

# Daniel 2

The Dream of a King



# Daniel 2:29-30

- ◆ 29 “While Your Majesty was sleeping, you dreamed about coming events. He who reveals secrets has shown you what is going to happen. 30 And it is not because I am wiser than anyone else that I know the secret of your dream, but because God wants you to understand what was in your heart.”
- ◆ this is to bring glory to God

## Daniel 2:31-35 —the Dream

- ◆ 31 “In your vision, Your Majesty, you saw standing before you a huge, shining statue of a man. It was a frightening sight.  
32 The head of the statue was made of fine gold. Its chest and arms were silver, its belly and thighs were bronze, 33 its legs were iron, and its feet were a combination of iron and baked clay.

## Daniel 2:31-35 —the Dream

- ◆ 34 As you watched, a rock was cut from a mountain, but not by human hands. It struck the feet of iron and clay, smashing them to bits. 35 The whole statue was crushed into small pieces of iron, clay, bronze, silver, and gold. Then the wind blew them away without a trace, like chaff on a threshing floor. But the rock that knocked the statue down became a great mountain that covered the whole earth.

## Daniel 2:36-38 - the Interpretation

- ◆ “That was the dream. Now we will tell the king what it means.  
37 Your Majesty, you are the greatest of kings. The God of heaven has given you sovereignty, power, strength, and honor. 38 He has made you the ruler over all the inhabited world and has put even the wild animals and birds under your control. You are the head of gold.

## Daniel 2:39-43

- ◆ 39 “But after your kingdom comes to an end, another kingdom, inferior to yours, will rise to take your place. After that kingdom has fallen, yet a third kingdom, represented by bronze, will rise to rule the world.  
40 Following that kingdom, there will be a fourth one, as strong as iron. That kingdom will smash and crush all previous empires, just as iron smashes and crushes everything it strikes..

## Daniel 2:39-43

- ◆ 41 The feet and toes you saw were a combination of iron and baked clay, showing that this kingdom will be divided. Like iron mixed with clay, it will have some of the strength of iron. 42 But while some parts of it will be as strong as iron, other parts will be as weak as clay. 43 (This mixture of iron and clay also shows that these kingdoms will try to strengthen themselves by forming alliances with each other through intermarriage.) But they will not hold together, just as iron and clay do not mix.

## Daniel 2:43, KJV

- ◆ 43 And 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.





Gold - Babylon

Silver - Persians

Bronze - Greece

Iron - Rome ?

Iron / Clay - ?

Medes and Persians were a united kingdom

# The Statue

- ◆ the value decreases
- ◆ brilliance decreases
- ◆ feet are the weakest
- ◆ strength increases, until feet
- ◆ stone crushes and gets bigger and bigger until it fills the whole earth



# The Fertile Crescent



# The Babylonian Empire

606-539 BC



# The Persian Empire

539-332 BC



# The Greek Empire

332 – 68 BC



# The Roman Empire 68 BC – 476 AD



- ◆ Roman Empire?

- ◆ supposedly, each succeeding empire would take possession of the other empires because that's what Nebuchadnezzar saw
- ◆ but, the Roman empire went more westward than eastward
- ◆ Daniel 2:40 — Following that kingdom, there will be a fourth one, as strong as iron. That kingdom will smash and crush all previous empires, just as iron smashes and crushes everything it strikes



- ◆ In Daniel 7, Daniel gives us the description of the four beasts, each representing the four empires seen Daniel 2
- ◆ 7:4 — The first beast was like a lion with eagles' wings — described as Babylon
- ◆ 7:5 — Then I saw a second beast, and it looked like a bear. It was rearing up on one side, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth — described as Persia
- ◆ 7:6 — Then the third of these strange beasts appeared, and it looked like a leopard. It had four bird's wings on its back, and it had four heads. Great authority was given to this beast — described as Greece

