell its interpretation before the king. You, O king, are the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the strength and the glory; and wherever the sons of men dwell, or the beasts of the field, or the birds of the sky, He has given them into your hand and has caused you to rule over them all. You are the head of gold.” Daniel 2:36-38

**EPIC TALES**



# Medo-Persia and Greece

“After you there will arise another kingdom inferior to you, then another third kingdom of bronze, which will rule over all the earth.”

Daniel 2:39

**EPIC TALES**

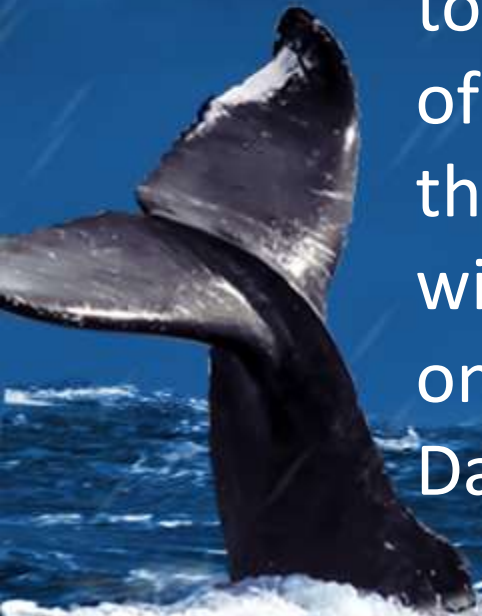


# Rome

“Then there will be a fourth kingdom as strong as iron; inasmuch as iron crushes and shatters all things, so, like iron that breaks in pieces, it will crush and break all these in pieces. In that you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, it will be a divided kingdom; but it will have in it the toughness of iron, inasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with common clay. As the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of pottery, so some of the kingdom will be strong and part of it will be brittle. And in that you saw the iron mixed with common clay, they will combine with one another in the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, even as iron does not combine with pottery.”

Daniel 2:40-43

**EPIC TALES**





# The Divine Kingdom of the Messiah

“In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever. Inasmuch as you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will take place in the future; so the dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy.” Daniel 2:44-45

