

Daniel 2:37-49  
SA221211

## “World Kingdoms Revealed – Part II”

1. Last week, we ended in a very interesting place; Daniel had just revealed what Nebuchadnezzar’s dream was.
  - **Today**, we will see the interpretation.
2. And again, looking back historically, the accuracy and detail of Daniel’s interpretation further proves that God revealed it to Daniel.
  - **Which** is exciting because we have absolute assurance that this is God speaking and revealing to us the future kingdoms of the world.
  - **The** last kingdom of which we are watching form before our very eyes.

**v.38** 1. The first thing to note here is that the image went from Gold at the top to iron and clay at the bottom.

- **Why** is this important?
- **It** shows us the order of world kingdoms from the greatest and working its way down.

2. The first Kingdom now led by Nebuchadnezzar is the greatest kingdom represented with gold. His kingdom had the most unchallenged authority of them all.

- **And** while we will see a greater spiritual power and authority given to the anti-Christ, the anti-Christ will not go unopposed as we will see.
- **Then**, with each following Kingdom, the value/strength decreases, revealed by the metals used.

3. And now looking back historically, we can see that is exactly what has happened.

- **Babylon** was a total world kingdom where the King had complete authority over the entire earth with no challenge from or accountability to anyone.

4. Not even other leaders in his kingdom.

- **Then**, historically, each following kingdom became less influential.

5. And notice Daniel makes it clear that it was GOD who gave him this power and authority.

- **Which** brings up an interesting mental dilemma.

6. This shows us that God will sometimes raise up evil and ungodly leaders to bring about His purposes.

- **And** when we see this, we have to learn to trust His sovereignty.

**v.39** 1. The next two kingdoms mentioned here we now know were the Medo/Persian empire, which was lesser in that its leadership was shared between the Medes and the Persians, and the Greek empire, which also had accountability among its leaders.

- **The** Medo/Persian is where we see men like Darius and Cyrus.
- **The** third world kingdom, ruled by Alexander Great until he died, still had lesser overall power than the previous kingdoms in ultimate authority.

**v.40** 1. Now we come to the fourth and final kingdom in world history before the Lord comes back to rule and reign....

- **And** we now know that kingdom was the Roman Empire.

2. You are probably thinking, if that was the “final” world kingdom before Jesus returns, why isn’t Jesus ruling and reigning now?

- **Because**, if you will notice, this kingdom is made up of two sections represented by the two legs of iron.

7. And while it was broken up into east and west the first time around, we will also see it will be broken up into two different time periods as Daniel later reveals through his other visions. It is also revealed through John in the book of Revelation.
8. The first leg was fulfilled 2000 years ago...
  - **And** the second leg will be fulfilled at the very end. I believe the second leg has already begun and will soon be revealed on a large scale.
9. And just like the other kingdoms, the first leg of Roman Empire, while a world empire and fierce...
  - **Was** still lesser in its ultimate power worldwide than the previous kingdoms.
  - **As it had** a Senate that held the emperor accountable.
10. It is also interesting that unlike the other three kingdoms before it, the Roman Empire was never destroyed.
  - **It** simply collapsed from within due to immorality and then dissolved into the countries of Europe as we know them today.
  - **Which** now sets the stage for its last days revival and resurrection.

11. But notice there is an element of fierceness in this 4<sup>th</sup> and final Kingdom that is greater and stands out to Daniel.
  - **He** will see this even further in later revelations.
12. Not as much prophetically in the first leg, but most definitely in the 2<sup>nd</sup> leg which is the one to come.
  - **And** it is depicted by the iron in the legs, the strongest metal of all 4 in the vision.
13. Notice this kingdom “breaks in pieces and shatters everything” like “iron that crushes all the others.”
  - **And** while partially fulfilled with the first Roman Empire, it will come to fruition in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and final leg of this last days empire.
14. At the very end this final “revived” Roman Empire led by the Anti-Christ will not have total unquestioned authority like Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon.
  - **But** it will be stronger and fiercer than them, like iron crushing everything in its path under the leadership of the anti-Christ.
15. As a matter of fact, we are told this final kingdom will be the worst and most fierce of “all time.”

- **The** prophets refer to it as the “time of Jacob’s trouble” as the anti-Christ will do his best to kill every Jew on the planet in rebellion to God and every gentile that refuses to obey.

16. And while this is terrifying for the future of the world, the Bible tells us that this kingdom will not fully materialize until after the Rapture of the church.

17. The interesting thing is that we can already see the beginning of this revived “fierce and harsh” kingdom taking form in the way that our current world leaders have been behaving themselves in the last few years.