- ◆ 7:7 — Then in my vision that night, I saw a fourth beast—terrifying, dreadful, and very strong. It devoured and crushed its victims with huge iron teeth and trampled their remains beneath its feet. It was different from any of the other beasts, and it had ten horns — indescribable
- ◆ 7:23 — “This fourth beast is the fourth world power that will rule the earth. It will be different from all the others. It will devour the whole world, trampling and crushing everything in its path
- ◆ it's not the Romans — they conquered, but their main objective was tribute — if you paid tribute to them, they would pretty much leave you alone and even let you practice your own religion
- ◆ Fourth beast — islamic religion

# The Stone Edition of the Tanach

- ◆ Daniel 2:41-43 — The feet and the toes that you saw, partly of potter's earthenware and partly of iron: It will be a divided kingdom and will have some of the firmness of iron, just as you saw iron mixed with clay-like earthenware. As for the toes, partly of iron and partly of earthenware: Part of the kingdom will be powerful and part of it will be broken. That you saw iron mixed with clay-like earthenware: They will mix with the offspring of men, but they will not cling to one another, just as iron does not mix with earthenware.

## Daniel 2:43,

### Barnes' Commentary Notes

- ◆ And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men - Various explanations have been given of this verse, and it certainly is not of easy interpretation. The phrase "seed of men," would properly denote something different from the original stock that was represented by iron; some foreign admixture that would be so unlike that, and that would so little amalgamate with it, as to be properly represented by clay as compared with iron. Prof. Stuart interprets this of matrimonial alliances, and supposes that the idea expressed is, that, "while the object of such alliances was union, or at least a design to bring about a peaceable state of things, that object was, in a peculiar manner, defeated."

Daniel 2:43,

## Barnes' Commentary Notes

- ◆ a false peace in the last days?
- ◆ Daniel 9:27? A covenant with many that will be broken?
- ◆ personally, I think this could parallel with Revelation 17 and 18 — the harlot, Mystery Babylon, and the beast, the antichrist empire

## David Pawson's Notes on Daniel 2:41 (1973)

- ◆ When Rome fell, it fell first in the West but not in the East until 1,000 after Christ. Who took control of the area of Jerusalem? The Muslims, the Arab world. Could it be that the Arabs that came from Abraham could provide the final challenge to the God of Israel? 10 Arab nations coming against God and Israel? Iron dictatorship and clay of democracy, joined together in a federation to establish world power?

Dictatorship: Sharia law?

- ◆ The fifth empire, the mixture of iron and clay?
- ◆ Stone's Version of the Tanach says that the prophecy of Daniel 2 is a union of the Muslim religion and Christianity in the last days

## ◆ Pope Francis

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/feb/04/pope-and-grand-imam-sign-historic-pledge-of-fraternity-in-uae>

“Pope and grand imam sign historic pledge of fraternity in UAE”

The pope and the grand imam of al-Azhar have signed a historic declaration of fraternity, calling for peace between nations, religions and races, in front of a global audience of religious leaders from Christianity, Islam, Judaism and other faiths.

It says: “We resolutely declare that religions must never incite war, hateful attitudes, hostility and extremism, nor must they incite violence or the shedding of blood.”



- ◆ Where should we be looking?
- ◆ Joel 3:11-12 (ESV) — Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations, and gather yourselves there. Bring down your warriors, O Lord. 12 Let the nations stir themselves up and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations.
- ◆ Zachariah 12:2 (ESV) — “Behold, I am about to make Jerusalem a cup of staggering to all the surrounding peoples. The siege of Jerusalem will also be against Judah.

- ◆ Where should we be looking?
- ◆ Numbers 24:14, 17-19 — And now, behold, I go unto my people: come therefore, and I will advertise thee what this people (Hebrews) shall do to thy people (Moabites) in the latter days. 17 I shall see him, but not now: I shall behold him, but not nigh: there shall come a Star out of Jacob, and a Sceptre shall rise out of Israel, and shall smite the corners of Moab, and destroy all the children of Sheth (nations to the East). 18 And Edom shall be a possession, Seir also shall be a possession for his enemies; and Israel shall do valiantly. 19 Out of Jacob shall come he that shall have dominion, and shall destroy him that remaineth of the city.