**EPIC TALES**

# Nebuchadnezzar's Dream (Daniel 2)



**Head of Gold**  
ASSYRIO-BABYLONISH MONARCHY  
THE LION  
(Nebuchadnezzar - Belchassar) 671 - 538 B.C.

**Breast and Arms of Silver**  
MEDO - PERSIAN EMPIRE  
THE BEAR  
(Cyrus and Darius) 538 - 331 B.C.

**Belly and Thighs of Brass**  
GRECO - MACEDONIAN KINGDOM  
THE LEOPARD  
(Alexander the Great) 331 - 160 B.C.

**Legs of Iron**  
THE GREAT ROMAN EMPIRE  
THE DRAGON  
(under the Caesars) 160 B.C. - 395 A.D.

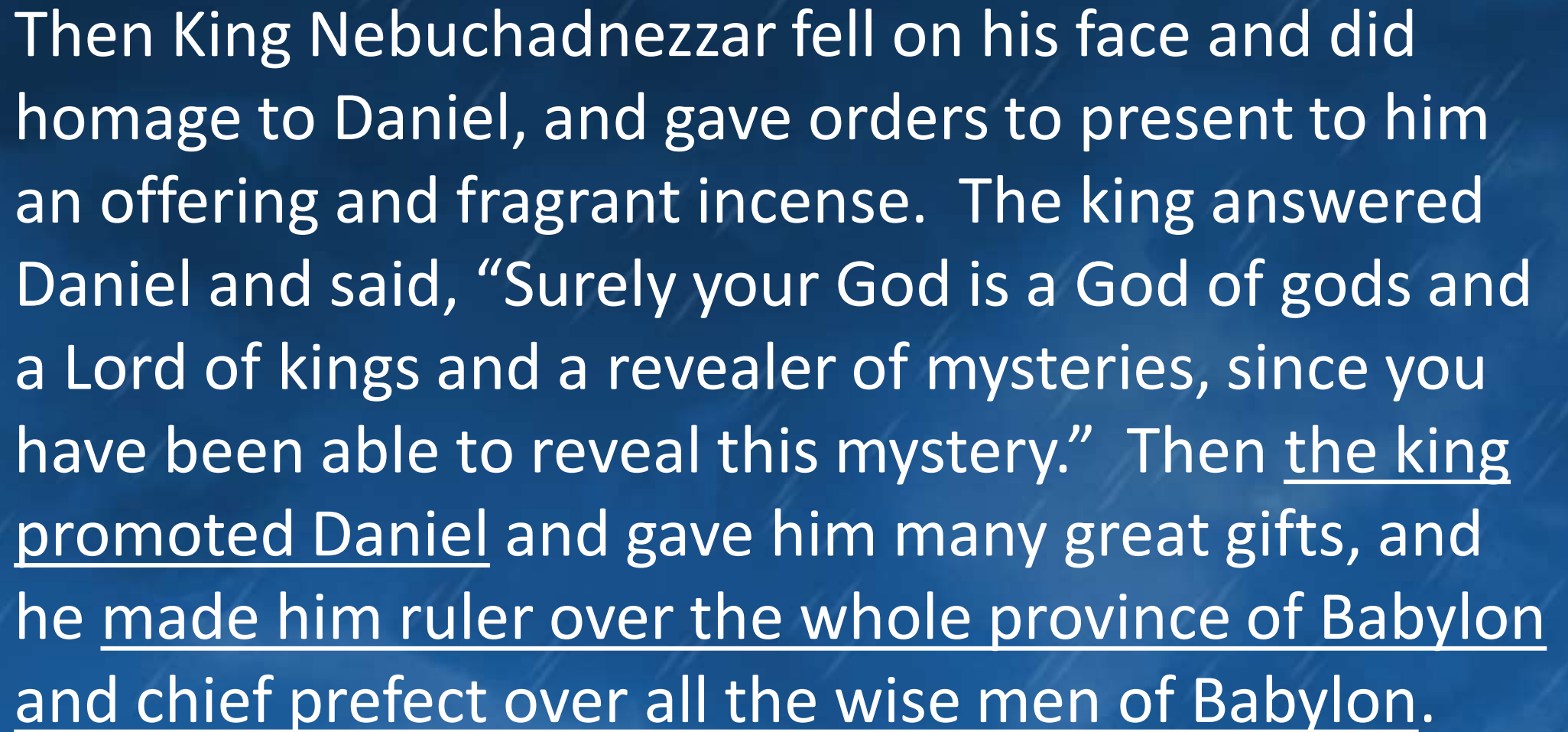
**Feet and Toes - Part Iron and Part Clay**  
KINGDOMS OF THE (10) TOES

1. Italy	496	6. Portugal	1138
2. France	752	7. Prussia	1139
3. England	803	8. Austria	1159
4. Belgium	806	9. Spain	1179
5. Holland	922	10. Greece	1829

496 - 1829 A.D.





A whale tail is seen breaching the surface of the ocean, creating a splash of white water. The background is a clear, deep blue sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face and did homage to Daniel, and gave orders to present to him an offering and fragrant incense. The king answered Daniel and said, “Surely your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, since you have been able to reveal this mystery.” Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts, and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon.

Daniel 2:46-48

**EPIC TALES**

And Daniel made request of the king, and he  
appointed Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego  
over the administration of the province of  
Babylon, while Daniel was at the king's court.  
Daniel 2:49

They were intelligent, educated, talented, righteous Jews  
who had been appointed to high level administrative  
positions in the king's government. They were influential  
and well-known.

