

Daniel Chapter 2



Vision of All Future World Empires

Daniel Overview

- Daniel was written around 600 BC and is an apocalyptic writing, as well as historical.
- Daniel's predictions of the future are the most remarkable evidence that the Bible is the divine Word of God, since it can only be explained by the supernatural revelation of God.
- 20-25% of the Bible is prophecy, and 80% is fulfilled.
- No Christian can be a diligent student of the Bible without a good knowledge of prophecy.

Why is Prophecy Important?

- 1. It confirms or proves that God is Real**
- 2. It confirms that the Bible is the Word of God**
- 3. It provides comfort to believers by preparing us for what to expect & to be ready upon Christ's return**
- 4. It protects us from Future Deceptions**
- 5. It's the driving force behind Evangelism, providing incentive to warn those who are lost.**

We are living in the most significant time of Bible history – The Bible is Coming to Life!

Daniel Overview

- Daniel 2 predicts all the World Empires in future history from the time he wrote it in 600 BC, and every prophesy has come true with undeniable accuracy, with the exception of the Antichrist and return of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- Daniel also predicts both Christ's First Coming (to the very year - Daniel 9) and His Second Coming to usher in the Kingdom of God at the end of the Age.
- We will go on to prove in the next 2 lessons that these prophesies are impossible to explain apart from God.

Daniel - Authenticity

- Critics who do not believe in the supernatural will always argue Daniel was written after the events took place, however, the following sources prove that Daniel was written hundreds of years before the events take place.
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- **Septuagint** – Greek translation of the OT written prior to 150BC, contains Daniel & Isaiah
 - **Dead Sea Scrolls** – discovered in 1948 were written 100-200 BC and significantly contains Daniel & Isaiah
 - **Josephus** (Jewish Historian in 1st Century) mentions a historical account of Alexander the Great when he was shown the book of Daniel
 - **Jesus Christ** - refers to Daniel as a prophet and commands us to understand it in relation to the end times.

Languages & Layout

Daniel 1	Daniel 2-7	Daniel 8-12
Hebrew	Aramaic (Language of the common man)	Hebrew
Daniel's no compromise stand	God's Plan for Gentile Nations "the times of the Gentiles" Luke 21:24	God's Plan for Israel & Believers

Aramaic was the common language, so it seems like this is serving a missional purpose by showing God's glory to the Gentile world.

Daniel – Chapter 1 Reminder

- ¹⁷ As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and
 - **Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.**
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Now in chapter 2 we'll see Daniel use this gift

The Dream

Daniel 2:1-4

- 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.**"

God gives the king a vision of the **future**

Dreams were signif. In ancient times

God has not left us in ignorance of the **future**

King Makes Unreasonable Request

Daniel 2:5-7

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

King Threatens Wisemen

Daniel 2:8-9

- 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.”**

The king thinks that his wisemen are trying to buy time

This dream must have been very troubling for the king to issue such a decree

King's Wisemen Cannot Interpret

Daniel 2:10-13

- 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.**

Wisemen admit that only “the gods” could perform such a request

Daniel was going to be killed by association

Daniel is Given Wisdom

Daniel 2:14-15

- 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.

Daniel asks for Time

Daniel 2:16-19

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

Daniel is bold & Courageous & has great faith that God will answer **PRAYER.**

“**God of heaven**” in contrast to the Babylonian gods

Daniel Gives Praise & Thanks to God

Daniel 2:20-23

- ²⁰ Daniel answered and said:
 - “Blessed be the name of God **forever and ever**, —————→ **ETERNAL**
For wisdom and might are His.
 - ²¹ And He changes the times and the seasons; —————→ **OMNIPOTENCE**
He removes kings and raises up kings; —————→ **CONTROLS NATIONS**
He gives wisdom to the wise
And knowledge to those who have understanding. —————→ **GIVES WISDOM**
 - ²² **He reveals deep and secret things;** —————→ **GIVES REVELATION**
He knows what *is* in the darkness,
And light dwells with Him. (Omniscience)
- ²³ “I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers; You have given me wisdom and might, —————→ **ANSWERS PRAYER**
And have now made known to me what we asked of You,
For You have made known to us the king’s demand.”

Daniel Goes to the King

Daniel 2:24-26

- 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?”

The Dream – about “Latter Days”

Daniel 2:27-30

- 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.

The Image

Daniel 2:31-35

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.

