

The Prophecy of Daniel 2



The Kingdom of Gold 605-539 BC

Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom was the first world power. It was centred in the area occupied by modern-day Iraq, some distance from Bagdad. The Babylonians worshipped one god more than any other, Bel-Marduk, made out of solid gold. Nebuchadnezzar was surely pleased that the gold of his Babylonian empire was represented by the statue's head. But the prophecy said that it would not last forever. Daniel 2:38-39 says after Babylon another world kingdom would arise just as God said it would.



The Kingdom of Silver 539-331 BC

In fulfilment of God's prediction, Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom crumbled into ruins when Cyrus, the Persian General, overthrew the Babylonian Empire in 539 BC. Interestingly enough, 150 years before this happened, the prophet Isaiah predicted that a man named Cyrus would be the one to overthrow Babylon (Isaiah 44:28 and 45:1) We find in Daniel 5:28 that it was Medo-Persia that succeeded Babylon, just as God said it would.



The Kingdom of Brass 331-168 BC

The belly and thighs of bronze represent the kingdom of Greece, which defeated the Persians at the battle of Arbela in 331 BC. Alexander the Great conquered the Medes and Persians, turning Greece into the world's third great Empire. Daniel 8:21 says Greece succeeded Medo-Persia, just as God said it would.



The Kingdom of Iron 168 BC-476AD

After the death of Alexander the Great, his empire of Greece weakened and split into rival factions. At the battle of Pydna in 168 BC the “iron empire” of Rome crushed Greece. Rome continued to rule the world through the time that Jesus carried out His ministry here on Earth and was partly responsible for His death. Rome continued as a world Empire until AD 476 and was then broken up just as God said it would



The Divided Kingdoms AD 476-End of Time

Daniel did not predict a fifth world empire, but a division of the Iron monarchy of Rome. Rome fractured into numerous kingdoms symbolized by the feet and toes. During the 4th and 5th centuries (AD 351-476) almost twenty Germanic tribes gained the territory of western Rome, but eventually numerous independent nations established themselves within the boundaries of western Europe. The statue's toes of iron mixed with clay represent the modern day nations of Europe which the Prophecy of Daniel says would not be united. Daniel 2:43 says many different efforts would be

made to unite the post Roman nations under one ruler but the prophecy clearly says that this would never happen. Just as iron does not mix with clay they will not remain united. Many men throughout the ages have tried to unite Europe: Charlamagne, 8th Century; Charles V, 16th Century; Louis XIV, 18th Century; Napoleon, 19th Century; Kaiser Wilhelm and Hitler, 20th Century. All of these men invested enormous resources and countless lives in their efforts to unite Europe, but each one failed. Even today the leaders of Europe are trying to unite as one, but God says this will never happen.



The Kingdom of God. Future

Daniel 2:28 says, **Only God can tell the future.** Over 2500 years ago God revealed to Daniel the successive World powers that would reach down to our own modern day. These dominant world powers have come and gone just as He said they would. Daniel 2:44 says, “And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed.” Even today the leaders of Europe are trying to unite as one, but God says this will never happen. The next great world power will be established by God Himself at the Second Coming of Jesus and this kingdom, says God, will never be destroyed. Today we can see that all the details of Daniel's prophecy have been fulfilled except this final act, the striking of the statue by the stone. There is no doubt we are approaching the

grand climax, the Second Coming of Jesus in the clouds of glory. It will happen according to God's time table. We seem to be living in a world without hope today, the world may seem to be breaking up all around us, but the Bible says we are not to be afraid. If you will come to Jesus and accept Him as your Saviour He will give you faith to believe in Him and His prophecies that will wee you through every storm of life, no matter how fierce they may be. There is peace in Jesus so why not invite Him into your life?

This leaflet was printed by the Seventh-day Adventist Churches in Devon and Cornwall. If you would like further information on this prophecy or the Church, please go to www.adventist.org.uk and follow the links to prophecy.