

The Times of the Gentiles

Daniel: *Timeline for the End Times*

September 10, 2025

Daniel 2 provides an unparalleled prophetic view of world history, most now fulfilled history. Jesus described this as “the times of the Gentiles” in Luke 21:24. Clearly, God is in control of history, and we have confident hope in the prophetic history of Christ’s soon return!

“In Daniel 2 the course of world empire is viewed from man’s perspective ... as an attractive glorious image.”

“In Daniel 7 the same course of empire is viewed from the Divine viewpoint ... as four wild voracious beasts.”

— Pentecost, *Things to Come* p 316

Nebuchadnezzar’s Summons

Daniel 2:1-11

Daniel + 3 fellow grads new to the role of King’s wise men Dan 1:19

Neb’s dreams (pl) powerful/frightening – wisest wise men called

Nebuchadnezzar ^{x2} ... “tell me the dream and its interpretation”

Counselors ^{x2} ... you tell the dream, then we give the interpretation

Neb’ ^{x3} ... my word is firm, you tell the dream and interpretation

If you don’t you are stalling, lying conspirators!

Counselors – “humanly impossible” “unprecedented” “unreasonable”

“no one can show it to the king except the gods” cp Jer 33:3

Daniel prepared by God for this time – Daniel 1:17

Daniel’s Appeals

Daniel 2:12-24

Emotions are contagious, but Daniel asked in respect & control

to Arioch – asks the reason ... not in panic & desperation

to King – request for time ... to show the interpretation

to Friends – “to seek mercy from the God of heaven”

to God who answered ... during the night, in a vision

“Daniel blessed (kneeled before) the God of Heaven”

Worship – God’s attributes (v 20-22) Thanks – God’s actions (v 23)

The Dream Revealed

Daniel 2:25-35

Arioch – in a hurry King – demanding Daniel – in faith

“God in Heaven ... reveals mysteries ... known to you what is to be”

The Image Described: great – mighty – gleaming – frightening

Head (fine gold)

Chest & arms (silver)

Stomach & thighs (bronze)

Legs (iron)

Feet (iron/clay)

Babylon

Medo-Persia

Greece

Rome

... FUTURE

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Stone (cut without hand)s – struck image> like chaff, blown away

Became a great mountain and filled the whole earth

The Dream Interpreted

Daniel 2:36-45

Head of gold – Nebuch. “king of kings” God-given dominion (Rom 13:1)

(Chest & arms of silver) a kingdom inferior to arise after you

(Stomach & thighs of bronze) a third kingdom over the earth

(Legs of iron) strong as iron, to break and crush all these

Feet & toes mixed iron and clay, divided, part strong, part brittle

Joined by marriage, will not hold or mix

(Stone) in those days, God of heaven will establish forever kingdom

Break in pieces and end all previous kingdoms

“A great God has made known to the king ... interpretation certain!”

Nebuchadnezzar’s Response

Daniel 2:46-49

Worshipped Daniel: bowed before, homage, offering and incense

“Your God” = “God of gods” “Lord of kings” “revealer of mysteries”

seen as one of many, not the only God

Rewards to Daniel: (more impressed with Daniel than God)

high honors, many great gifts

ruler over the province of Babylon (under King)

chief over all of the classes of “wise men”

Daniel’s Request: Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego over province

Daniel to remain in the King’s court