

THERE IS A GOD IN HEAVEN (Part 2)

Daniel 2:31-49

Theme of Daniel: The absolute _____ and _____ of the _____ and _____ God.

Summary of Chapter 2:

- God gives a dream to the most powerful man in the world -- King Nebuchadnezzar – to reveal the future course of world history.
- God uses a Jew, Daniel, not only to interpret the dream, but to declare the absolutely sovereignty of the true and living God.
- The dream reveals a train of Four Major Gentile Kingdoms which will ultimately give way to God's Everlasting Kingdom.
- Thus, this chapter unveils the future not only for the Jewish people, but for humanity.
- Finally, the events of this story result in the promotion of Daniel (and his friends) to the highest offices of administration in Babylon.

PART I – Eight Scenes (vv. 1-30):

1. Nebuchadnezzar's Troubling Dream (vv. 1-3)
2. Nebuchadnezzar's Impossible Demand (vv. 4-9)
3. The Chaldeans' Powerless Deities (vv. 10-11)
4. Nebuchadnezzar's Furious Decree (vv. 12-13)
5. Daniel's Godly Display (vv. 14-18)
6. God's Gracious Disclosure (v. 19)
7. Daniel's Grateful Doxology (v. 20-23)
8. Daniel's Bold Declaration (v. 24-30) – **"There is a God in heaven!"**

PART II – Three Stages (vv. 31-49):

1. The Content of the Dream (2:31-35)

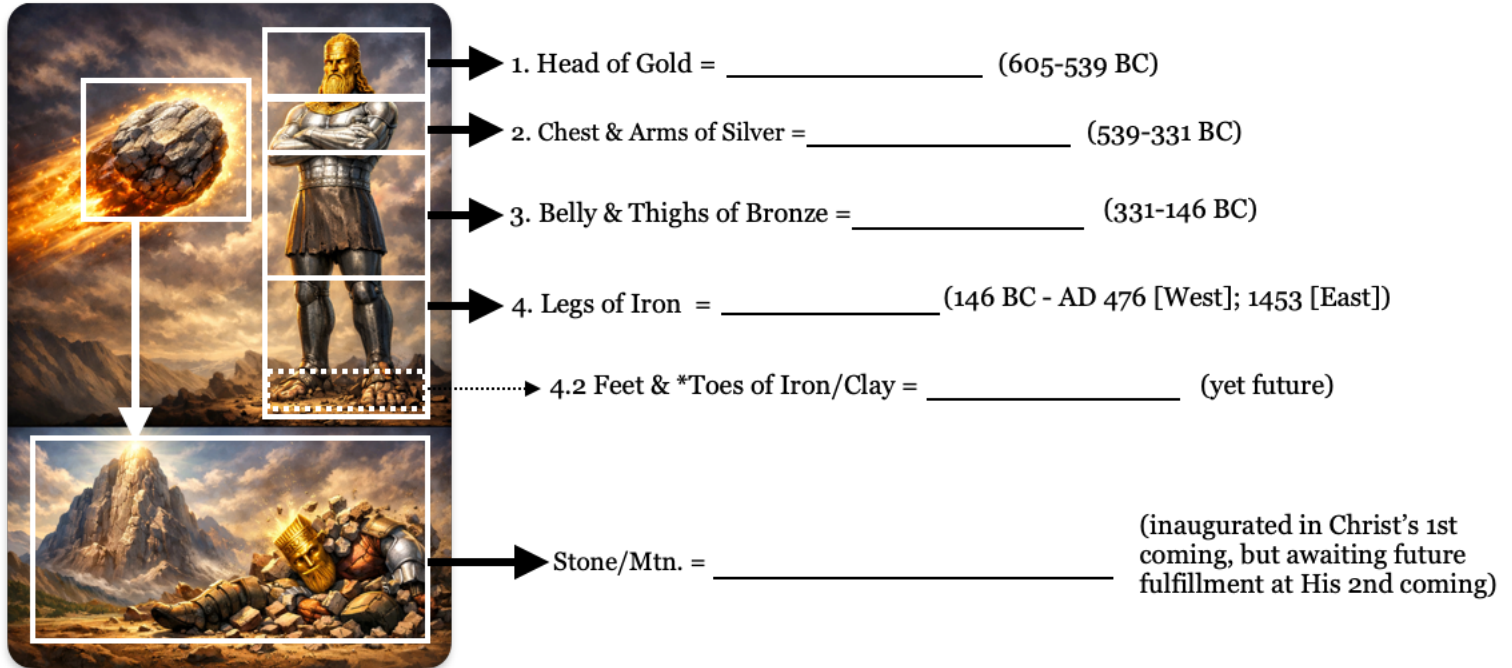
Two Main "Characters"

- a. The _____ (31-33)
- b. The _____ (34-35)b

2. The Interpretation of the Dream (2:36-45)

3. Nebuchadnezzar's Response (2:46-49)

The Segmented Statue and the Supernatural Stone



2:44 "And in the days of *those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself stand forever."

**the antecedent to "those kings" is "the toes" in v. 42*

Summary of the Vision:

*Babylon is the first of Four different Gentile Empires that will rule over the world **until** the everlasting kingdom of God is established.*

***The stone** represents Jesus Christ who came to **inaugurate** the establishment of God's everlasting kingdom and will complete its establishment when He returns!*

Pastor Todd Dykstra:

- *The statue that Nebuchadnezzar dreamed about is actually a prophecy about four world empires in succeeding stages from Babylon to Jesus Christ.*
- *Israel is no longer God's leading nation because they lost that privilege through their disobedience, rebellion, and idolatry.*
- *No longer is Jerusalem the center of God's dealing with men; instead, four great world powers will exist until Christ comes and restores Israel.*
- *This vision contains, in one panoramic sweep, the history of human civilization from the days of Nebuchadnezzar to the end of time."¹*

¹ Todd Dykstra, *Course Notes*, The Expositors Seminary, BE 607: Daniel, pp. 63-64.