

(8-18-24) DANIEL 2- THE KING DISTURBED - DANIEL'S DELIVERY .

Intro: As we look at Daniel, we are in ch. 2 where we find the Empire of Babylon in a crisis because the king has ordered to execution of all the wise men because they could not reveal or interpret a very troubling dream that the king had experienced.

- * God then used Daniel to step in, and with the prayers of his friends, God moved and caused Daniel to understand the dream and what it meant.
- * So from vs 24 and following, we see Daniel being brought before the king to do what none of the other wise men could, which was to reveal and then interpret the dream.

IV. In vs 31-35, AS DANIEL REVEALS THE DREAM---

--- The dream centered on 2 main objects. One was a statue and the other was a stone.

- * The statue was enormous, dazzling and awesome, and brought the king great fear.
- * **It was made of 5 materials-** a head of gold, Chest and Arms of silver, stomach and thighs of bronze, lower legs of Iron, and feet, partly of iron and partly of baked clay.
- * **Next, the king saw an overpowering stone**, that had earthly physical substance, and interacted with the statue, but was not formed by human hands, revealing that it was divine.
- * This Stone struck the feet of the image, shattered them, causing the whole statue to crumble into DUST, and be swept away. The Stone then filled the whole earth as a mountain.

V. THEN in vs 36-45, DANIEL PROCEEDS TO INTERPRET THE DREAM.

- * In v28 Daniel had informed the king that God was showing him about the future kingdoms of the world, and what would happen in the latter days. As he reveals the statue---

The 1st Part is THE HEAD OF GOLD. (37-38) which represents king Nebuchadnezzar and his absolute rulership over the Babylonian Empire. This Empire lasted from **605 to 539 BC**.

The 2nd PART is THE CHEST AND ARMS OF SILVER (39a) representing the Medo- Persia empire that conquered Babylon under Cyrus, and lasted from **539 to 331 BC**.

The 3RD PART is THE STOMACH AND THIGHS OF BRONZE (39b) representing the Greek Empire, that conquered Persia under Alexander the Great, and lasted from **331 to 150 BC**.

@ FINALLY - AT THE BOTTOM OF THE STATUE IS---

4TH PART - LOWER LEGS OF IRON, FEET OF IRON AND CLAY. (40-43) (ROME- 160-?)

- * This world kingdom is Rome, and it's described differently than the others, as Daniel shows it has 2 parts- **lower legs of iron** (40), and then **feet made of Iron and clay**. (41-43)
- * The statue appears to the king this way, because the Roman Empire rules twice, but it does so in different ways and time periods. Both Daniel and the John (in Rev) reveal this.
- * 1st- It rules as the original Roman Empire, 2nd- It rules later, as a Revived Roman Empire.
- * So we will explore what Daniel says about this Empire in 2 parts.

A. THE FIRST ROMAN EMPIRE. (40- read, 33a)

- * This is identified by the 2 lower legs of iron, and Daniel first describes it as "**strong**".
- * Looking at history, there are **4 things** to see about the strength of this first Empire.

1. This Empire is destructive. (40)

- Of all the metals in the king's dream, Iron is the hardest, and God alerts Daniel that this is a picture of an Empire that-- "breaks, smashes and crushes all the others".
- This fits well with history because after Greece, the Roman Empire arose very quickly and became known for its brutal military strength, that destroyed many lands.
- When Ancient Empires conquered other lands, they forced taxes on it, but allowed it to continue ruling itself, and practicing its culture, as long as they didn't rebel. (extortion)
- But when Rome conquered a land, they took full control, coming in peacefully if you willingly submitted, and even allowing some of your culture to remain.
- But if you rebelled Rome would destroy you, and when they destroyed your nation, they sent 10 times the troops needed, and wiped out everything.
- * **But even in a peaceful takeover**, the Roman Empire occupied everything.
- They brought in soldiers, police, rulers, local government, currency, tax collectors, businesses, statues of Roman leaders, and constructed buildings and roads.
- This was seen when Herod the Great rebuilt Israel's temple, but Israel and its leaders despised the Romans anyway, for making them live under Roman rule.
- * And in the king's dream, what pictured their brutal treatment of other nations, was the iron, which Rome used for many things, especially their weapons. (ruler with an iron fist)