**EPIC TALES**





# Daniel chapter 3



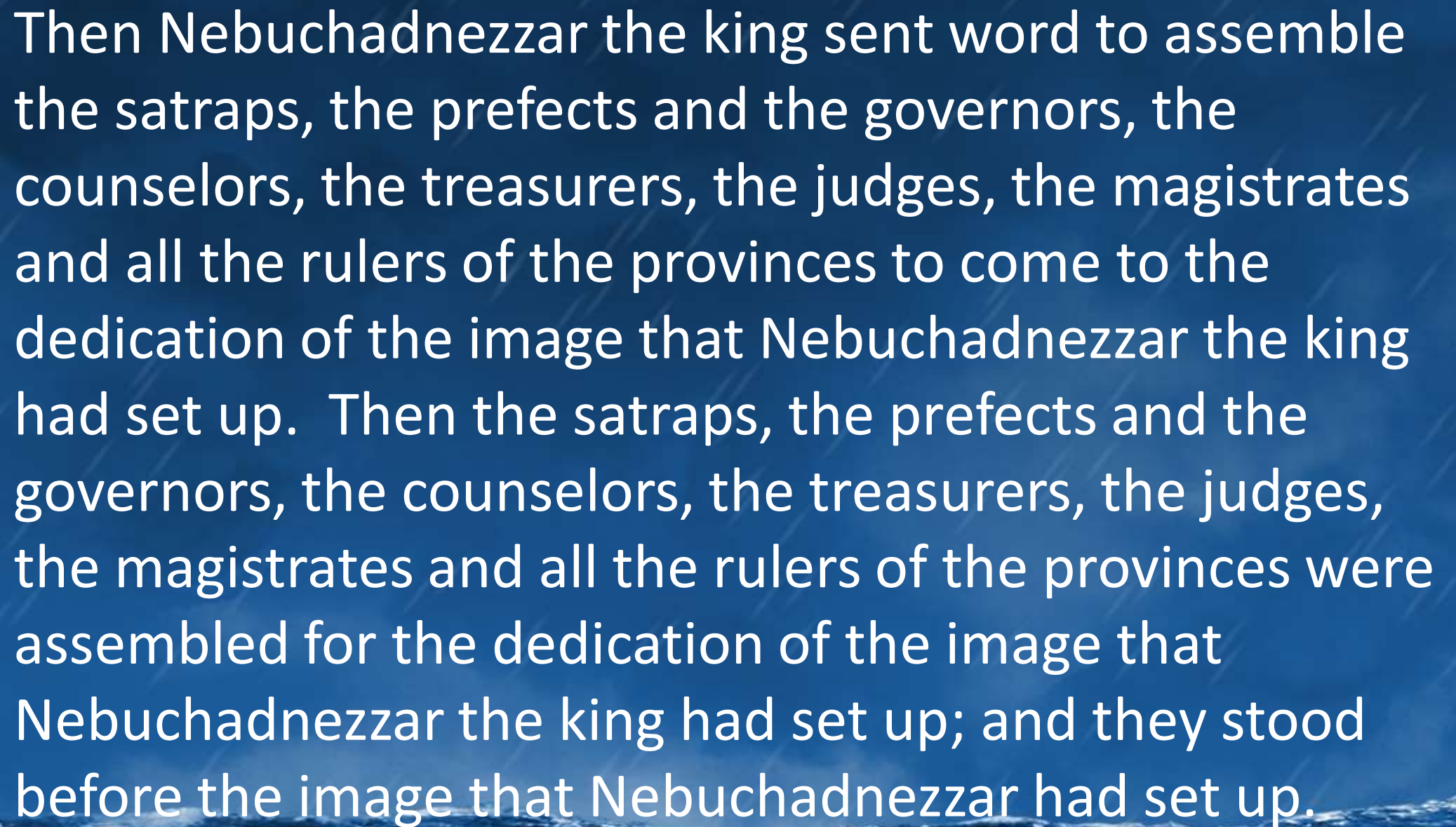
**EPIC TALES**



Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, the height of which was sixty cubits (90 feet) and its width six cubits (9 feet); he set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. Daniel 3:1

**EPIC TALES**



A photograph of a whale's tail breaching the surface of the ocean. The tail is dark and curved, with white foam at the point of exit. The background is a clear blue sky with some light clouds. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent word to assemble the satraps, the prefects and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates and all the rulers of the provinces to come to the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. Then the satraps, the prefects and the governors, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the magistrates and all the rulers of the provinces were assembled for the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

