

My Bible School

Lesson # 3

The King's Mysterious Dream

Daniel 2

**“There is a God in
heaven that
revealeth secrets,
and maketh known
to the king
Nebuchadnezzar
what shall be in the
latter days.”
Daniel 2:28**



**1: WHO ALONE
KNOWS THE SECRETS
OF THE FUTURE?**



“Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like Me, declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure.” Isaiah 46:9-10.



2: WHY WAS THE DREAM GIVEN TO NEBUCHADNEZZAR?

“There is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days.” Daniel 2:28.

“He that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.” Daniel 2:29.

3: WHAT PART DOES GOD PLAY IN THE AFFAIRS OF NATIONS?

“Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are His: and He changeth the times and the seasons: He removeth kings and setteth up kings: He giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding.”

Daniel 2:20-21.



The God of the universe presented to Nebuchadnezzar a picture of events to come in order to show him that a power greater than himself was at work in the world. This fact is still true today. Indeed, all rulers are subject to God's decrees.



**One writer has said:
“The power exercised
by every ruler on earth
is Heaven imparted;
and, upon his use of the
power thus bestowed,
his success depends.**

To each the word of the divine Watcher is, 'I girded thee, though thou hast not known Me . . . Break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by showing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity.'" The divine Watcher said to Nebuchadnezzar, "That the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will." Daniel 4: 17.

The Great Image



BABYLON: 605 B.C. - 538 B.C.

PERSIA: 538 B.C. - 331 B.C.

GREECE: 331 B.C. - 168 B.C.

ROME: 168 B.C. - A.D. 476

DIVIDED: A.D. 476 - NOW

The stone, cut out without hands, will strike the image on its feet.

4: HOW DID DANIEL DESCRIBE NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM?

**“Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image. whose brightness was excellent. stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.”
Daniel 2:31.**



**5: WHAT
KINGDOM WAS
REPRESENTED BY
THE HEAD OF
GOLD?**



“Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom. . Thou art this head of gold.” Daniel 2:37-38.

The head of gold was a symbol of Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom, Babylon. He was the “head of gold.”

**6: HOW WERE THE
WORLD EMPIRES
FOLLOWING
BABYLON
REPRESENTED?**



**“After thee shall arise another kingdom
inferior to thee,” Daniel 2:39-41.**

**...and another
third kingdom of
brass, which
shall bear rule
over all the
earth.**



**And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron. .
And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided.”**



Each of the four empires of this prophecy was to fall and be succeeded by another ruling power. The head of gold represented Babylon; the breast and arms of silver, Medo-Persia; the thighs of brass, Greece; and the legs of iron, Rome.

1. The gold kingdom of Babylon.

Babylon was the first of what history knows as the Four Great Monarchies: Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.



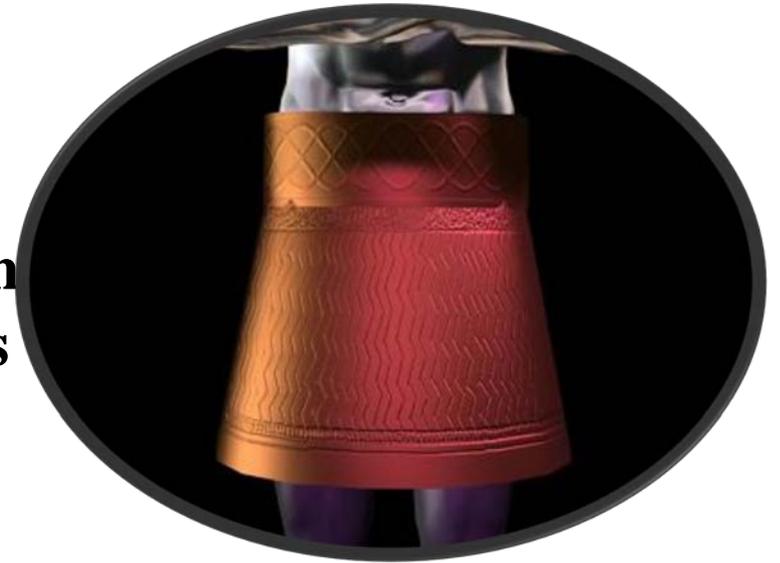
2. The silver kingdom of Persia.

Silver was a fitting symbol of Medo-Persia; for it was used by the Persians as a medium of exchange and in decorations, even more than the gold of the Babylonians.



3. The brass kingdom of Greece.

The brazen armor and brass breastplates worn by the Grecian soldiers are reflected in the brass thighs of the image.



4. The iron monarchy of Rome.

The iron monarchy of Rome broke in pieces, bruised, and subdued kingdoms for nearly six hundred years. Jesus was born in this era and was crucified under Rome's authority.



7: WHAT PICTURE IS GIVEN OF THE DIVISION OF ROME?



“Whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.” Daniel 2:43.



