

DANIEL'S OUTLINE OF WORLD HISTORY

Quote:

“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 for ever.”

Daniel 2:44

Nebuchadnezzar's Image

God revealed to Daniel “what should come to pass hereafter” (Dan 2:29 -Lit - “after this” ie after Nebuchadnezzar) AND “what shall be in the latter days” (Dan 2:28).

On an insert or in your margin use a diagram and map(s) to describe all the parts of the image in Nebuchadnezzar's dream and the empires they represent. On the Map(s) show the extent of each of the empires. Describe how the image empire will stand again in the latter days. These notes are to help with this.

WHAT SHOULD COME TO PASS HEREAFTER

HEAD OF FINE GOLD: Babylonian Empire - BC 606-536.

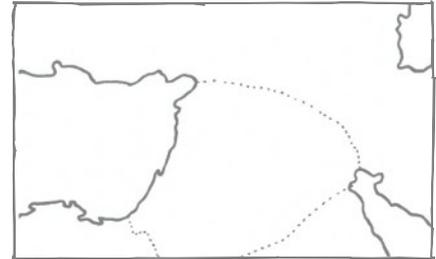
PROOF: Daniel 2:38 - “Thou art this head of Gold”.

References: Daniel 1-5; 7:4.

POWER: Nebuchadnezzar derived his authority from God (Dan 2:37-38; 5:18), not from man, neither was he responsible to man (Dan 5:19). He was an absolute monarch - his word was law.

The Head: Babylon was the beginning of the kingdom of men (Gen 10:10), from whence all the thinking of the kingdom of men came. This thinking survives until the return of Christ Rev 17:4, 14.

GOLD: Nebuchadnezzar's idea of impressing his subjects was to make a great display of wealth, and thus he built altars of solid gold to Merodach, the patron god of Babylonia. Babylon was described as a golden cup (Jer 51:7), “abundant in treasures” (Jer 51:13), the “glory of kingdoms” (Isa 13:19), the “lady of kingdoms” (Isa 47:5).



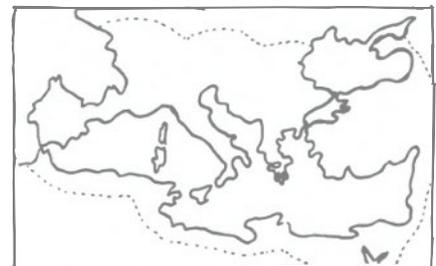
CHEST AND ARMS OF SILVER: Medo-Persian Empire - BC 538-334.

PROOF: Dan 5:30-31 - “And Darius the Median took the kingdom”.

References: Daniel 5:28-31; 6; 7:5; 8:1-7,20; 11:1-2.

POWER: The Persian king was so dependant on others that he could not deliver Daniel from the princes - Daniel 6:14, 15. See also Ezra 7:14; Esther 1:13-16.

CHEST & ARMS: Two ‘arms’ in the coalition (Mede & Persian), one arm stronger than the other (as with all people) signifying the disproportionate lengths of rule of each member – 3 years rule by Medes, 202 years Persians



SILVER: This kingdom grew by means of excessive taxation. They believed not in the outward show, but in secret hoarded treasure to be used in war when necessary. Their standard of currency was silver.

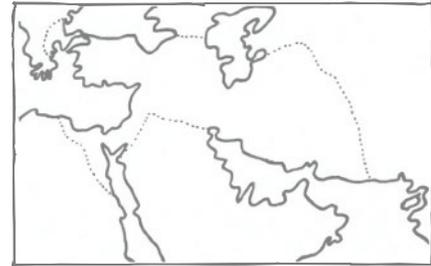
BELLY AND THIGHS OF BRASS: Greek Empire - BC 334-67.

PROOF: Dan 8:3-7,20 - “the rough goat is the king of Grecia...”

POWER: The empire was divided between Alexander’s four successors (Dan 7:6), each ‘head’ determining its own direction, and frequently fighting wars between them.

BELLY & THIGHS: Alexander is the united belly, the two thighs are the two (of four) subsequent dominant branches of the empire – Seleucids in Syria and Ptolomies in in Egypt (called the Kings of North and South in Dan 11).

BRASS: Greece was known for its trading in brass (Ezek 27:13 ‘Javan’). The Grecian soldiers had armour of brass and were known as the brazen coated Greeks.



