

The Millennial Man: Prophecy

The vast kingdom of Babylon was prosperous, yet king Nebuchadnezzar stirred in bed. How long would his golden era last? **That night, a towering multi-metal image flashed into his mind.** The king jumped out of bed, called all court men, come at once: tell the dream & its meaning (*Daniel 2:1-2*):

Magicians - Practiced superstitious rights and ceremonies of fortune tellers, casters of nativities.

Astrologers - Claimed to foretell the future events by the study of the stars.

Sorcerers - Claimed to hold communication with the dead.

Chaldeans - These made physic (the art or skill of healing), divinations (discovering future events).

The magicians, astrologers, etc... were powerless to explain it. Furious, the king commanded that all the wise men of Babylon be gathered to be executed. However, *Daniel the Hebrew God-fearing wise man who was not present, requested a little time from the king. Then he and his three friends prayed to the God of heaven the only Source who could reveal the king's dream* (*Daniel 2:16-18*).

- In Daniel 1 - Daniel & 3 friends purposed not to eat from king's table, but to eat only pulses. God gave them 10 times more wisdom than all in Babylon: Example for all humanity today!
- When Jesus comes will He find faith? (*Luke 18:8*). Need to be faithful & wise! (*Matthew 24:45*).

In the multi-metal image, God outlined for all future millenniums or generations the rise and fall of the empires (*Daniel 2:28*). They appear as if happening by the will of men, but we will see, not so.

The king saw a great multi-metal image - Daniel interprets it as God revealed it to him:

The Head was of Gold - Nebuchadnezzar represented Babylon, the empire that began the prophecy. Neo-Babylon ruled the world from 612-539 BC as one of the mightiest empires of antiquity, one that could aptly be described as the head of gold. **This begins with Daniel's time.**

The Breast and 2 Arms were of Silver - Silver is inferior to gold, Cyrus the Persian in 539 BC, conquered Babylon & reduced it to ruins. His uncle was Darius the Mede. The 2 kingdoms (2 arms) together Medo-Persia ruled from 539-331 BC. During their reign, **taxes had to be paid in silver.**

The Belly and Thighs were of Brass - Brass is inferior to silver, Greece came into power when Alexander the Great conquered the Medes and Persians at the battle of Arbela in 331 BC. Greece ruled 331-168 BC. Greek soldiers - called "brazen coated" because **their armour was all bronze.**

The Legs were of Iron - Iron is inferior to Brass. Rome conquered Greece in 168 B.C. Iron was widely used in the armour and weapons of the Roman Empire, which ruled the world when Jesus was born. Two legs represent the Western (Rome) and Eastern Roman (Constantinople) empires.

- **330 AD Emperor Constantine divided the Roman empire: Eastern also known as Byzantine.**

The Feet of Iron and Clay (Some strong some weak) - Western Roman Empire crumbled in 476 AD. It was not overtaken by another world power. Instead, barbarian tribes conquered the Roman Empire, it divided into 10, which later evolved into modern Europe:

1. Saxons: originating **England**
2. Franks: originating **France**
3. Alamanni: originating **Germany**
4. Suevi: originating **Portuguese**
5. Visigoths: originating **Spain**
6. Lombards: originating **Italy**
7. Burgundians: originating **Switzerland**

Heruli, Vandals & Ostrogoths were annihilated: by little horn: **Papal Rome** *Daniel 7:8*

- Papacy got state power from Eastern Roman Emperor Justinian in 538 AD (*Revelation 13:2*).
- Through war, marriage, alliances, and treaties, many men vainly attempted to again reunite the European continent. **Ex:** Charlemagne, Napoleon, Kaiser Wilhelm, Mussolini, Hitler, etc... But in *Daniel 2* the prophecy states that the world will remain divided until Jesus' 2nd coming.
- **Finally, Papacy & USA will by law force Sunday Worship Universally:** *Revelation 13:15-17*

Next, the king saw a stone that had been cut without hands - The stone that was cut without hands crushes all of the multi-metal image to powder and the wind blows it away. This represents Jesus' 2nd Coming. It will not be a union of earthly kingdoms, but a total replacement (*Daniel 2:44*).

- **All history is moving toward this climactic conclusion** (*Daniel 2:34-35; Matthew 25: 31-34*).
- King Nebuchadnezzar may have thought he defeated God when he destroyed Jerusalem & plundered the temple (*Daniel 1:1-2*) but was shown quickly God is ruler over all. *Daniel 4 (v33)*.

Will you choose now to live with God forever? **Answer:** _____