Daniel 3:2-3

**EPIC TALES**

# Why did this king build this type of statue?

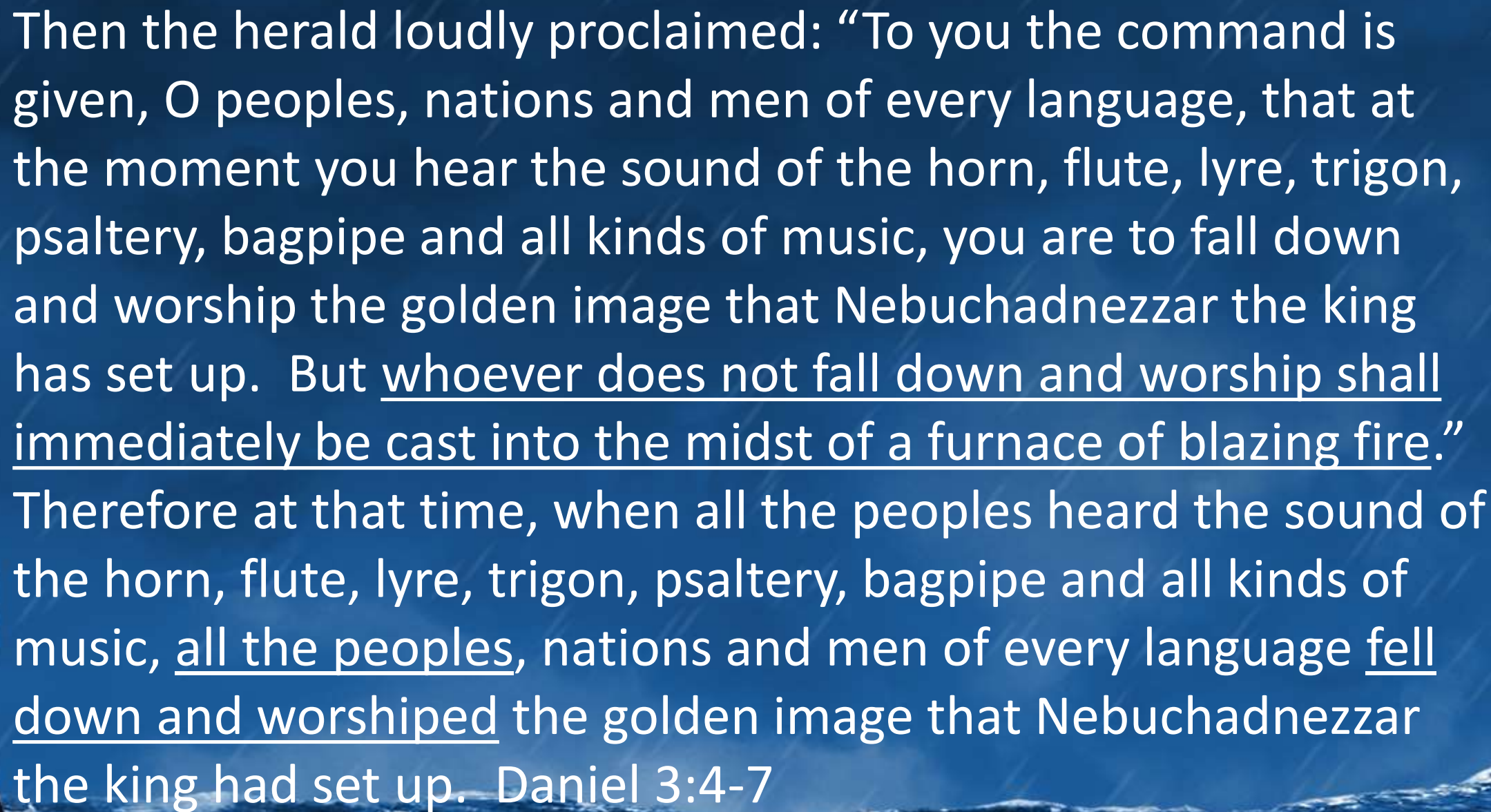
Nebuchadnezzar knew his dream and Daniel's interpretation, that God would keep His covenant with the Jews and defeat these Gentile empires. The Babylonian king did not want that to happen, he wanted God to break His covenant with the Jews. How could he make that happen? If he tempted the most faithful and righteous Jews to abandon God and sin by bowing down to worship a false idol.

If the later kingdoms are never formed, the only empire that would remain in power would be the that of the "gold head" which is Babylon.

Source: Rabbi Mendel Dubov [https://www.chabad.org/multimedia/video\\_cdo/aid/2925504/jewish/...](https://www.chabad.org/multimedia/video_cdo/aid/2925504/jewish/...)

