

Daniel 2:31-45 <sup>31</sup> *Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible. <sup>32</sup> This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass <sup>33</sup> His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. <sup>34</sup> Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. <sup>35</sup> Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth. <sup>36</sup> This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. <sup>37</sup> Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. <sup>38</sup> 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. <sup>39</sup> And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. <sup>40</sup> And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise. <sup>41</sup> And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. <sup>42</sup> And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. <sup>43</sup> And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay. <sup>44</sup> And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. <sup>45</sup> Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; 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.*

## I. Introduction

### A. Common theme of globalism current today

1. "New world order"
2. Global economy
3. Global response
4. World Health Organization (WHO)

## B. Daniel's background

1. Born into royal family of Judah
2. Taken as slave captive to Babylon in 605 BC
3. Early in his captivity, Daniel decided to follow God's law

*Daniel 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.*

4. May have been eunuch in king's palace

## C. Scriptures speak of global future events

1. Scripture gives prophecies of many future events
2. Daniel wrote his prophecies 2500 years ago
3. Daniel stepped forward to save other wise men, and to give dream & its interpretation – Daniel 2:24
4. God reveals human natural hearts

*1 Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.*

5. Key verse to understanding book of Daniel that God in heaven reveals secrets

*Daniel 2:27-28 <sup>27</sup> Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king; <sup>28</sup> But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;*

## II. Identity of the World's Empire

### A. Symbolic image

1. King Nebuchadnezzard wanted to know the future

*Daniel 2:29 As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.*

2. God gave dream's interpretation to Daniel of four Gentile kingdoms in Israel's future in the "Times of the Gentiles"

3. Israel would no longer be in control of their own affairs, but be ruled by Gentile kingdoms.

a. Four coming Gentile kingdoms

*Daniel 2:28 But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;*

b. Image in kings' dream

i. Giant figure of a man made of gold, silver, brass, & iron

ii. Head of gold

iii. Chest & arms of silver

iv. Belly & thighs of brass

v. Legs & feet of iron

4. Prophetic Scriptures of "Times of the Gentiles"

a. Times of the Gentiles will last a long time

*Romans 11:25 For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.*

b. Gentiles will walk in Jerusalem & control it until times of the Gentiles fulfilled

*Luke 21:24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.*

i. Israel gets its independence & control of west Jerusalem in 1948

ii. Israel gets control of east Jerusalem in 1967 – but not the temple mount

c. Temple area given to Gentiles for 42 further months half way through Tribulation of seven years

*Revelation 11:2 But the court which is without the temple leave out, and measure it not; for it is given unto the Gentiles: and the holy city shall they tread under foot forty and two months.*

d. Dome of the Rock mosque (site of Jewish temple) in Jerusalem still ruled by Gentile hands

B. Sequential representation

1. Daniel's interpretation of king's dream

**Head of Gold**—Babylonian Empire (606–538 BC)

**Silver Arms and Chest**—Medo-Persian Empire (538–330 BC)

**Brass Belly and Thighs**—Greek Empire (330–63 BC)

**Legs of Iron**—Roman Empire (63 BC–476 A.D.)

**Toes**—Revived Roman Empire

2. Roman empire history

a. Imperial Rome conquered Israel in 40 BC

b. imperial Roman empire divided by Emperor Diocletian in 285 AD into Latin speaking western half & Greek speaking eastern half

c. Eastern & western halves ruled by various roman institutions

d. Western political capital of Rome conquered in 476 AD & eastern political capital of Constantinople conquered in 1453 AD

e. Over time Latin Roman Catholic Church ruled in western Roman empire & Greek Orthodox Church ruled in eastern Roman empire

f. Currently Christian churches morally rule in northern half of Roman empire & Islamic mosques rule in southern half of Roman empire

3. Compared to vision in Daniel 7 of four animals

a. Vision in Daniel 7 of a lion with eagle wings, a bear, a leopard with four wings, & a great beast with 10 horns

b. Interpretation of four kings representing four kingdoms

*Daniel 7:17 These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.*

fourth beast had iron teeth & 10 horns representing kings

*Daniel 7:7-8<sup>7</sup> After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns. <sup>8</sup> I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.*

c. Ten horns compared with 10 toes in two different visions

i. Represents a revived Roman empire in 10 geographical areas

ii. World history rests on brittle feet

#### 4. The Stone

- a. Stone was not made by man's hands
- b. Stone cut without hands represents God's Christ – Jesus of Nazareth
- c. Stone will break all world empires into pieces
- d. Jesus quotes Old Testament prophecy in Psalm 118:22-23

*Matthew 21:42, 44* <sup>42</sup> Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? ... <sup>44</sup> And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.

