

Prophecy from the Book of Daniel Chapter 2

The God of Abraham is in control of what happens on Earth. We ask that as you study this very important prophecy, you will pray that our Creator God will be your guide as you are in search of His truth.



The kingdom of Babylon was lavish and prosperous, yet the king Nebuchadnezzar was troubled. How long would this prosperity last, he wondered, and what would become of his powerful empire when he was gone? With these questions playing in his mind, the mighty monarch drifted off to sleep. That night, a vivid image appeared in his dream, an image unlike anything he had ever seen. The king jumped out of bed and shouted to his bodyguards: "Call all the magicians and astrologers to come at once. I must know the meaning of this dream!" The king's wise men were brought into the presence of the troubled king. And the king said to them, "I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream." ***Daniel 2:3.***

The Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation." These men had claimed divine insight, but the king was beginning to doubt their abilities. This would be the perfect test for them.

" The thing (dream) is gone from me. I do not remember it. Tell me the dream and the interpretation, and you will be rewarded," the king told his counsellors, "otherwise I will cut you in pieces and turn your homes into ash heaps!" ***Daniel 2:5***

The magicians and astrologers had to admit that they were powerless to explain the king's dream without first hearing it. Angry with these imposters, the king commanded that all the wise men of Babylon be gathered for execution. However, God still had one person in Babylon who could explain the dream of the impressive image.



1. Why did God give the Babylonian king this dream?

But there is a God in heaven who reveals _____, and He makes known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the _____ days. **Daniel 2:28**

In this dream of the image, God in His mercy and love for His creation shows the king and all future generations the rise and fall of the Empires that would have a direct influence on His people and the world.



2. When the king's counsellors failed to reveal and interpret the dream, what was Nebuchadnezzar's command?

The king commanded to _____ all the wise men of Babylon. **Daniel 2:12.**

The astrologers and magicians of Babylon claimed to have supernatural power, but when they could not reveal the dream to the king, they were shown to be imposters. In his anger, king Nebuchadnezzar commanded all the wise men to be killed, even those who were not present. Among those absent from the first meeting with the king was Daniel, a worshiper of the true God of Abraham and a captive, who had just been trained for the king's service.



3. When Daniel learned about the death decree, what did he ask of the king and what did he tell his friends?

So Daniel went in and desired of the king that he would give him _____, and he would make known to the king the interpretation.

Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions. That they might seek mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret.

Daniel 2:16, 17, 18.

Daniel requested a little time from Nebuchadnezzar and promised that he would reveal the dream and its meaning. The king, who was still desperate to know the significance of his vision, granted Daniel's request. Then he and his friends from the captivity appealed to the only Source who could reveal the king's dream. They prayed to the God of heaven.



4. When the Lord revealed the dream to Daniel, to whom did Daniel give praise and credit?

I thank You and praise You, O _____ of my fathers..... There is a _____ in heaven that reveals secrets. **Daniel 2:23, 28**

The rise and fall of Empires may appear as if happening by the will of men, but Daniel's prayer of praise clearly reveals the essence of divine intervention. Nothing happens that God is not already aware of and has not allowed. Sometimes we may not understand what is happening in our world today or why, but it is comforting to know that God is still Sovereign. Only Daniel could reveal the dream to the king, yet he clearly gives the credit to the One who revealed the dream to him, the God of heaven.



5. What two objects did Daniel say the king saw in his dream?

You, O king, were watching and behold, a _____ . **Daniel 2:31**

You watched while a _____ was cut out without hands. **Daniel 2:34**

The first thing the king saw was a great image made of the following mineral elements:

1. The head was of gold.
2. The breast and arms were of silver.
3. The belly and thighs were of brass.
4. The legs were of iron.
5. The feet were of iron and clay.

Next, the king saw a stone that had been cut without hands. King Nebuchadnezzar was no doubt paying close attention to every word Daniel was saying. Daniel had related the dream precisely as God had given it to him. Now the king eagerly waited, wondering what the dream meant.

Daniel proceeded to explain the interpretation as the Lord had revealed it to him, and we would do well to take it just as He gave it. The only safe way to interpret the Holy Bible and its prophecy is to allow the Bible to explain itself.



6. What does the head of gold represent?

You are this _____ of gold. **Daniel 2:38**

The king was regarded as the head of the State. This is why King Nebuchadnezzar represented Babylon, the Empire that began the prophecy. Neo-Babylon ruled the world from 612-539 B.C. as one of the mightiest empires of antiquity, one that could aptly be described as the head of gold. Notice that the prophecy begins with Daniel's time.



7. Would the Babylonian kingdom last forever?

After you shall arise _____ kingdom inferior to yours. **Daniel 2:39**

Babylon's supremacy would not last forever. Succeeding kingdoms, inferior to Babylon, would rule in their turn. Just as silver is inferior to gold, so the kingdom that followed Babylon enjoyed diminished glory. Led by Cyrus in 539 B.C., the Medo-Persian Empire conquered Babylon and reduced it to ruins. The Medes and Persians were the ruling world power from 539-331 B.C. During their reign, all taxes had to be paid in silver.



