

# Daniel 2





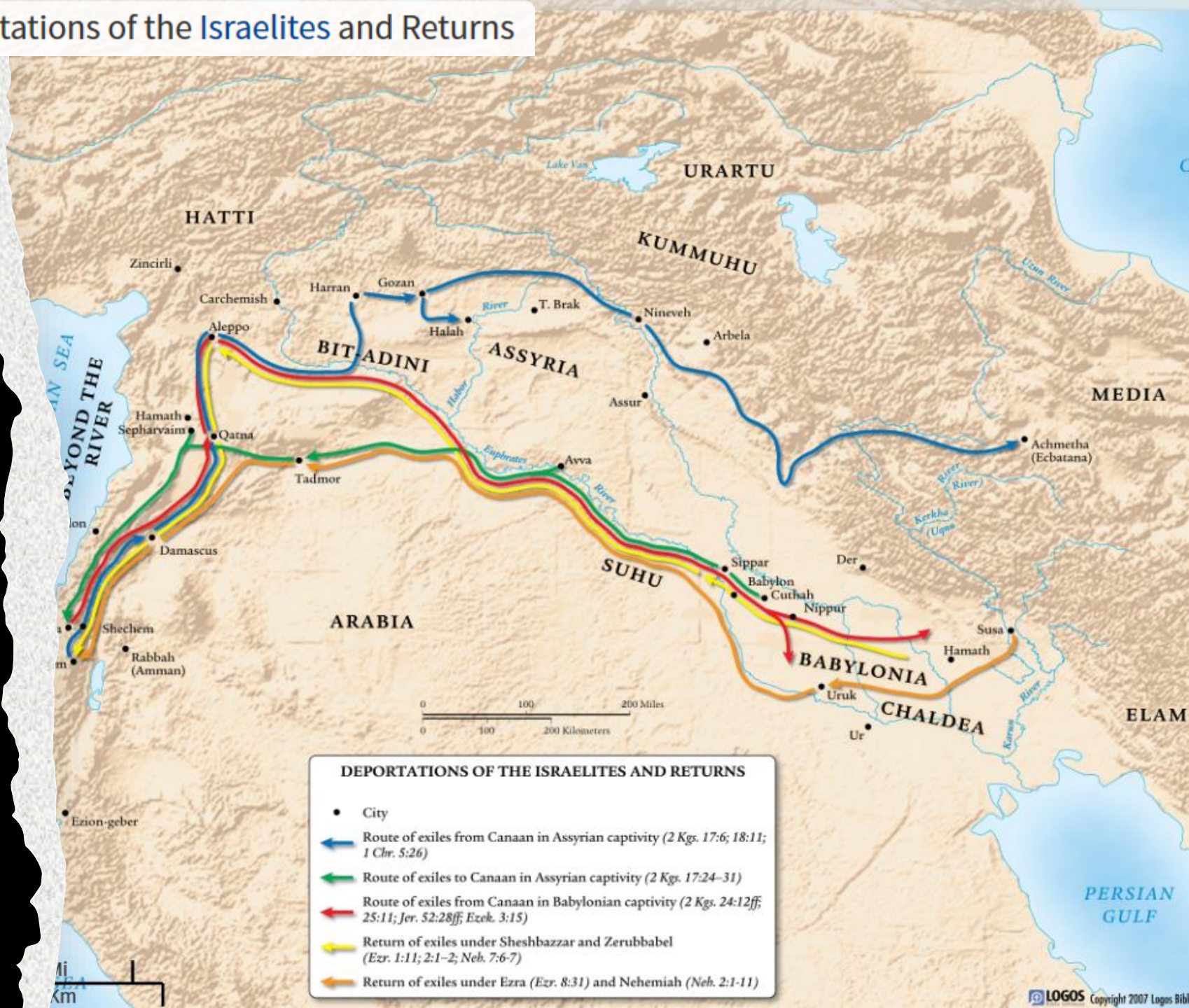


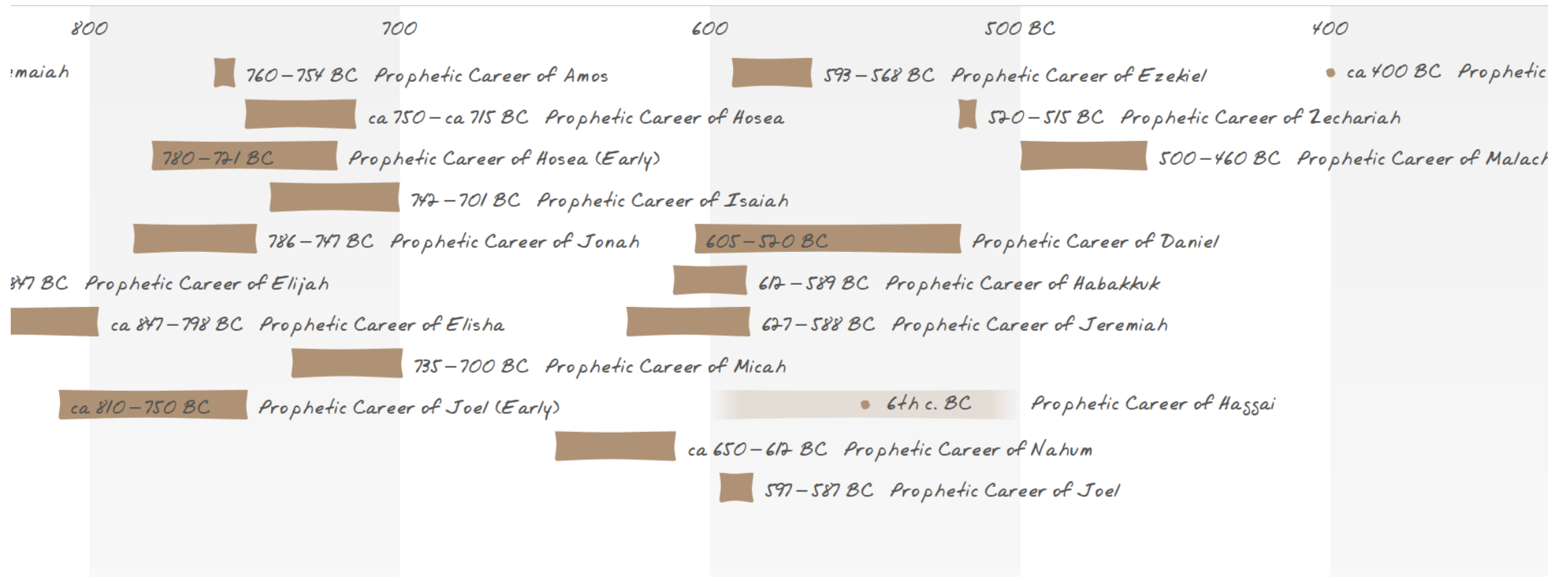
- Writer – “God is my Judge” (Daniel Himself)
- Historical Timeline
  - 605 BC – 535 BC
  - Daniel was in first set of 3 exile events
  - 605 (Daniel)
  - 597 (Ezekiel)
  - 586 BC
- When – Written between 536 and 530 BC
- Why Exile?
  - Judah’s ongoing sin
  - Israel had fallen to Assyria in 722 BC
  - **Isaiah, Jeremiah, Habakkuk, Zephaniah warnings ignored**
- Language – 2:4 – 7:28 Aramaic, international language
- Purpose(s)
  - Encouragement and prophesy
  - During Successive gentile domination until Messiah’s return
  - Display of Gods sovereignty
  - Major display of miracles




# Deportations of the Israelites and Returns

- 605 BC
- 597 BC
- 586 BC







An aerial, sepia-toned illustration of ancient Babylon. The city is a dense grid of buildings and streets, with a prominent ziggurat (temple tower) visible in the distance. The Euphrate River flows through the city. The sky is filled with clouds.

# Opening Questions

- Why did God choose a pagan king and young man to communicate the last days?
- Why use a statue to communicate these events?
- If Nebuchadnezzar was saved, when did it occur?

1 Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him. 2 Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. 3 And the king said to them, "I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream."

4 Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation."

5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "My decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made an ash heap. 6 However, if you tell the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts, rewards, and great honor. Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation."

**Q: Why did Nebuchadnezzar demand the magicians, astrologers, sorcerers and Chaldeans to tell him his dream rather than just interpret it?**

A. This would require true omniscience of the dream. It could not be faked.

**Q: What was the response?**

A. These "experts" knew the impossibility of knowing the dream before interpreting it.

**Q: What was the penalty for failure?**

A. Death to the experts and their family. That's pressure...

**Q: What would the outcome of success be?**

A: Gifts, rewards, great honor



7 They answered again and said, "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will give its interpretation."

8 The king answered and said, "I know for certain that you would gain time, because you see that my decision is firm: 9 if you do not make known the dream to me, there is only one decree for you! For you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed. Therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation."

10 The Chaldeans answered the king, and said, "There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord, or ruler has ever asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean. 11 It is a difficult thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh."

12 For this reason the king was angry and very furious, and gave the command to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. 13 So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to kill them.

**Q: Why did the astrologers, soothsayers, etc ask the King again to tell them his dream? Vs 7-9**

- The King says it was to delay his decision...