2. This first Roman Empire had division. (33a)

- In the dream this empire is pictured by the 2 iron legs of the statue the king saw, and history reveals this division.
- Rome was ruled for hundreds of years by 1 ruler at a time, but it was somewhat divided into 2 sections of east and west. And in 364 AD, the Empire split into 2 distinct sections.
- Rome ruled the Western half, and emperor Constantine ruled the east, in Constantinople which is Modern day Istanbul, in Turkey.

3. This first Roman Empire was also strong in its duration.

- Babylon lasted 70 years, Medo-Persia and Greece about 200 years, but the Roman Empire lasted over 500 years in the west, and into the 1400's..., some historians say into the 1800's, in the east. (holy Roman Empire)
- No other world Empire ever came close to ruling that long.

4. This first Roman Empire had large dimensions. (Massive)

- It occupied all of Europe, northern Africa, Palestine, and everything surrounding the Mediterranean Sea.
- It stretched from the Black Sea, Caspian Sea, and Persian Gulf in the east, all the way to Great Britain and the Atlantic Ocean in the west.

Sum- This of course is the Empire that was in full swing when Jesus and the Apostles came on the scene, and it's why much of the NT story is surrounded by Roman information.

* When Daniel prophesied this 450 years before Rome arose, Rome was only a little village on the banks of the Tiber River in Italy, as part of a group of small warring tribes.

* Here again is another of Daniel's prophecies that came perfectly true.

B. THE SECOND ROMAN EMPIRE. (41-43- read, 33b) (Revived Roman Empire)

* This is where the story gets interesting, because the king's dream and Daniel's interpretation brings us into our modern time.

B. THE SECOND ROMAN EMPIRE. (40-43- read, 33b) (Revived Roman Empire)

- * From v41 Daniel moves from the iron legs, to talk about the feet and toes of iron and clay.
- * In the dream, this form of government is smashed by the Large Stone, which is Christ and His kingdom, so the feet are the last form of world rulership before Christ comes.
- * Today, the world is mostly ruled by individual nations, so this final world Empire is not in power yet, but there's evidence that Europe's modern day European Union is this final form of government from which the antichrist arises.
- * Note that there are 3 main truths in Daniel's interpretation, about this final Empire.

1. This final Empire is the same in its nature, as the 1st Roman Empire.

- This is revealed by the fact that this kingdom is also represented by iron, showing that at the end of world history as we know it, this Empire is an extension of the last one.
- **Note** that in history, the Roman Empire was never conquered. It just weakened and dissolved as a political power, as it fragmented into smaller nations over hundreds of years.
- Comparing Rome's 1st Empire to modern day Europe, shows they are alike in many ways.

a. Europe today, is like the 1st Roman Empire, Governmentally.

- , The 1st Roman Empire was somewhat of a Republic that changed much over time, and most of modern Europe has operated on republic type systems.
- , With WW2- the nations of Europe were devastated by this massive war.
(15 to 20 million deaths, the land and many cities were destroyed)
- , In 1946, Winston Churchill spoke to Europe's leaders- "We must build a United States of Europe, to rebuild and regain the joys of life for our people, and make war unthinkable"
- , After WW2, America was selling more goods in the world than any other country, (amazon) and Europe realized it needed to produce, buy, and trade as one political entity.
- , So in 1957 part of Europe (9 nations) joined together in "The Treaty of Rome", which developed into the European Economic Community, with its own administrators.
- , In 1973 the European Economic Community seated a parliament, and in the 1990's they developed into the European Union, with no more passports between countries.
- , Today they are a full-blown political entity, governed by a representative democracy, as its nations are represented in their Parliament, as they cooperate as 1 government.

b. As things progressed, the EU became like the 1st Roman Empire in its geography.

