

THE TRANSIENT KINGDOM OF MAN

Daniel 2:31-49 (pt 1)

SECTION #1 – THE CONTENTS OF THE DREAM

31 "You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome.

SECTION #1 – THE CONTENTS OF THE DREAM

32 "The head of that statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

chiasm - A, B, C, D ... D, C, B, A

vv32-33...gold, silver, bronze, and iron/clay

v 35...iron/clay, bronze, silver, and gold.

SECTION #1 – THE CONTENTS OF THE DREAM

34 "You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them. 35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

Isa 41:15–16 - 15 Behold, I have made you a new, sharp threshing sledge with double edges; You will thresh the mountains and pulverize them, and will make the hills like chaff. 16 You will winnow them, and the wind will carry them away...

Isa 2:2–4 - 2 ... In the last days the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the chief of the mountains, and will be raised above the hills; and all the nations will stream to it. 3 And many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD... that He may teach us concerning His ways and that we may walk in His paths..."

SECTION #2 – THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM

36 "This was the dream; now we will tell its interpretation before the king.

Dan 2:22 - It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things...

Dan 2:28-29 - 28... there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries...29...He who reveals mysteries has made known to you what will take place.

SECTION #2 – THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM

KINGDOM #1

37 "You, O king, are the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the strength and the glory;

Dan 2:47 - ...your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings...

Dan 2:28-29 - 28... there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries...29...He who reveals mysteries has made known to you what will take place.

*1 Chron 29:10–12 – 10... David said, "Blessed are You, O LORD God of Israel our father, forever and ever. 11
"Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Yours is the dominion, O LORD... 12 ... You rule over all, and in Your hand is power and might; and it lies in Your hand to make great and to strengthen everyone.*

1 Tim 6:15 - ... He...is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords...

Dan 2:21 - It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men And knowledge to men of understanding.

SECTION #2 – THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM

KINGDOM #1

38 and wherever the sons of men dwell, or the beasts of the field, or the birds of the sky, He has given them into your hand and has caused you to rule over them all. You are the head of gold.

SECTION #2 – THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM

KINGDOM #2

39 "After you there will arise another kingdom inferior to you...

Medo-Persian Empire – 208 yrs – 539 to 331 BC

7:5 – a bear

8:20 - a two-horned ram

SECTION #2 – THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM

KINGDOM #2

39 "After you there will arise another kingdom inferior to you...

JOHN CALVIN – (Cyrus') Kingdom is not called inferior through having less splendor or opulence in human estimation, but because the general condition of the world was worse under the second monarchy, as men's vices and corruptions increased more and more.

SECTION #2 – THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM

KINGDOM #3

39...then another third kingdom of bronze, which will rule over all the earth.

332 BC – Greece – Alexander the Great – 185 years
– from 331 to 146 BC.

SECTION #2 – THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM

KINGDOM #4

40 "Then there will be a fourth kingdom as strong as iron; inasmuch as iron crushes and shatters all things, so, like iron that breaks in pieces, it will crush and break all these in pieces.

Rome – Defeat of Carthage – 146 BC

395 BC – divided between Eastern and Western Empires

Western – till AD 395

Eastern – till AD 1453

SECTION #2 – THE INTERPRETATION OF THE DREAM

KINGDOM #4

41 "In that you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it will be a divided kingdom; but it will have in it the toughness of iron, inasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with common clay. 42 As the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of pottery, so some of the kingdom will be strong and part of it will be brittle. 43 And in that you saw the iron mixed with common clay, they will combine with one another in the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, even as iron does not combine with pottery.

See vv 44-45
See Dan 7:7, 24

Rev 13:1 - And the dragon stood on the sand of the seashore. Then I saw a beast coming up out of the sea, having ten horns and seven heads, and on his horns were ten diadems, and on his heads were blasphemous names.

Rev 17:12 - The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour.

Dan 2:21 - It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings...

**#1 – What related thought should we conclude from
*Matt 6:20, 33?***

Matt 6:20 - But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal;

Matt 6:33 - But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

#2 – The declining value of the successive metals speaks of the degenerative principle inherent in the cumulative impact of sin upon humanity. But what is characteristic of mankind's view of itself?

Rom 1:22 - Professing to be wise, they became fools...

Prov 6:16–17 - 16 There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: 17 Haughty eyes...

Prov 16:18 - Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before stumbling.

James 4:6 - ...GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE.

#3 – What does it mean that every earthly kingdom has an ‘after this’?

#4 – What is the significance in God using one single statue – in the form of man – to represent all the kingdoms of the world?

#5 – Let's see how the 1st two psalms are alluded to in *Dan 2*.

Psa 1:1-3

Psa 1:4-5

Psa 2:1–2, 4, 10–12 - 1 Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers take counsel together Against the LORD and against His Anointed, saying, ... 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them. ... 10 Now therefore, O kings, show discernment; Take warning, O judges of the earth. 11 Worship the LORD with reverence And rejoice with trembling. 12 Do homage to the Son, that He not become angry, and you perish in the way, For His wrath may soon be kindled. How blessed are all who take refuge in Him!

