



Bethany Bible Study & Discussion

Daniel (Part-4) (2:28-49)

- **king's dream of gentile world-power (28-35):** Who reveals dreams? Does the dream relate to past, present, or future? Describe the dream/image? What are the four distinct parts? How do the metals rank in strength and value?
- **Interpretation of the dream (36-45):** What do we mean by 'eschatology'? What do the four metals refer to? What does the 'rock' and 'mountain' refer to? What is different about the Kingdom of God? Has this prophecy been fulfilled? How can a study of prophecy benefit us?
- **Conclusion (46-49):** How did Daniel's interpretation impact king Nebuchadnezzar? How did the king reward Daniel? What did Daniel do for his friends?
- **Attributes of God:** What attributes of God are seen in this chapter?
- **Key verse (II Timothy 3:16-17):** What verse will be good to commit to memory?

king's dream of Chapter 2 also seen
in Chapter 7 through Daniel's vision

king's dream of gentile world-powers (28-35)

1. Who reveals dreams?
2. Does the dream relate to past, present, or future?
3. Describe the dream/image? What are the four distinct parts?
4. How do the metals rank in strength and value?

Revealer of
dreams and
timing (2:29)

But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days (29)

Surely the Lord GOD does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets (**Amos 3:7**)



A great image ... and the form thereof was terrible (31)

- Head of fine gold
- Breast and arms of silver
- Belly and thighs of brass
- Legs of iron, feet of iron and clay
- Stone, cut without hands, struck feet and broke all metals and clay to pieces
 - Stone that smote image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth

The Dream
(2:31-35)

Value and strength of metals

Decrease in value

Gold > Silver > Brass > Iron

Each succeeding Kingdom is inferior

Nebuchadnezzar had the strongest Kingdom

But increase in strength

Gold < Silver < Brass < Iron

Believers today: Many believers are becoming strong materially but becoming weak spiritually (a great tragedy!)

Paul ... “outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed day by day” (II Corinthians 4:16)

Interpretation of the dream (36-45)

1. What do we mean by 'eschatology'?
2. What do the four metals refer to? What does the 'rock' and 'mountain' refer to? What is different about the Kingdom of God?
3. Has this prophesy been fulfilled? How can a study of prophesy benefit us?

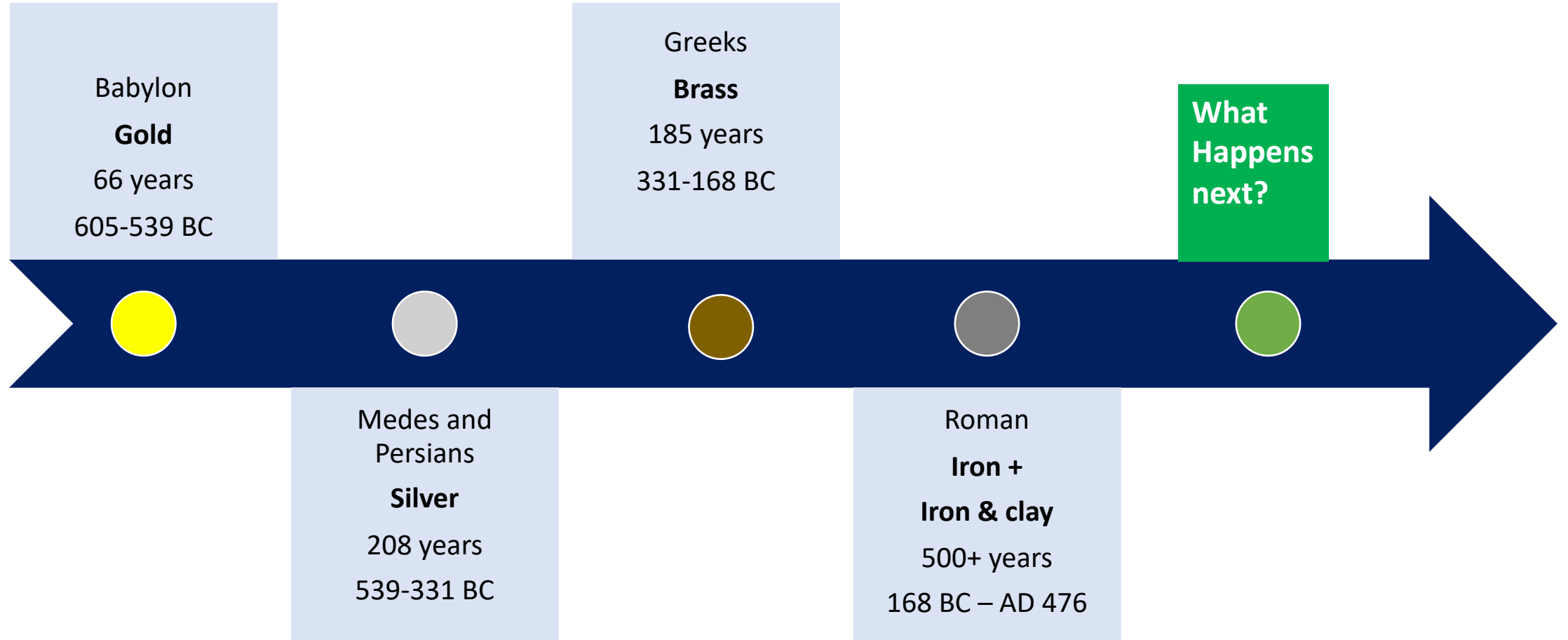


Eschatology

Eschatology

Study/doctrine of end times

Metals = Gentile Kingdoms



Metals = Rule of different gentile Kingdoms (37-43)