**Q: Who do astrologers, magicians, Chaldeans say can be omniscient?**

A: only "gods"

**Q: What was the King's response?**

A: He realized they were all frauds, and started having them killed

14 Then with counsel and wisdom Daniel answered Arioch, the captain of the king's guard, who had gone out to kill the wise men of Babylon; 15 he answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, "Why is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch made the decision known to Daniel.

16 So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him time, that he might tell the king the interpretation. 17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the decision known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, 18 that they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this secret, so that Daniel and his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

**Q: Daniel asked for more time to tell the King his dream, why?**

- Daniel showed great trust in God. He expected God to show him the dream and let his friends know the same

**Q: What did Daniel and his friends do?**

- Sought God, prayed (all of them)



19 Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

20 Daniel answered and said:

"Blessed be the name of God forever and ever,  
For wisdom and might are His.

21 And He changes the times and the seasons;  
He removes kings and raises up kings;  
He gives wisdom to the wise  
And knowledge to those who have understanding.

22 He reveals deep and secret things;  
He knows what is in the darkness,  
And light dwells with Him.

23 "I thank You and praise You,  
O God of my fathers;  
You have given me wisdom and might,  
And have now made known to me what we asked  
of You,  
For You have made known to us the king's  
demand."

**Q: After revealing the dream in his sleep Daniel blesses God. What does it mean to bless God? (V19)**

- It means to praise, exalt, and worship Him

**Q: What are some reasons recognized by Daniel?**

- God's wisdom
- God's might
- God's sovereignty, putting rulers in place
- God's gifts to those who seek understanding
- God's omniscience

24 Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon. He went and said thus to him: "Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon; take me before the king, and I will tell the king the interpretation."

25 Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king, and said thus to him, "I have found a man of the captives of Judah, who will make known to the king the interpretation."

26 The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, "Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen, and its interpretation?"

27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, "The secret which the king has demanded, the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king. 28 But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these: 29 As for you, O king, thoughts came to your mind while on your bed, about what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be. 30 But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for our sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart.

**Q: Why did God chose to give the most powerful man on earth this dream? v28**

A: To reveal what will happen in the latter days

**Q: Who does Daniel give credit to?**

A: "He who reveals secrets, God in heaven.



31 "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. 32 This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. 34 You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. 35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

**Q: What is the stone cut without hands?**

A: Jesus!

**Q: What timeframe does vs 34-35 cover?**

A: This is the ending to the times of the gentiles, Jesus' second coming

**Q: Is the fullness of the gentiles and the times of the gentiles the same?** [Romans 11:25](#)

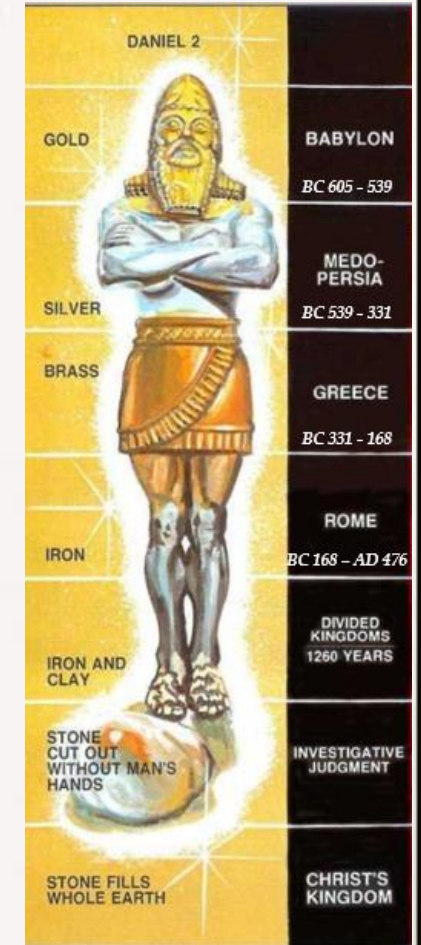
- The fullness of the gentiles ends with the rapture of the church.
- The times of the gentiles continues from the time of Nebuchadnezzar until the second coming

**Q: When will Christ fill the whole earth?**

A: At the second coming

**Q: When is the second coming?"**

A: At the end of the tribulation



36 "This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king. 37 You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; 38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold. 39 But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. 40 And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others. 41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. 43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

**Q: What is the last "world-power"?**

A: Rome

**Q: Who destroyed Rome?**

A: No one, Rome grew to other countries, then the central government fell apart internally.