1. Babylon

2. Medo-Persia

3. Greece

4. Rome

5. Anti-Christ

The 5 Future Kingdoms Predicted

Metals decrease in value, but increase in strength

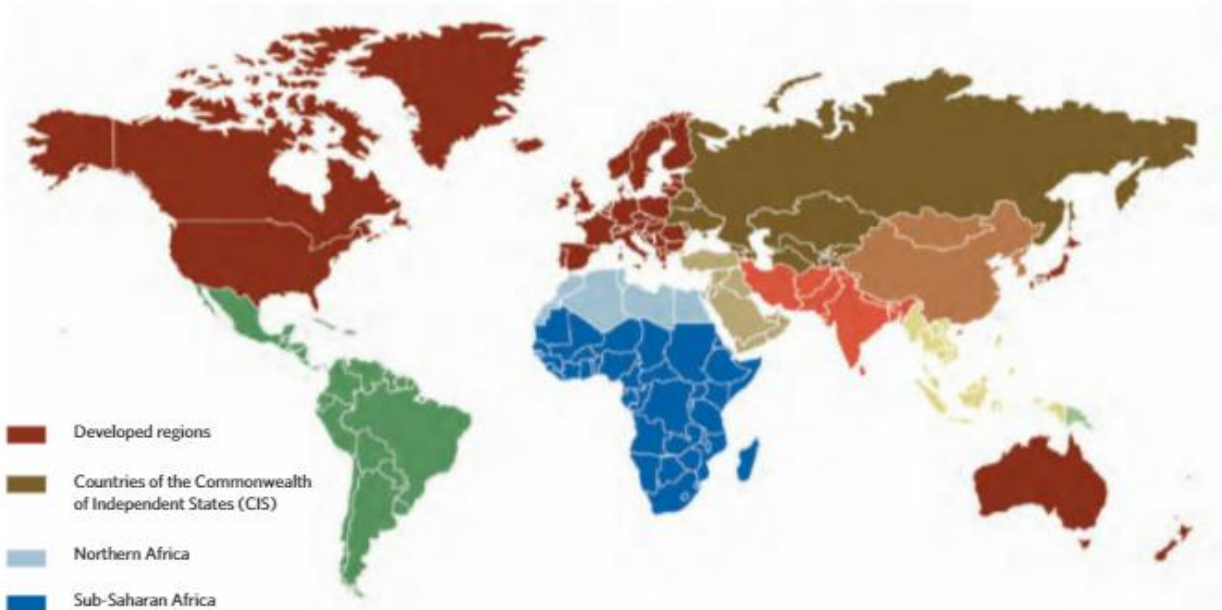
Gold		Babylon	605-539
Silver		Persia	539-333
Bronze		Greece	333-31
Iron, Clay		Rome	31 BC-325 AD
		Church	33 AD

"upon this bedrock I will build My ..."
"Jesus the rejected cornerstone"

Fulfillment of Daniel 10 Toes

Page 57 of UN Agenda 21 “Millennium Development 2009 Report”

Regional Groupings



- Developed regions
- Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
- Northern Africa
- Sub-Saharan Africa
- South-Eastern Asia
- Oceania
- Eastern Asia
- Southern Asia
- Western Asia
- Latin America & the Caribbean




10 Regions reporting to one World Leader

This report presents data on progress towards the Millennium Development Goals for the world as a whole and for various country groupings. These are classified as ‘developing’ regions, the transition economies of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in Asia and Europe, and the ‘developed’ regions.¹ The developing regions are further broken down into the subregions shown on the map above. These regional groupings are based on United Nations geographical divisions, with some modifications necessary to create, to the extent possible, groups of countries for which a meaningful analysis can be carried out. A complete list of countries included in each region and subregion is available at mdgs.un.org.

¹ Since there is no established convention for the designation of ‘developed’ and ‘developing’ countries or areas in the United Nations system, this distinction is made for the purposes of statistical analysis only.

10 Toes

Agenda 21 Regional Groupings

1.  Developed regions
2.  Countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)
3.  Northern Africa
4.  Sub-Saharan Africa
5.  South-Eastern Asia
6.  Oceania
7.  Eastern Asia
8.  Southern Asia
9.  Western Asia
10.  Latin America & the Caribbean

This is the fulfillment of the 10 toes of Daniel 2 – the final World Empire to be led by the Antichrist

Summary Video

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LEhtOuHtTIU> – 3 minutes

Discussion Questions

- Daniel 2:21 – God is Sovereign (has supreme Power & Authority)
 - **“He changes the times and seasons;**
 - **“He removes kings and raises up kings.”**
 - Does this make you view the Satanically inspired events in the world seem less troublesome now?
- Daniel’s response shows faith and character and he did not doubt God, even in an impossible situation. How can we learn from this today?
- Daniel prayed for his answer – do you?
- How should you respond when someone gives you praise for something that God has done?