GOLD (Babylon Empire, 7:4) – Powerful Monarch Nebuchadnezzar with absolute power; fall of Babylon, 5:25-30

SILVER (Medo-Persian empire, 7:5) – Introduced by King Darius, 5:31 (8:20)

BRASS (Greek, 7:6) – including Alexander the Great (he wept because he had no other worlds to conquer) (8:21)

IRON (Roman empire, 7:7) – transitions from iron to divided and weaker, iron & clay. (it has lead to modern day divided Europe followed by ongoing efforts to reunify Europe after world war II ... prophesy of 600 BC coming true!)

God exalted the
king, and also
brought him
down to
accomplish his
sovereign will

Exalted king: Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

³⁸ And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold (2:37-38)

Humiliated king: The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws (4:33)

Humble king: king acknowledges God's sovereignty and power later (4:34-37)



The next Kingdom



**”ROCK” that
destroys
everything**



Rock or Stone = Jesus Christ

The stone *which* the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone.
(**Psalms 118:22**)

Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded. **7**Unto you therefore which believe *he is* precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner, **8**And a stone of stumbling, and a rock of offence, *even to them* which stumble at the word, being disobedient: whereunto also they were appointed. (**I Peter 2:6-8**) (Isaiah 28:16)

And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ (**I Corinthians 10:4**)

Rock on which wise man built his house (Mathew 7)

Rock that destroys

And he beheld them, and said, What is this then that is written, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner? Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder. (**Luke 20:17-18**)

- The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away (**Psalms 1:4**) ... the sad end of sinners (chaff that blows away!)

The Kingdom of God is different from earthly kingdoms!

Set up by God (44) - God of heaven will set up the kingdom

Indestructible (44) - it shall never be destroyed (Hebrews 12:28, Kingdom that cannot be shaken)

Victorious (44) - it shall break in pieces and consume all other kingdoms

Eternal (44) - it shall stand forever (Revelation 11:15, He shall reign for ever)

Universal (35) – it shall become a great mountain and fill the whole earth

The Mountain (35)

And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the **mountain of the Lord's house** shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people (**Isaiah 2:2-4**)

Timing: Millennium (Thousand-year reign of Christ)

Location: Israel

Key Point:
kingdoms of the
world will be
superseded by the
Kingdom of God

And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Revelation 11:15

The saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever (**Daniel 7:18**)

Conclusion (46-49)

1. How did Daniel's interpretation impact king Nebuchadnezzar?
2. How did the king reward Daniel?
3. What did Daniel do for his friends?

Daniel's confidence

2:45 the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

When the Lord speaks, it is certain and sure ... we must have such confidence!

Impact on King
Nebuchadnezzar
(46-48)

Daniel advocates for
his friends (49)

Fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel

Acknowledges the greatness of God as
God of Gods, and revealer of secrets

King Promotes Daniel ... Daniel advocated
for his friends (His friends had prayed
with him in time of crisis, 2:17)

king's
acknowledgement
(47)

Of a truth it is, that your
God is a God of gods,
and a Lord of kings, and a
revealer of secrets, seeing
thou couldst reveal this
secret.

How should
we live in
Babylon?
Bloom
wherever you
are planted

⁵ Build ye houses, and dwell in them; and plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them; ⁶ Take ye wives, and beget sons and daughters; and take wives for your sons, and give your daughters to husbands, that they may bear sons and daughters; that ye may be increased there, and not diminished. ⁷ And seek the peace of the city whither I have caused you to be carried away captives, and pray unto the Lord for it: for in the peace thereof shall ye have peace. **Jeremiah 29:5-7** (Jeremiah's letter to the exiles)

- Separated life does not mean unproductive lives

Has this prophecy
been fulfilled?

Discussion to be continued in remaining chapters of Daniel

Coming Soon

- The Rock destroys the Kingdoms together (2:35)
 - not happened yet
 - Roman empire has been divided into two, but not ten federations (Daniel 7:24)
 - not happened yet (unless we see Europe as a picture of divided Rome with 44+ countries)
 - Many believe Roman or an equivalent empire will be revived in some form under final dictator, the Anti-Christ
 - **Christ will Return with His Kingdom** (Luke 19:12, John 14:3)
- Discover more in remaining chapters and book of Revelation

What Attributes of God
are seen in this chapter?



God's unchanging Attributes

God knows everything

God is Just

God is Sovereign (He is in absolute control)

God is Faithful (He honors those who honor Him)



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