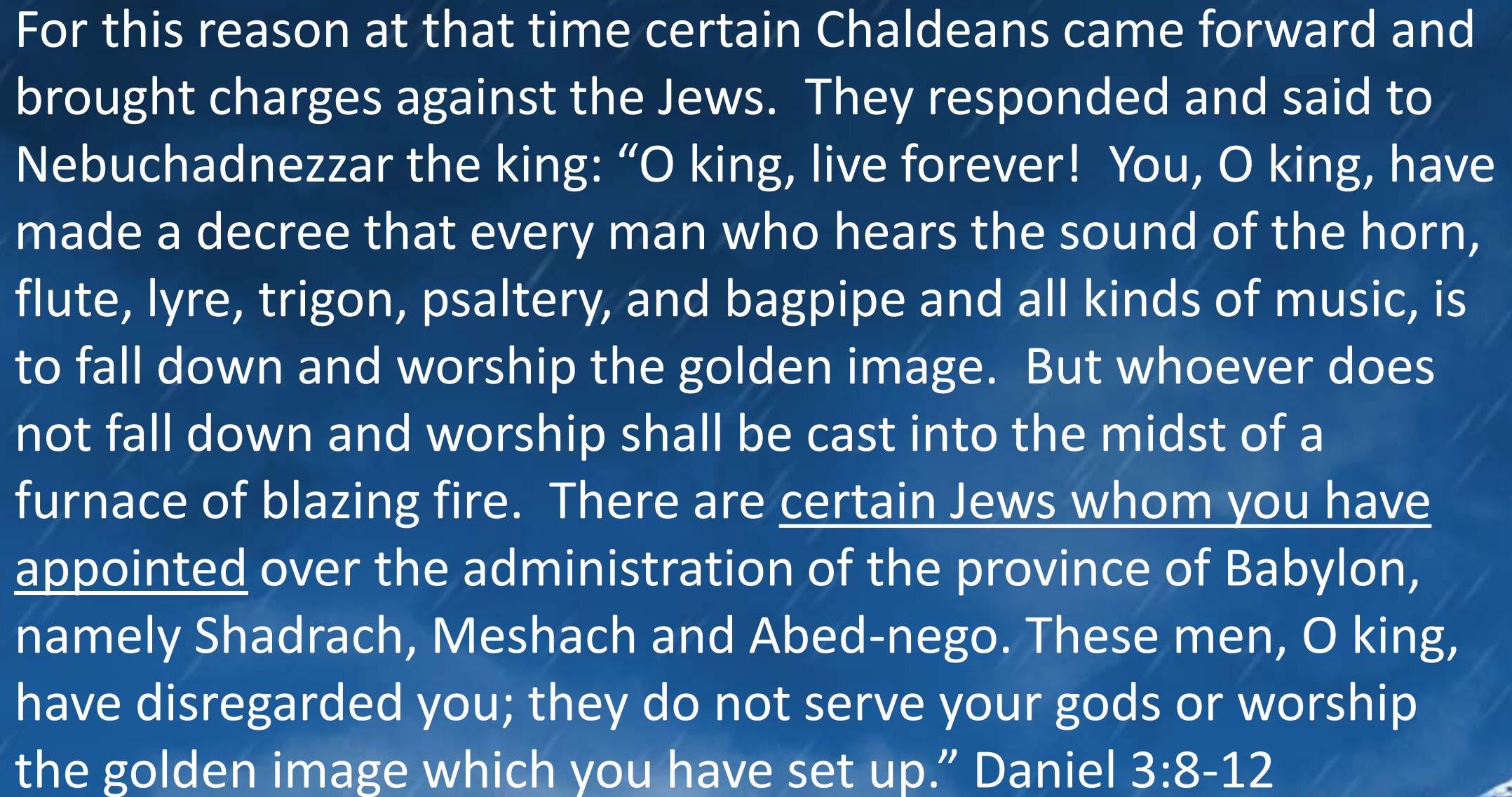
**EPIC TALES**



A whale's tail is seen breaching the surface of the ocean, creating a splash of white water. The background is a clear, bright blue sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Then the herald loudly proclaimed: “To you the command is given, O peoples, nations and men of every language, that at the moment you hear the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe and all kinds of music, you are to fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up. But whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire.” Therefore at that time, when all the peoples heard the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe and all kinds of music, all the peoples, nations and men of every language fell down and worshiped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. Daniel 3:4-7

**EPIC TALES**

A whale tail is seen breaching the surface of the ocean on the left side of the image. The water is a deep blue with white foam from the splash. The sky is a lighter blue with some wispy clouds. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

For this reason at that time certain Chaldeans came forward and brought charges against the Jews. They responded and said to Nebuchadnezzar the king: “O king, live forever! You, O king, have made a decree that every man who hears the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, and bagpipe and all kinds of music, is to fall down and worship the golden image. But whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire. There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the administration of the province of Babylon, namely Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego. These men, O king, have disregarded you; they do not serve your gods or worship the golden image which you have set up.” Daniel 3:8-12