LEGS OF IRON: Roman Empire BC 67- AD 476 (1453)

PROOF: Lk 2:1; 3:1; Deut 28:48-49.

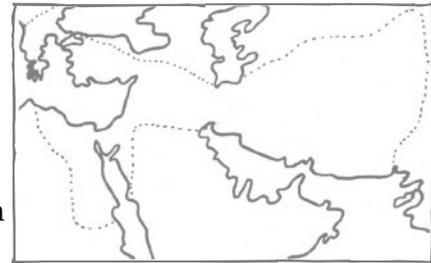
REFERENCES: Dan 7:7-28; 8:9-25; 11:36-45.

POWER: Roman rulers were appointed by military election.

LEGS: Two divisions of the Roman Empire – military capital in Constantinople, religious capital in Rome. The western leg continued until 476 AD when Romulus was deposed by the Barbarians.

The eastern leg continued until 1453 AD when it fell to the Ottomans. At this point the Eastern Leg moved to Moscow which has become known as the “Third Rome”. Daniel 7 describes the Western Leg, and Daniel 8 the Eastern Leg.

IRON: The strongest of the metals in the image. Their soldiers had iron swords, iron breastplates.



FEET AND TOES PART OF IRON AND PART OF CLAY: European Russian Alliance as two parts continue from the legs.

PROOF: Ezekiel 38

The Iron represents the continuation of the Roman influence in the form of the Roman Catholic Church. This element gives the latter day empire its strength (Dan 2:41).

CLAY: Styled by Daniel as “potter’s clay”, “miry” or soft (Dan 2:41) “the seed of men” (Dan 2:43), “broken” (ie brittle or fragile - Dan 2:42). Clay is a symbol of man - Job 33:6; Isa 64:8. This refers to the weak people power of the nations. This is seen in European Nations that overcame the Roman Empire. Some were strong (iron) and some brittle (clay)- Dan 2:42.

CHARACTERISTICS: A clay/iron coalition which derives its strength from the iron alone (v41).

We would expect this phase to be a coalition of independent countries (‘kings’ Dan 2:44), united by a common Roman Catholic religion, but with independent political systems. This is exactly what we see in Ezekiel 38 amongst Gog’s supporters.

STONE: Represents the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom begins with Christ who was cut out without (human) hands Matt 1:20, Lk 1:35, having no earthly father (Jn 1:13). Christ is represented as:

- A stone Matt 21:42, that crushes to powder (v44).
- The shepherd, the stone of Israel made strong by the hand of God (Gen 49:24).
- The precious corner and foundation stone of Zion (Isa 28:16).
- A stone of stumbling and rock of offence to both the houses of Israel (Isa 8:14).
- The stone rejected by men, but chosen by God (Psa 118:22; Matt 21:42; Mk 12:10-11; Acts 4:11-12).
- The corner stone of the ecclesia (1 Pet 2:4-8; Eph 2:20-22).

The Kingdom becomes a mountain (the symbol of an empire - **Jer 51:25** - Babylon) and fills the whole earth (**Psa 72:8, 11**).

WHAT SHALL BE IN THE LATTER DAYS

This is the main focus of the prophecy. Dr Thomas wrote: “the image was presented to the mind of the king of Babylon, not so much to represent a succession of empires, as to exhibit the catastrophe which should usher in the kingdom of God”

AND:

“there will be in the latter days a dominion, ruling over all the countries mainly comprehended in the limits of the successive empires of Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome; and represented by the image as a whole; and which will be broken by a power from heaven, which will utterly destroy it, and set up an empire which will cover all the territory it possessed.”

(Elpis Israel p327 - 14th Ed, p337 - 4th Ed).

STAGES OF DESTRUCTION OF THE IMAGE:

1. The image stands on the mountains of Israel at the zenith of it's dominion, with Gog as it's head (**Ezek 38:8,16; Zech 14:1-2; Dan 11:45**).
2. The stone power in the form of Christ and the saints appear to strike the image on the feet breaking it to pieces (Armageddon - **Dan 2:34; Ezek 38:17-23; Rev 16:15-16; Joel 3:12-16; Zech 14:2-5; Rev 14:14-16**).
3. The Stone Power then grinds the image to powder from the feet to the head, bringing it to total destruction (**Dan 2:35,45; Rev 14:17-19**). This is the work of Christ and the saints in their military campaigns after Armageddon, which destroy Rome and establish the Kingdom of God, causing the stone to become a great mountain which will ultimately fill the whole earth.