, They developed from just nine nations in 1957, to 27 member nations today, all of which are part of Europe, encompassing 450 million people, and 6% of the world's population.

c. The EU is like the 1st Roman Empire, Financially.

, The first Rome developed its own required currency which permeated the Empire.

(The Jews hated this because Caesar's image was on it- and he was considered a god).

(Jesus taught them that instead of hating the Romans, they needed to love them to God.)

, In Europe today, 1 main purpose in forming the European Economic Community (EU) was to purchase goods together, abolish tariffs, and have free trade between the countries.

, And in 1979 they began developing a Monetary system which became the Euro dollar, which has been the European Union's hard currency since 2002.

d. The EU is like the 1st Roman Empire, Legally.

, Most all European nations have much the same legal system that ancient Rome developed.

e. The European Union is like the 1st Roman Empire, Religiously.

, The Roman Empire came to embrace Christianity through Constantine in the 312 AD.

, Constantine made it the state church and captured Christianity's identity, which in time developed into the Roman Catholic church.

, But the Empire was thoroughly pagan (Greek influence), so when people had to profess to being "Christian", they did, but they just brought their paganism into Rome's church and over time, the church of Rome severely polluted Christianity's beliefs and identity.

, Today, the major European nations still have Roman Catholic backgrounds, and most people hold to it, and the few who don't, are Greek Orthodox, "the full brother" of Catholicism.

Summary- The EU is like Ancient Rome in its government, geography, finances, legal practices, and religion. And the EU has been formed into a full-on political entity, for decades.

* From what we see in history and our modern time, most prophetic experts agree that it's probable this revived Roman Empire in Daniel, is what's developing in the EU today.

* **David Jeremiah** in his book “What in The World Is Going On” (2008, pg 58ff) shows --

Q- The EU has been swiftly developing into 1 central entity for decades. They have an EU army, they cross borders without passports, have EU license plates, an EU flag, an EU police force, a Europol (European CIA) a European Investigation Order (FBI), an EU public prosecutor, and a parliament with its own President.

* They are the world’s largest trading unite, generating 25% of the world’s trade, and they have diplomatic ties with over 120 countries.

* They have a worldwide education system developed in Geneva Switzerland called the IBO- the International Baccalaureate Organization. (Portage High started it in 2001)

2nd- Notice-- This final form of the Roman Empire is a divided kingdom. (41-43)

- In the king’s dream- the feet and toes are a mixture of iron and clay.

- Daniel describes this “mixture” in vs 41-42 with 2 statements.

V41 says- “it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay”.
In v42 Daniel says - “this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle.”

- The iron represents strength, and the baked clay (ceramic) represents something fragile and easily breakable when it’ not handled carefully.

- This is true of the EU today, where the leaders of the bigger nations have greater influence than those from smaller nations, who have weak influence, which causes problems.

- This is also true in the way they make plans and decisions. At times, they are unified, but often, they disagree with infighting, and little gets accomplished. (our congress)

* **Also notice what Daniel says in v43-** “And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and **WILL NOT REMAIN UNITED**”

- When Britian joined the European Common Market in 1973 (EU), Europe was excited that a larger nation had joined to bring them more strength financially and politically.

- But in the 2000’s Britian became greatly dissatisfied with how things were being run, and voted in 2016 to withdraw, which actually happened in February of 2020. (Brexit)

- Britian mixed with the EU, but the EU did not remain united, and lost a significant member.

* **This 'mixture not remaining united'** also may refer to the differences people have from the different nations, which has caused their leaders to disagree with one another.

- The EU leaders have said- Q- "Nationalism is a millstone around the neck of European unity".
- They, with world leaders are promoting the idea that "nationalism" is evil. (sound familiar?)

