

“THE SUPREMACY OF CHRIST’S KINGDOM”

DANIEL 2:44-45

Theme: The kingdom established by Jesus Christ will outstrip all earthly kingdoms.

I. The Inauguration of Christ’s Earthly Kingdom - 2:44

A. *THE TIMING OF THE INAUGURATION*

1. “*In the days of those kings ...*” – there is a problem determining what the proper antecedent is to “*those kings.*”
2. There are those that attempt to make them refer to the four previous kingdoms.
3. However, we would expect the reference would be only to the last king (Rome) because each of the previous kings were defeated and absorbed into its successor to form a continuity of rule by Gentiles.
4. However, there is a collection referred to here that makes sense only if you recognize that the term refers to the ten toes of vv. 42-43 that were independent and lacking proper unity – a picture of the revived Roman Empire predicted here and in [Daniel 7:7-8, 23-27](#).
 - a) The word for “*kings*” [מְלָכִים] – differentiates them from the kingdom as it is not the same as the word for kingdoms at the close of verse 44.
 - b) The ten toes of the image correspond to the ten kings that will compose the revived Roman Empire that will then give way to the dominion of the Antichrist who is the “little horn” of chapter 7.
5. Hence, the circumstances here described has never found a literal fulfillment within the historical context. The presence of the Roman Empire being revived and consisting of 10 confederated Kings who join forces against God has not found historical fulfillment and therefore remains a future prophecy.
6. The Amillennialists attempt to make this a spiritual fulfillment through the church - however, as with almost every other prophecy dealing with a literal Millennium, they switch from a literal interpretation to a spiritual interpretation with no contextual or biblical authority to do so.
7. We believe that a consistency of interpretation is called for that maintains a literal approach unless the text gives you indication otherwise, which this does not do.

B. *THE TOTALITY OF THE INAUGURATION*

1. Notice how this Kingdom totally demolishes the final empire of mankind headed by Antichrist - *"... it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms."*
2. This references the prophecy of v. 35: *"Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found."*
3. Because the image is struck in the feet, it signifies that the cumulative power of mankind is destroyed when the Roman kingdom is smitten by Christ.¹
4. The establishment of the Kingdom of Christ will be extremely traumatic for the ungodly. Notice the texts which describe it:
 - a) Revelation 19:11-16.
 - b) Zechariah 14:1-5, 9, 12-13.
 - c) Psalms 2:1-6.

II. The Invulnerability of Christ's Earthly Kingdom – 2:44

A. *IT IS INVULNERABLE BECAUSE OF GOD'S ROLE IN ESTABLISHING IT*

1. Now, notice the fact that having been established, it is not vulnerable – it is *"a kingdom which will never be destroyed."*
2. It is invulnerable because it is not a kingdom that results from the efforts of men, but because *"the God of Heaven will set [it] up."*
3. This is seen in v. 34 – *"a stone was cut out without hands,"* – referring to the fact that this was not a human assault, but a heavenly act of sovereignty.

B. *IT IS INVULNERABLE BECAUSE OF GOD'S REASON FOR ESTABLISHING IT*

1. When God establishes His kingdom, his purpose is to fulfill the promises He made to His covenant chosen people earlier:
 - a) Jeremiah 33:14-18.
 - b) Romans 11:25-27.
 - c) Ezekiel 36:22-28.
2. Hence, God states that *"that kingdom will not be left for another people"* - that is, the people of God will no longer fear displacement ever again - Jesus is the final Ruler - the King of Kings.

¹ The question might be asked: "Why are these kingdoms the kingdoms referenced? What about Incas, Mayans, Chinese, British, etc.... not in view?" The answer is simply that the kingdoms referenced deal with the work of God as it touches Israel, God's people of redemption.

III. The Integrity of Christ's Earthly Kingdom - 2:45

A. *THE CONTRAST WITH THE INFERIORITY OF HUMAN RULE*

1. Daniel reminds King Nebuchadnezzar that no matter how lofty or exalted human government becomes, it remains no match for the power of the Sovereign King.
3. *"Inasmuch as you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold ..."*
2. *"The great God"* - Daniel's reference to this emphasizes God's exaltation over either the fabricated deities of men or over man himself.

B. *THE CERTAINTY BECAUSE OF THE INTEGRITY OF DIVINE REVELATION*

1. Then Daniel declares that this prophecy, given by *"the great God,"* *"has made known to the king what will take place in the future."*
2. This is something that is directly from God - it is revelation and *"so the dream is true, and its interpretation is trustworthy"* – cp. Numbers 23:19.
3. As God's Word, it is settled and is in no way open for dispute, alteration, or frustration – cp. Psalms 119:80.

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