- e. Jewish leadership understood that Jesus spoke of them also

*Matthew 21:45-46* <sup>45</sup> And when the chief priests and Pharisees had heard his parables, they perceived that he spake of them. <sup>46</sup> But when they sought to lay hands on him, they feared the multitude, because they took him for a prophet.

- f. Peter speaks of this same cornerstone

*1 Peter 2:4, 6-7* <sup>4</sup> To whom coming, as unto a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious, ... <sup>6</sup> 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. <sup>7</sup> 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,

- g. Both Gentile rulers & Jewish leadership stumble over the Rock Jesus Christ

### III. Immensity of the Roman Empire

#### A. Imperial Roman empire

1. Symbolized by legs of iron
2. Strongest & longest enduring Gentile empire
3. Geographically stretched from England / Spain to Israel
  - a. Empire completely surrounded entire Mediterranean Sea
  - b. Distance of 5300 km or 3300 miles
  - c. About same distance from Seattle WA to Key West FL

## B. Revived Roman empire

### 1. Confederation of 10 kings in revived Roman empire

*Revelation 17:12-13* <sup>12</sup> *And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.* <sup>13</sup> *These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.*

- a. Beast of Revelation 13
- b. They will give their power to the Antichrist my mutual consent
- c. They will share “one mind” with the Antichrist
- d. Ultimate form of political globalization – one world government
- e. Satanic influence will be greatest in the Tribulation period
- f. Demonic influence working on final 10 kings

### 2. In latter days of 10 kings, God will set up His kingdom

## IV. Influence of the Empire

### A. Realigning of power

1. Ten kingdoms partly strong & partly weak
2. Antichrist will create global currency – probably digital global currency

*Revelation 13:16-17* <sup>16</sup> *And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads:* <sup>17</sup> *And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.*

3. Various modern mechanisms creating greater centralized activities – political, economic, philosophies
4. Technology base making greater centralization possible
5. Current European Union activities
  - a. Geopolitical confederate union with increasing powers
  - b. EU flag of blue background with circle of 12 yellow stars
  - c. EU currency – the Euro
  - d. Controls economic imports & exports
  - e. EU stamp on all passports in European Union
  - f. Increasing political support of Islamic world because of oil imports
6. Summary of Latter Days or End Times
  - a. National powers decline between nations
  - b. Increase in centralized forms of government
  - c. Quest for global currency

## B. Return of the Lord

### 1. Latter Days

- a. Antichrist will come appearing as a man of peace & making peace treaties

*Revelation 6:2 And I saw, and behold a white horse: and he that sat on him had a bow; and a crown was given unto him: and he went forth conquering, and to conquer.*

- b. Day of the Lord will come when men shall say “peace & safety”

*1 Thessalonians 5:2-3<sup>2</sup> For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup> For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.*

- c. Son of Man will come to the Ancient of Days

*Daniel 7:13-14<sup>13</sup> I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. <sup>14</sup> And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.*

- d. And the true Prince of Peace will return back to earth again

*Revelation 19:11, 16<sup>11</sup> And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. ... <sup>16</sup> And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND Lord OF LORDS.*

- e. Judgement given to God’s saints

*Daniel 7:22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.*

### 2. Summary of End Times

- a. Increase of Laodicean church – Revelation 3:14-22
- b. Increase in demonic world influence
- c. Decrease of influence of godly Christians

3. What can Christian do?

- a. God will take care of His saints

*Colossians 1:13-14* <sup>13</sup> *Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son: <sup>14</sup> In whom we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins:*

- b. Look up for Jesus to come back soon

*Luke 21:28* *And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.*