8. What metal would represent the kingdom that followed Medo-Persia?

.....then another third kingdom of _____ shall bear rule over all the earth. **Daniel 2:39**

The bronze kingdom of Greece came into power when Alexander the Great conquered the Medes and Persians at the battle of Arbela in 331 B.C., and Greece remained in power until about 168 B.C. Greek soldiers were called "brazen coated" because their armour was all bronze. Notice how each succeeding mineral depicted in the image is less valuable, yet more enduring than the one before it.

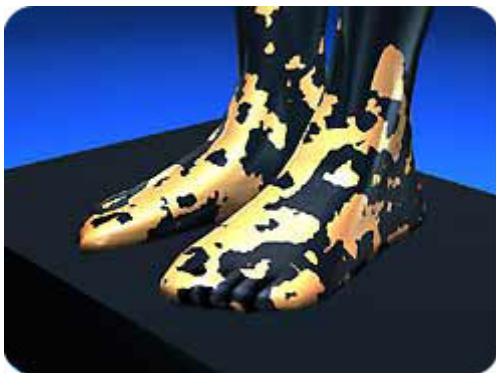


9. What metal represents the fourth kingdom?

The fourth kingdom shall be strong as _____, **Daniel 2:40**

The iron monarchy of Rome conquered the Greeks in 168 B.C. and enjoyed world supremacy until Rome was captured by the Ostrogoths in A.D. 476. Rome is the kingdom that dominated the world when Jesus the Christ came to earth in human form as a baby.

Notice how Daniel foretold a thousand years of world history with unerring accuracy. The rise and fall of these four world empires: Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome are clearly foretold in the Holy Bible before it became history to us. The Holy Bible can be trusted.



10. What would happen after the fall of the Roman Empire?

The kingdom shall be _____ As the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. **Daniel 2:41, 42**

When the Roman Empire began to crumble in A.D. 476, it was not overtaken by another world power. Instead, primitive tribes conquered the Roman Empire and divided it just as Daniel prophesied. Ten of these tribes evolved into modern Europe. They were the Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Franks, Vandals, Alemannians, Sueves, Anglo-Saxons, Heruls, Lombards, and Burgundians. Seven of them still exist today in Europe. For example, the Anglo-Saxons became the English, the Franks became the French, the Alemannians became the Germans, and the Lombards became the Italians.



11. Would these 10 kingdoms ever succeed in uniting?

They shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall _____ one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. **Daniel 2:43**

Through marriage, alliances, and treaties, men have vainly attempted to reunite the European continent. All throughout history, leaders such as Charlemagne, Napoleon, Kaiser Wilhelm, Mussolini, and Hitler have fought to build a new European empire but these words of Scripture have stopped every single would-be world ruler. Revelation 13 tells us there will be another attempt to establish a universal religion, but this prophecy clearly states that the world will remain politically divided for the rest of Earth's history.



12. Who will set up the final kingdom?

And in the days of these kings shall the _____ of _____ set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed. **Daniel 2:44**

Note: *The next great universal kingdom will be the Kingdom of Heaven.*



13. What does the stone do to the other world kingdoms?

A stone was cut out without hands, _____ the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and _____ them to pieces. ... And the stone that smote the image became a great _____, and filled the whole earth. **Daniel 2:34, 35**

*The stone that was cut without human hands represents God's kingdom. It will not be a conglomeration of earthly kingdoms, but a total replacement **Revelation 21:1**.*

*The Scriptures declare that the God of heaven will completely consume all the kingdoms of earth and establish an everlasting kingdom **Daniel 2:44**.*

*King Nebuchadnezzar may have thought that he had defeated the true God of Abraham when he besieged Jerusalem and plundered the temple **Daniel 1:1, 2**, but he was shown very quickly that God is ruler over all. Human events are under His control, and ultimately He will win the conflict. Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome, and the 10 divisions of the Roman Empire may have sought to usurp Divine authority and destroy the people of God, but all earthly kingdoms will eventually be crushed by the coming of Christ. Thank God, He will win the great controversy!*



14. After hearing Daniel's clear interpretation of the dream, what did Nebuchadnezzar say about the Lord?

The king answered unto Daniel, and said, "Of a truth it is, that your _____ is a God of _____, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets." **Daniel 2:47**

Having seen that God has complete control of world events, even Nebuchadnezzar readily acknowledged that the God of heaven that Daniel served was above all the heathen gods of Babylon. How quickly the picture had changed! Daniel and his friends, because of their faithfulness to God, were elevated from their initial captivity in Babylon to positions of prominent leadership for the kingdom.

The God of Abraham loved King Nebuchadnezzar so much that He revealed Himself through a dream, so the King may choose to follow Him or the adversary. All praise be to God that this king chose to worship the Creator God before his life ended.

Our God is a God of love, merciful and compassionate.



.....the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this.

The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."

Book of Daniel 2:45