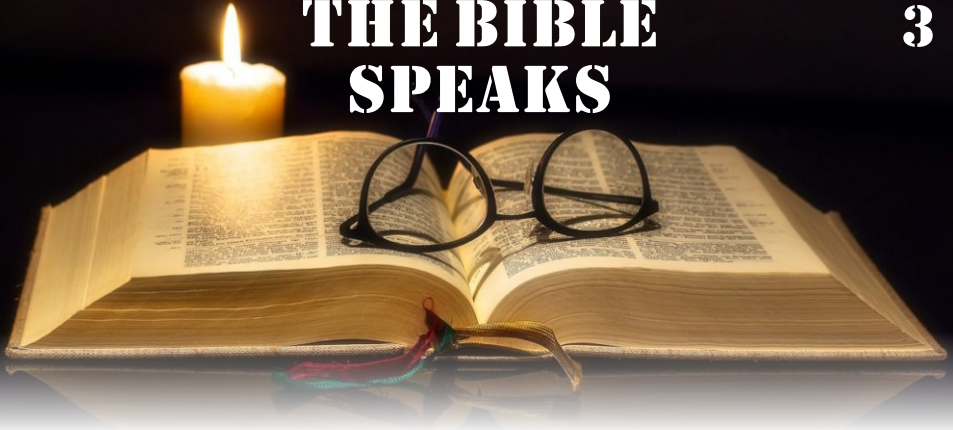


THE BIBLE SPEAKS

3



God Unfolds the Future



HIGHER LEVEL MINISTRIES

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus

Philippians Chapter 2 verse 5

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One dark and rainy night a minister was traveling to an appointment. As he navigated the dangerous road, his headlights went out. Fear gripped him as he faced the almost impossible task of bringing his car to a safe stop without running into the canyon to his right or into the steep bank to his left. It was not until his lights went out that he realised how valuable they were and how much he depended on them to show him what danger lay ahead and to guide him around those treacherous turns. With the help of the Lord he brought his car to a safe stop. Those headlights were never taken for granted again. He had learned to value them dearly. As man speeds down the road of life in this night of darkness, he needs a light to guide him. From every side, voices of confusion are heard asking the questions, "How can I know what to believe?" How can I know what the future holds for me?" How thankful we should be that God has not left us to wander alone! He has a wonderful light to guide us through this night of darkness into a kingdom of everlasting light and life. Let us now see how He has used this light to reveal where we are and where we are going.

1. What has God given man to guide him in this age? **2 Peter 1:19** -

2. Through what agent does God communicate His secrets to mankind?

Amos 3:7 -

Read: Daniel chapter 2. You will notice that God communicated with King Nebuchadnezzar, ruler of the mighty Babylonian Empire. Through a dream, God outlined the future to this king. Notice how God used Daniel.

3. Why should this dream be so important to us living in earth's final hours?

Daniel 2:28 -

4. Who did Daniel say could reveal the dream to the king? **Daniel 2:27-28** -

5. What had the king seen in his dream? **Daniel 2:31-36** -

6. Who did Daniel say would interpret the dream for the king? **Daniel 2:28, 30 & 36** -

7. What was represented by the head of gold of the image? **Daniel 2:37-38** -

Note: Babylon, was one of the wonders of the ancient world. With its magnificent display of wealth, its beautiful buildings and luxuriant gardens, it was indeed the capital of the ancient golden kingdom.

8. How would the second kingdom, Medo-Persia, compare to Babylon?

Daniel 2:39 - _____

Note: God told Belshazzar that the Babylonians were to be succeeded by the Medes and Persians. **Daniel 5:25-31**

9. What part of the metal man represented the third kingdom of Greece?

Daniel 2:39 - _____

Note: "The battles of Granicus, B.C. 334, Issus, in the following year, and Arbella in B.C. 331, settled the fate of the Persian Empire, and established the wide dominion of the Greeks." *The Divine Program of the World's History*, by H. Grattan Guinness, page 308.

10. The fourth world empire, Rome, is represented by the legs of what?

Daniel 2:40 - _____

Note: Through this dream, God outlines the history of this world from the days of Nebuchadnezzar to the end of time. He reveals four world empires in succession. History reveals they were: Babylon (head of gold), Medo-Persia (chest and arms of silver), Greece (thighs of brass), and Rome (legs of iron), which was divided as represented by the feet of iron and clay.

"...and the images of gold, silver, brass and iron that represent the nations and their kings were successively broken ." (*paraphrase*) *Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, Chap.38, par 1., by Gibbon.

11. As the feet, part iron and part clay, represented a divided condition, what was to happen to the iron kingdom of Rome? **Daniel 2:41** -

Note: Between the years 351-476 A.D., a series of invasions by barbaric tribes from northern Europe completely overran the Roman Empire and brought it to its end. These tribes included: **Saxons** (English), **Franks** (French), **Alemanni** (German), **Burgundians** (Swiss), **Lombards** (Italians), **Visigoths** (Spanish), **Suevi** (Portuguese), **Vandals**, **Ostrogoths**, and **Heruli**.

12. What statement shows that the old world empires would never be welded back into one great kingdom? **Daniel 2:43** -

13. Who is to set up a world kingdom in the days of the kings represented by the feet of iron and clay?
Daniel 2:44-45 -

14. When will Christ set up this kingdom?
Matthew 25:31-34 -



Man has always looked for a better land where the trials and troubles of this world will be no more. Whether it's called Utopia, Heaven, Paradise, or something else, man has longed for a time and a place when sickness, sorrow, and death will be over. In God's plan for this world, there is such a heaven for the faithful. The Bible says that Abraham, the father of the faithful, looked for that type of home. In **Hebrews 11:16**, the Bible says, "But now they desire a better country, that is an heavenly, wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city" (*Next lesson*). Suffice to say it will answer the longing of every sincere Christian.

As Christ was dying on the cross of Calvary there was only one bright spot in His hour of agony, when a dying thief turned to Him for salvation. From the depths of his heart the thief cried out, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." **Luke 23:42-43**. Back came the promise that the thief would be with him in His kingdom.

Would you like to make the same request of your Saviour?

Lord, remember me, when you prepare your kingdom .

This study has been faithfully updated from the original "The Bible Speaks"

All Bible texts quoted are from the King James Bible



For more information call us or contact us through our website:

The South West - David Hatton: 07927 934572

The Midlands - Greg Campbell: 07880 921745

visit us at: www.thebiblespeaks.co.uk