**EPIC TALES**

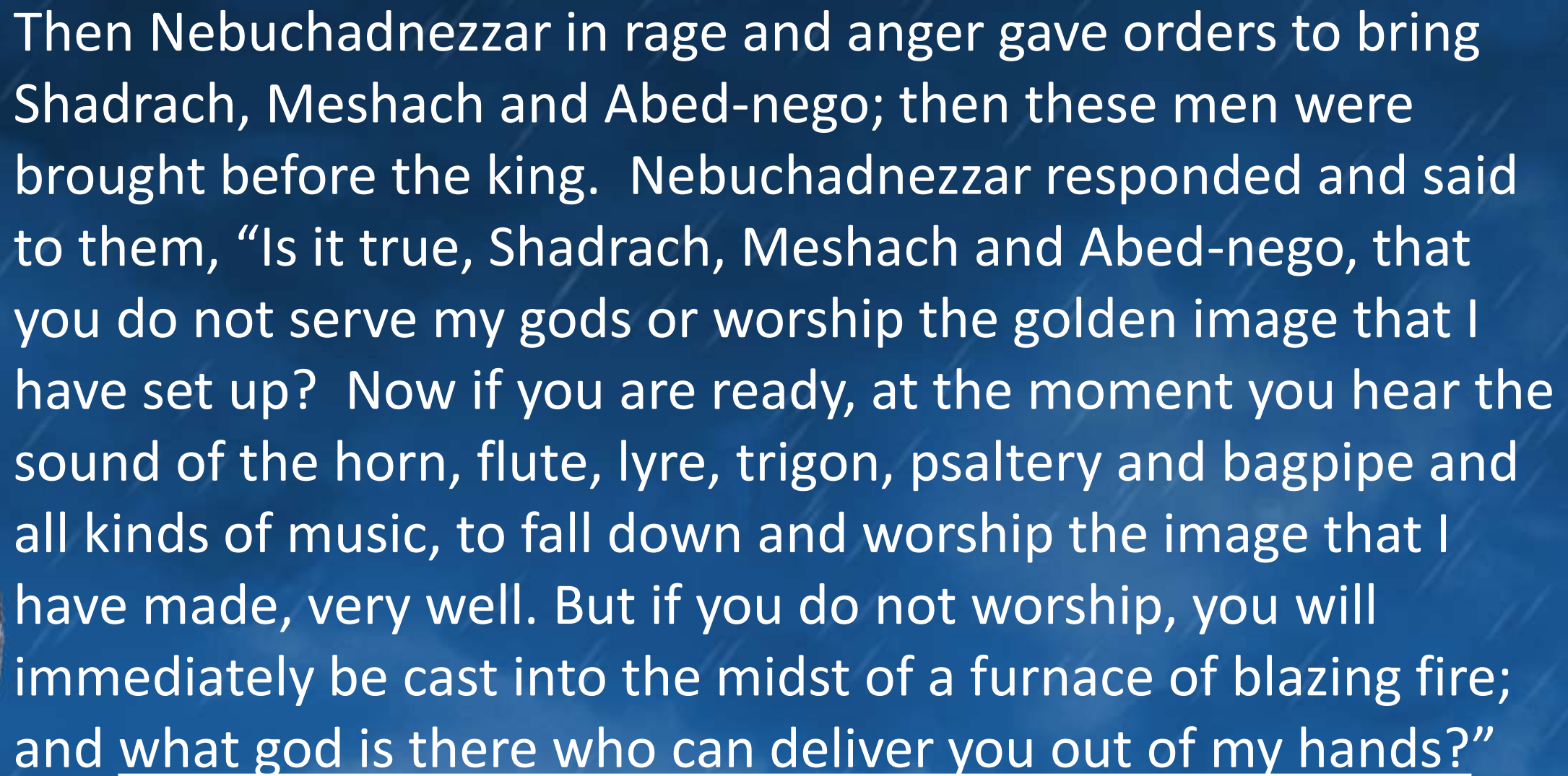


# Where was Daniel?

- Scripture does not say where Daniel was when King Nebuchadnezzar tried to kill his friends.
- Maybe Daniel was traveling and located elsewhere.
- Maybe he did not have to be there because not everyone was there. Only the representatives from the various regions of the empire had to be there; Daniel was higher ranking than that (Daniel 2:48).
- Maybe Daniel was not required to bow down to the golden image because in the eyes of Nebuchadnezzar HE WAS A GOD (Daniel 2:46).

A whale's tail is visible on the left side of the image, emerging from the blue ocean. The background is a deep blue sky with a gradient.

**EPIC TALES**

A whale's tail is seen breaching the surface of the ocean, creating a splash of white water. The background is a clear, deep blue sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Then Nebuchadnezzar in rage and anger gave orders to bring Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego; then these men were brought before the king. Nebuchadnezzar responded and said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the golden image that I have set up? Now if you are ready, at the moment you hear the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery and bagpipe and all kinds of music, to fall down and worship the image that I have made, very well. But if you do not worship, you will immediately be cast into the midst of a furnace of blazing fire; and what god is there who can deliver you out of my hands?”