* **Several problems have brought discord in the EU.**

- a. Its Geography- Europe's mountains and rivers have hindered trade and sharing agriculture.
- b. Its 2-tiered government system. Individual nations represent the needs of their own people. But the EU government expects their nations to sacrifice for the good of the whole.
- c. Economic differences. Some nations are financially rich (England, Germany), while places like Kosovo and Albania struggle to get by, which creates jealousy.
- d. Immigration and Refugee Crisis, From Syria's civil war and trouble in North African countries.
- e. Covid 19 also brought its own set of problems that further fragmented the unity of the EU.

* **The result of this dissent in the EU**, has been writings predicting the fall of the EU. ("The End of Europe", "The strange death of Europe", "What's behind the EU's decline?")

Sum- What's happening there is exactly what Daniel prophesied through the king's dream, that this entity would be partly strong and partly weak, and would not remain united.

3rd - This final form of the Roman Empire- has ten toes.

- Daniel doesn't explain the ten toes. We learn of this in Dan. 7:7-8, 20-24, Rev. 13 and 17:12ff.
- Daniel's vision in ch. 7 is of 4 beasts that also pictured the 4 major world empires, and the 4th beast had 10 horns, which were 10 kings from which the antichrist rose to power.
- John saw a beast in Rev. 13 and 17 with the same 10 horns. So the 10 toes and horns represent 10 kings that arise from the revived Roman Empire, to lead the world with the antichrist, whom God motivates to give their full authority to the antichrist.
- And the weakness of this final form of Rome, is probably what opens the door for a strong leader to come to the forefront, and ascend to leadership as the antichrist.
- **Note-** decades ago the 1 world government organizations (EU, UN, World Economic Forum) divided the world into 10 regions for future world rulership. (Gary Kah shows the map)

FINALLY- A crowning truth that indicates the feet and toes of iron and clay are the EU is the fact that for a long time, the EU has been working closely with the United Nations, and other world groups to bring about a one-world government, financial system, and religion.

* **Our world has been working toward "Oneworldism" for over 100 years.**

* Webster added the word- 'globalization' to its dictionary in 1951.

* A statement in Latin was placed on the back of our dollar bill under the pyramid, in 1935.

* "Novus Ordo Seclorum" Novus- "New", Ordo- "Order", Seclorum (secular)- world .
(literally- New World Order) (some of our own presidents have spoken about it)

* The UN and other entities have formed-- the World Bank, the World Trade Organization, World Health Organization, the World Court, and the International Monetary Fund.

@@ This September, the United Nations 79th General Assembly is hosting the "Summit of the Future" where nations are expected to sign the "Pact of the Future".

* In this summit, member states are expected to declare a "planetary emergency" over world finances, major wars, and global warming. (the 2030 agenda)

* Their website says the outcome of signing the "Pact of the Future" will be ---
Q- "A world and international system, that is better prepared to manage world challenges."
(Right now there are 51 active conflicts in the world, the most since WW2, Jesus spoke of the end times as having "Wars and rumors of Wars")

* The Institute of International Finance, (420 of the world's largest banks) is urgently calling for a one world global currency.

Q- A one-currency system is already planned and being pursued by the UN and its affiliates, who are strongly urging a more efficient secure monetary system for the whole world.

@ There is much more taking place, showing that globalism is on the march, and it may not be long before all this comes out in the open, as nations endorse it.

@ NOTE--- The Rapture of the church may not be far away. (our lifetime?)

* If this sounds alarmist, or like some kind of crazy conspiracy theory to you, remember, This is prophesied in the bible, and with fulfilled prophecy, the bible is batting 1000.

8 **But God is in complete control.**

Ps 103:19 The LORD has established his throne in heaven, and his kingdom rules over all.

Ps 9:7- The LORD reigns forever; he has established his throne for judgment.

Job 23:12-13- I have not departed from the commands of his lips; I have treasured the words of his mouth more than my daily bread.

"But he stands alone, and who can oppose him? He does whatever he pleases.

Ps 33:8-11 Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere him.

For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.

The LORD foils the plans of the nations; he thwarts the purposes of the peoples.

But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.

Isa 14:27- For the LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back?

Isa 46:9-10- Remember the former things, those of long ago; I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me.

I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.