- ◆ Where should we be looking?
- ◆ Ezekiel 30:1-5 (ESV) — The word of the Lord came to me: 2 “Son of man, prophesy, and say, Thus says the Lord God: “Wail, ‘Alas for the day!’” 3 For the day is near, the day of the Lord is near; it will be a day of clouds, a time of doom for the nations. 4 A sword shall come upon Egypt, and anguish shall be in Cush, when the slain fall in Egypt, and her wealth is carried away, and her foundations are torn down. 5 Cush, and Put, and Lud, and all Arabia, and Libya, and the people of the land that is in league, shall fall with them by the sword.

- ◆ Where should we be looking?

- ◆ Micah 5:2, 4, 6 — But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. 4 And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. 6 ...they shall shepherd the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod at its entrances; and he shall deliver us from the Assyrian when he comes into our land and treads within our border.

- ◆ this hasn't happened, yet



## Daniel 2:44-45 - the Interpretation

- ◆ 44 “During the reigns of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed or conquered. It will crush all these kingdoms into nothingness, and it will stand forever. 45 That is the meaning of the rock cut from the mountain, though not by human hands, that crushed to pieces the statue of iron, bronze, clay, silver, and gold. The great God was showing the king what will happen in the future. The dream is true, and its meaning is certain.”

- ◆ this is prophetic
- ◆ it's history written in advance
- ◆ Jesus will come and destroy His enemies and establish His Kingdom —  
Millennial Reign
- ◆ Rev 11:15 — The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

- ◆ Jesus is this Stone

- ◆ Matthew 16:18 — Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell<sub>[g]</sub> will not conquer it.

- ◆ Psalm 118:22 — The stone that the builders rejected has now become the cornerstone.



- ◆ 1 Corinthians 10:4 — and all of them drank the same spiritual water. For they drank from the spiritual rock that traveled with them, and that rock was Christ.

- ◆ Jesus is the stone in Daniel that will crush all kingdoms — this will be the time when man's rule on earth will come to an end and Christ's Kingdom will be established
- ◆ it will fill the whole earth

# Nebuchadnezzar

- ◆ the message of this image should have humbled him
- ◆ he wasn't the one that conquered in his strength; God allowed him to be victorious
  - ◆ Dan. 2:37 — Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.
- ◆ he forgot this lesson
  - ◆ Dan. 4:30 — The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?
- ◆ he was humbled, and greatly

## Daniel 2:46-47

- ◆ 46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar threw himself down before Daniel and worshiped him, and he commanded his people to offer sacrifices and burn sweet incense before him. 47 The king said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is the greatest of gods, the Lord over kings, a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this secret."

- ◆ he treated Daniel as a god
- ◆ Cornelius did the same to Peter (Acts 10:25-26)
- ◆ Paul and Barnabas were accepted as gods by the people of Lystra (Acts 14:8-18)
- ◆ in honoring Daniel, the king was actually acknowledging that the God of the Hebrews was greater than all other gods

## Daniel 2:48-49

- ◆ 48 Then the king appointed Daniel to a high position and gave him many valuable gifts. He made Daniel ruler over the whole province of Babylon, as well as chief over all his wise men. 49 At Daniel's request, the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to be in charge of all the affairs of the province of Babylon, while Daniel remained in the king's court.

- ◆ Nebuchadnezzar kept his word and honored Daniel
- ◆ not only Daniel, but Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, as well
- ◆ he made Daniel ruler over the province of Babylon and, at Daniel's request, made his three friends helpers with him in that office
- ◆ these young men were going to die at the beginning of this chapter, but God...
  - ◆ He received the glory!!
  - ◆ through Daniel, all of the king's advisors were spared
- ◆ Daniel rises to a high power in the court of the king and remains there throughout the Persian empire, as well