

CHRONOLOGICAL SCOPE OF DANIEL

<u>Date(B.C.)</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Reference</u>
606	Deportation, 3 years training	1:1
603	Interpretation, promotion	2:1
539	Handwriting on the wall	5:31
538	Lions' den, Darius I	6:1
553	Earlier vision: 4 great beasts	7:1
551	Earlier vision: ram & male goat	8:1
539	Vision of 70 Weeks	9:1
536	Vision: Persia, Greece, end times	10-12

Kingdoms of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Kingdom 1- - - the HEAD of GOLD

2:37-38

Kingdom: BABYLON (*and Nebuchadnezzar*)

Why was Babylon represented by gold?

1. Marduk, the chief god of the Babylon pantheon, was called the god of gold.

2. Gold was used extensively in Babylon's buildings, images and shrines.

Note the *SOVEREIGNTY* of the God of heaven, the Most High God, in establishing a kingdom for the pagan ruler, Nebuchadnezzar. Every earthly benefit received *even by every unbeliever* is a result of the kindness and generosity and eternal purpose of this great God of all.

Kingdoms of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Kingdom 2- - - the CHEST and ARMS of SILVER 2:39

Kingdom: MEDO-PERSIA

The Medes and the Persians were united under the same king, Darius, to form one great power, in 550.

Why silver to represent Media-Persia?

Silver was the standard of value and the medium of exchange (ie, money) in ancient times. Media-Persia based its power on money collected through a wide-ranging tax system.

How was Medo-Persia inferior to Babylon?

--not militarily

--not in geographical extent

--“Being a partnership empire, it lacked the absolute unity that Babylon enjoyed.”

Kingdoms of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Kingdom 3- - - the BELLY and SIDES of BRONZE 2:39

Kingdom: GREECE

How did bronze represent Greece?

The Greeks developed this metal highly and used it broadly and successfully in their implements of war.

Alexander the Great led the Greeks to a unified and expansive empire of world domination. Two of the four generals who led different divisions of the Empire subsequent to Alexander's death played an important role in world history. These two are represented by the two sides of Nebuchadnezzar's dream image.

Cf. v. 32.

Kingdoms of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Kingdom 4- - - the LEGS of IRON

2:39

Kingdom: ROME (# 1)

Why iron to portray Rome?

--broad use in Rome's military weapons

--As iron's strength crushes gold, silver and bronze, so Rome would crush and shatter the ancient world

In A.D. 364 "the Roman Empire was divided politically into two divisions—the Western Roman Empire with Rome as its capital and the Eastern Roman Empire with Constantinople as its capital."

John Walvoord

Thus, the two legs represent these two divisions of the Roman Empire.

Kingdoms of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Kingdom 4- - - the FEET of IRON and CLAY

2:39

Kingdom: ROME (# 2), aka *REVIVED* ROMAN EMPIRE

The Revived Roman Empire will be the second stage of this fourth kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar's dream and the final form of Gentile world dominion, appearing at the end of the current church age.

Why iron and clay?

Iron, because militarily strong

Clay, because of its brittleness: different groups of people combining to form this final empire will not "adhere" completely to one another, just as iron and clay do not.

The ten toes represent 10 kingdoms or nations, so this will be a 10-nation confederation. See 7:23-24 and Revelation 17:12.

Kingdoms of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Kingdom 5- - - the Stone cut out without hands 2:34f

:44f

Kingdom: the KINGDOM OF GOD

This is the majestic Millennial Kingdom of the Majestic King of Kings, the Lord Jesus Christ.

--Of divine origin, set up by God Himself

--Will never be destroyed

--Fills the entire earth

--No other kingdoms will succeed it

**--Will destroy and end all Gentile kingdoms
of Nebuchadnezzar's dreams**

**--Endures forever (Millennium transitions
into eternity)**

Daniel Two Overview

:1-13 Nebuchadnezzar's dreams, decision, decree

:14-18 Daniel's requests: of the King, of the LORD

:19 The LORD's answer

:20-23 Daniel's praise of the God of heaven

:24-35 Content of the dream/visions revealed

:36-45 Interpretation of the dream/visions revealed

:46-49 King's prostration, Daniel's promotion & petition

Daniel 2:19b-23

In praise of the God of heaven

**--Name of God: character, personal Being,
eternal glory, Imperial Majesty**

--Wisdom, knowledge, power

--Sovereignty over physical phenomena

--Placing & removing of earthly rulers

--Worthy of thanksgiving and praise

--God of the past, present, future

--God of Israel

--Giver of every good gift and

every perfect gift

**--God of personal care: He has loved His
own with an everlasting love**