**Q: Who gave Nebuchadnezzar his kingdom? (v36)**

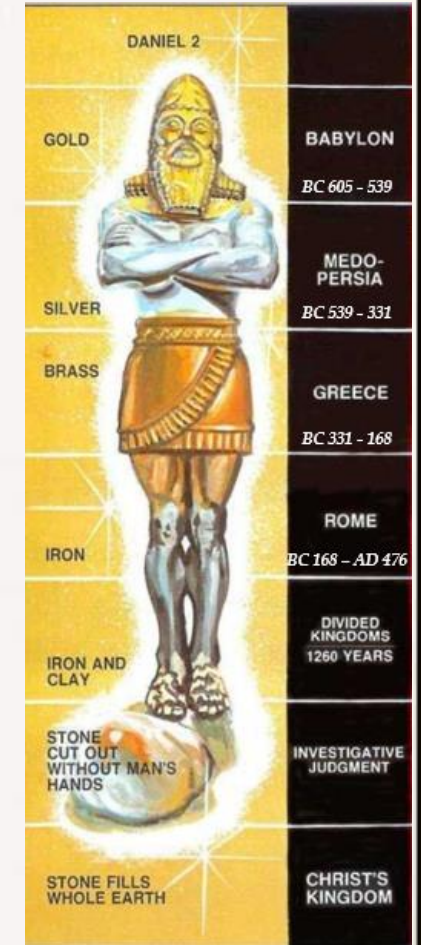
A: God!

**Q: What could the 10 toes of the feet indicate?**

A: 10 roman kings, cross referenced in chapter 7

**Q: What does the mingling of iron and clay indicate?"**

A: Could indicate strength of kingly authority mixed with human democracy





44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

45 Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—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.”

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel, and commanded that they should present an offering and incense to him.

47 The king answered Daniel, and said, “Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret.” 48 Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon.

49 Also Daniel petitioned the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon; but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

**Q: What kingdom is established that is never destroyed, never transferred, and stands forever?**

- This is the return of Jesus and establishment of His kingdom, smashing the roman rulers after the battle of Armageddon. See Isaiah 9:6; Jeremiah 23:5–6; Micah 4:1–8; Luke 1:32–33; Mathew Matthew 19:28; Luke 19:11; and Acts 1:6–7.

**Q: Why did Nebuchadnezzar fall on his face?**

A: The recounting of the dream added 100% credibility, Daniel indicated the interpretation carried the same weight, it was 100% accurate

**Q: How might the revelation of verses 44-45 indicate proper millennial theology?**

A: The breaking of the 10 roman rulers and the establishment of a permanent kingdom has not occurred, meaning the millennium has not yet occurred

**Q: Was Nebuchadnezzar saved at this point?**

A: Not likely, he professed complete knowledge of the true God, but did not know God personally

Dan 5:18-19  
Jer 27:5-11

Dan 5:28

Alexander  
The "Great"

Latter Days

DANIEL 2		DANIEL 7	DANIEL 8	DANIEL 11, 12
GOLD	BABYLON BC 605 - 539	LION	NONE	NONE
SILVER	MEDO-PERSIA BC 539 - 331	BEAR	RAM WITH TWO HORNS	FOUR KINGS (Verse 2)
BRASS	GREECE BC 331 - 168	LEOPARD	THE GOAT	MIGHTY KING (Verses 3-13)
IRON	ROME BC 168 - AD 476	PIERCE BEAST	LITTLE HORN FROM FOUR HORNS	KING OF THE NORTH (Verses 14-35)
IRON AND CLAY	DIVIDED KINGDOMS 1260 YEARS	TEN HORNS LITTLE HORN	LITTLE HORN GREAT WAXED	KING OF THE NORTH (Verses 30-39)
STONE CUT OUT WITHOUT MAN'S HANDS	INVESTIGATIVE JUDGMENT	JUDGMENT SCENE	CLEANSING OF HEAVENLY SANCTUARY	TIME OF THE END (Verses 40-45)
STONE FILLS WHOLE EARTH	CHRIST'S KINGDOM	KINGDOM GIVEN TO SAINTS	EXECUTIVE JUDGMENT	MICHAEL STANDS UP (Chapter 12:1-3)



# Daniels Kingdoms

## An Overview of Daniel's Kingdoms

### I. Daniel 2/Daniel 7

- A. Babylon 2:32, 37, 38; 7:4, 17
- B. Medo-Persia 2:32, 39; 7:5, 17
- C. Greece 2:32, 39; 7:6, 17
- D. Rome 2:33, 40; 7:7, 17, 23
- E. Revived Rome 2:33, 41-43; 7:7, 8, 11, 24, 25
- F. Millennium 2:34, 35, 44, 45; 7:13, 14, 26, 27

### II. Daniel 8/Daniel 11

- A. Medo-Persia 8:3-8, 20, 21; 10:20, 21, 11:2-35
- B. Greece 8:3-8, 20, 21; 10:20, 21, 11:2-35
- C. Revived Rome 8:9-12, 23-26; 11:36-45.

# Romans 11

25 For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in.



# Next Up

The Fiery Furnace