**“They shall not cleave
one to another.”**

Barbarian invasions divided the territory of Western Rome, These divisions, ten in number, represented by the feet of iron and clay formed the foundations of the many nations that are now located in Europe.

The efforts of rulers such as Charlemagne, Charles V, Louis XIV, Napoleon, Kaiser Wilhelm, and Hitler who attempted to unite these European nations under one head have all failed. The prophecy indicates that these countries will never be permanently united:

“They shall not cleave one to another.”

8: HOW DOES GOD PICTURE THE FINAL CRISIS OF THE NATIONS?

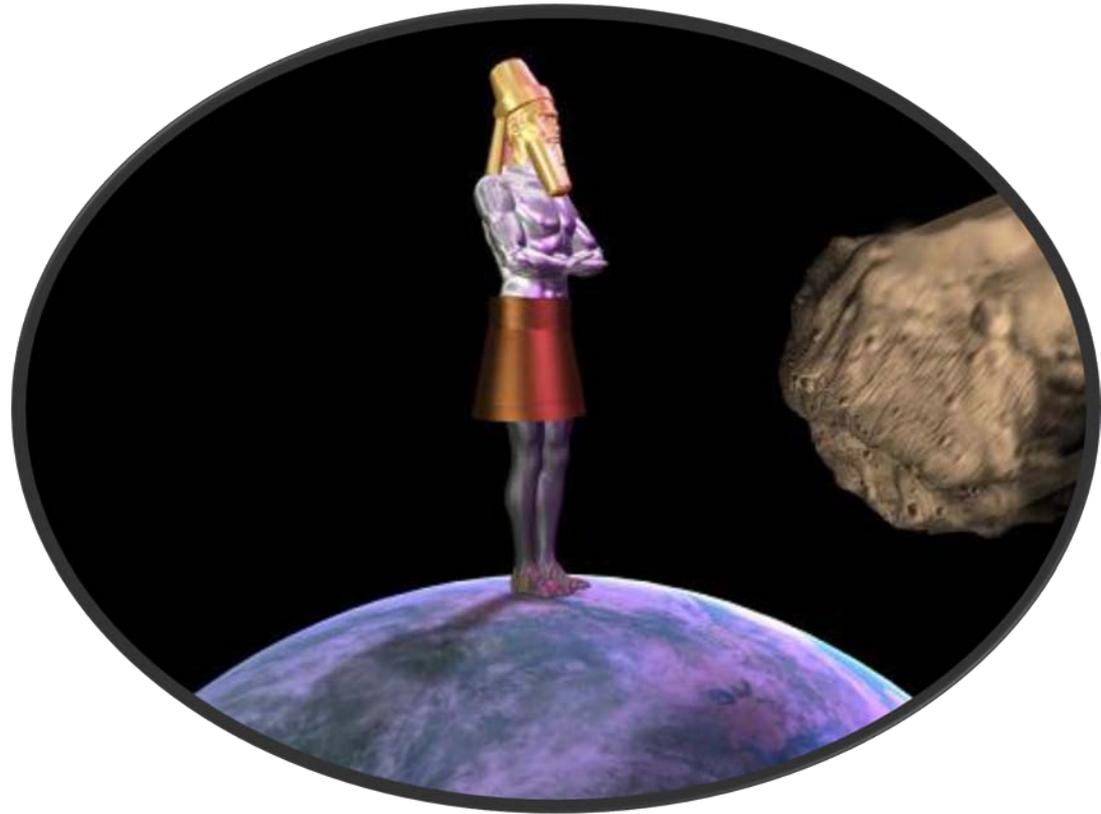
“Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them.” Daniel 2:34-35.



**9: WHAT GREAT
KINGDOM IS
REPRESENTED BY
THE STONE THAT
STRUCK THE
IMAGE?**

**“And in the days of these
kings shall the God of
heaven set up a kingdom
which shall never be
destroyed.” Daniel 2:44.**

**“The stone that smote the
image became a great
mountain, and filled the
whole earth.” Daniel 2:35.**



10: WHERE ARE WE TODAY?



The kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome have passed from the scene of action. We are now living in the last division, represented by the feet and toes of the image. The course of history is almost run. The next act, according to the prophecy, will be the coming of Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords.

DIVINE DEADLINE

FOR MEN AND NATIONS —

MANY DISCERN IT TOO LATE



LIMIT OF GOD'S PATIENCE

"MY SPIRIT SHALL NOT
ALWAYS STRIVE WITH
MAN" GEN. 6:3

WITH UNERRING ACCURACY THE INFINITE
ONE STILL KEEPS ACCOUNT WITH THE NATIONS

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In the annals of human history, the growth of nations, the rise and fall of empires, appear as if dependent on the will and prowess of man; the shaping of events seems, to a great degree, to be determined by his power, ambition, or caprice. But in the Word of God the curtain is drawn aside and we behold, above, behind, and through all the play and counterplay of human interest and power and passions, the agencies of the All-merciful One, silently, patiently working out the counsels of His own will.