Daniel 3:13-15

**EPIC TALES**



# Unconditional Obedience

Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego replied to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need [we are not hesitant] to give you an answer concerning this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king.” Daniel 3:16-17

A whale's tail is visible on the left side of the image, emerging from the dark blue ocean. The background is a deep blue sky with light rays or rain streaks.

**EPIC TALES**

# How did they reply to the king's command?

- They showed respect for the king's authority in matters of taxes and governmental administration
- They showed no respect for the king's authority in spiritual matters

**EPIC TALES**



# Unconditional Obedience

“But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

Daniel 3:18

\*Will you still trust God even if He does not pull you out of the fire?

**EPIC TALES**



# Why not bow down?

“You shall not make for yourself an idol, or any likeness of what is in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the water under the earth. You shall not worship them or serve them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and the fourth generations of those who hate Me, but showing lovingkindness to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.”

Exodus 20:4-6

**EPIC TALES**




Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with wrath, and his facial expression was altered toward Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego. He answered [shouted] by giving orders to heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated. He commanded certain valiant warriors who were in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego in order to cast them into the furnace of blazing fire. Daniel 3:19-20

\*If Nebuchadnezzar wanted to torture the men, he would have made it LESS hot, not MORE hot, so the death would take longer.

\*Maybe the king respected the God of the Jews but thought He would not be powerful enough to protect them from such intense heat.

**EPIC TALES**



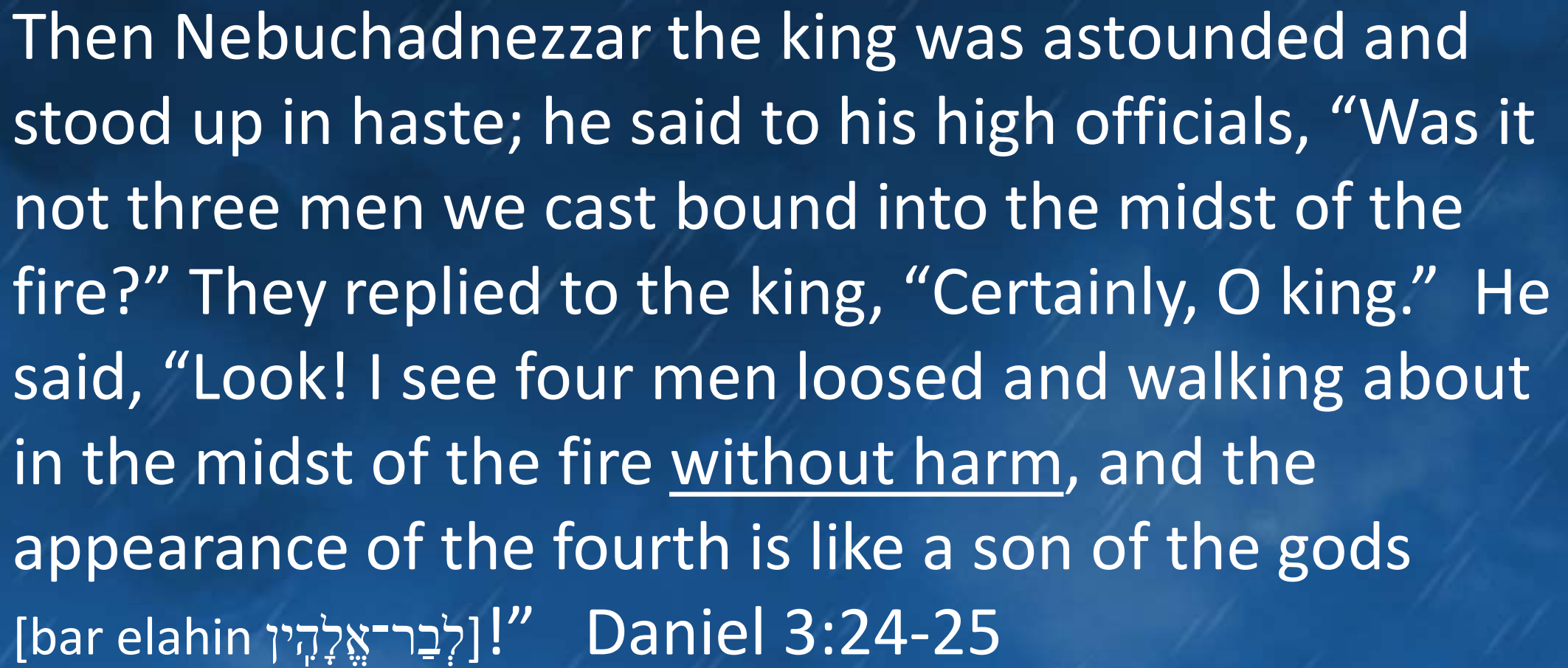
Then these men were tied up in their trousers, their coats, their caps and their other clothes, and were cast into the midst of the furnace of blazing fire. For this reason, because the king's command was urgent and the furnace had been made extremely hot, the flame of the fire slew those men who carried up Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego. But these three men, Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, fell into the midst of the furnace of blazing fire still tied up.