- **What** do I mean?

18. Look at how unreasonable and harsh the world governing bodies (such as the W.H.O. and W.E.F) were in forcing masks, shots, and lockdowns over the last three years.

- **It** was just shy of total tyranny and dictatorship.

19. Suddenly, free speech and free choice almost completely disappeared overnight.

- **Even** in the freest nation of the world.

20. And I believe it was simply a “foreshadowing” of what is to come that at some point will be much worse.

- **It** is the headwinds of the 4<sup>th</sup> and final ruling Kingdom mentioned here in Daniel that will rule with an iron fist and crush everyone who does not go along.

**v.41** 1. Now we get more details in the feet of this 4<sup>th</sup> kingdom.

- **It** has 10 toes, partly of iron and partly of clay.

2. The toes represent the ruling powers of this final kingdom.

- **Which** shows the leadership in this final kingdom is not going to be 100% in agreement but will be divided in heart.
- **Which** is represented in iron mixed with clay because these two materials do not adhere well together.

3. I believe we saw a foreshadowing of this play out recently in Britain, or a portion of the revived Roman empire, after they voted to leave the European Union.

- **The** people decided they didn't want to be a part anymore, but the government has not yet allowed their vote to enact even after a few years.

4. You see, even though the people voted to leave the European Union, the government has still remained connected to the European Union.
  - **A** perfect picture of iron mixed with clay in that part agree and part don't, but they are still forced into the overall mold.
5. This is the reason they are "partly fragile" because iron and clay don't adhere well.
  - **And** we will see at the end of the anti-Christ's rule, there will be a portion of this final kingdom that will break off and rebel against him.

**v.44** 1. Notice during the time of this revived Roman Empire, a new kingdom will come and destroy all the others.

- **That is** the return of Christ.
2. And notice this Kingdom will "break in pieces and consume all the others."
- **Then** "other people" will take over and rule.
  - **And** those "other people" are US, the believers!

**v.45** 1. Notice he refers to the stone cut out without hands.



- **All** throughout Scripture, we see Jesus is called our Rock, and now we see this Rock or stone was cut out without hands.
  - **Representing** Jesus our Rock being “uncreated” and returning to totally destroy kingdom but all other kingdoms throughout time.
2. Then we see this Rock fills the entire earth showing Jesus’ conquering of the earth and beginning His eternal rule.
    - **Not** just for 1000 years in the millennial, but then leading into the new heaven and earth forever.
  3. It is interesting to note that this image is destroyed with the metals in reverse.
    - **Why?**
  4. At the beginning, Daniel saw it prophetically, looking forward. This was represented in the declining metals from top to bottom.
    - **Now**, he sees it looking back historically with the metals reversed from bottom to top.
  5. And I love the finality and surety of the interpretation.
    - **Daniel** said, “the dream is CERTAIN and the interpretation is SURE.”

6. And that's ALWAYS how God's Word and prophecy is.

- **If** God said it, you can count on it.

**v.46** 1. You can only imagine how he must have felt at this point.

- **I** don't believe he fully even remembered the dream himself until Daniel reminded him.

- **And** he not only told him the dream, but he gave him the undeniable interpretation.

2. And while he wasn't one to bow to anyone, he now bows to Daniel and even commands incense be offered to him, something reserved only for the gods.

- **While** it doesn't tell us, Daniel most certainly refused it.

**v.49** 1. So while they were all promoted, Daniel had the most prominent place and was stationed near the King in the gate where all officials would sit.

2. You know, as we finish today, there is something that really sticks out to me. Look at how hard, vicious, and dictatorial this final kingdom is going to be.

- **It** will be a kingdom of total control with total submission like no other.
3. And this is a true mark of the enemy.
- **When** God is involved, there is always a choice; when the enemy is involved, all choice is forbidden.
4. We see this throughout Biblical history.
- **In** the Old Testament, it started in the garden where God gave them two different trees to **choose** from.
  - **Then in Deut. 30:19 God said,** “I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, *that* I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore **choose** life, that both you and your descendants may live;”
  - **Again, in Joshua 24:15 Joshua said,** “<sup>15</sup> And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, **choose for yourselves** this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that *were* on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”
5. Then in the New Testament, we see Jesus give the rich young ruler a **choice** to sell all that he has and follow him or remain lost.
- **Sadly,** he walks away and **chooses** his riches over God.

6. Even with His disciples, He asks them if they will choose to leave after a hard teaching.

- **And** Peter wisely responds, “where would we go because You hold the words of life.”

7. What’s my point?

- **We** all have a choice concerning our eternal destiny.
- **The** question is what will your choice be?