Daniel 3:21-23

\*Wearing all their clothing... the Gemara taught that even in mortal danger, a person should not change his normal style in the face of the oppressors. This shows he is not subordinate spiritually, even if weaker physically.

**EPIC TALES**



A whale tail is seen breaching the surface of the ocean, creating a splash of white water. The background is a clear, deep blue sky. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.


Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astounded and stood up in haste; he said to his high officials, “Was it not three men we cast bound into the midst of the fire?” They replied to the king, “Certainly, O king.” He said, “Look! I see four men loosed and walking about in the midst of the fire without harm, and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods [לְבַר-אֱלֹהִים]!” Daniel 3:24-25

“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, a virgin will be with child and bear a son, and she will call His name Immanuel.”  
Isaiah 7:14

**EPIC TALES**







Then Nebuchadnezzar came near [drew closer] to the door of the furnace of blazing fire; he responded [shouted] and said, “Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego, come out, you servants of the Most High God, and come here!” Then Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego came out of the midst of the fire. The satraps, the prefects, the governors and the king’s high officials gathered around and saw in regard to these men that the fire had no effect on the bodies of these men nor was the hair of their head singed, nor were their trousers damaged, nor had the smell of fire even come upon them. Daniel 3:26-27

\*“Although they were confident of the miracle that had been performed for them, they did not dare to treat the king lightly, to go out without permission.” – Rashi

\*Where were the rest of the officials? Maybe they were those who put the men in originally.

**EPIC TALES**

# Is God able to protect me?

“But now, thus says the Lord, your Creator, O Jacob, and He who formed you, O Israel, “Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are Mine! When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, nor will the flame burn you.””

Isaiah 43:1-2

(written over 100 years earlier than Daniel)

**EPIC TALES**




# Obedience Observed

Nebuchadnezzar said, “Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent His angel and delivered His servants who put their trust in Him, violating the king’s command, and yielded up [risked] their bodies so as not to serve or worship any god except their own God.” Daniel 3:28

A whale's tail is visible on the left side of the image, emerging from the dark blue ocean. The background is a deep blue sky with a subtle pattern of white diagonal lines.

**EPIC TALES**

A photograph of a whale's tail fluke emerging from the ocean, set against a blue sky and sea background. The whale is dark grey/black, and the water is a deep blue with white foam at the base of the tail.

Nebuchadnezzar said, “Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation or tongue that speaks anything offensive against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego shall be torn limb from limb and their houses reduced to a rubbish heap, inasmuch as there is no other god who is able to deliver in this way.” Then the king caused Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego to prosper [promoted them] in the province of Babylon. Daniel 3:29-30

**EPIC TALES**



# Lessons from the Fiery Furnace

- Sometimes the opportunity to stand up for righteousness is placed upon and you will have to stand alone (Daniel 3:7)
- Disobedience to God is contagious but so is Obedience to God
- People are watching you as you follow Jesus
- How will you react when your faith is challenged? (Daniel 3:15)
- The cause of the men's suffering was their refusal to worship the false gods of the world
- Are my worship and obedience conditional or unconditional?
- God honors those who honor and obey Him
- The Son of God is present with His followers during the worst and scariest times of life

**EPIC TALES**

# Our calling in these days

“Finally, be strong in the Lord, and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.”

Ephesians 6:10-13

**EPIC TALES**



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A dramatic scene of a whale's tail fluke breaching the surface of a turbulent, dark blue ocean under a stormy sky with rain falling. The whale's tail is dark and glistening with water, curving upwards as it cuts through the churning waves. The overall atmosphere is one of power and intensity.

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