

DANIEL 2

1 Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was [so] troubled that his sleep left him. 2 Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. 3 And the king said to them, "I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream." 4 Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation." 5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "My decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made an ash heap. 6 "However, if you tell the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts, rewards, and great honor. Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation." 7 They answered again and said, "Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will give its interpretation." 8 The king answered and said, "I know for certain that you would gain time, because you see that my decision is firm: 9 "if you do not make known the dream to me, [there is only] one decree for you! For you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed. Therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation." 10 The Chaldeans answered the king, and said, "There is not a man on earth who can tell the king's matter; therefore no king, lord, or ruler has [ever] asked such things of any magician, astrologer, or Chaldean. 11 "[It is] a difficult thing that the king requests, and there is no other who can tell it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh." 12 For this reason the king was angry and very furious, and gave the command to destroy all the wise [men] of Babylon. 13 So the decree went out, and they began killing the wise [men]; and they sought Daniel and his companions, to

kill [them]. 14 Then with counsel and wisdom Daniel answered Arioch, the captain of the king's guard, who had gone out to kill the wise [men] of Babylon; 15 he answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, "Why is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch made the decision known to Daniel. 16 So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him time, that he might tell the king the interpretation. 17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the decision known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions, 18 that they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this secret, so that Daniel and his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise [men] of Babylon. 19 Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven. 20 Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. 21 And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding. 22 He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what [is] in the darkness, And light dwells with Him. 23 "I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers; You have given me wisdom and might, And have now made known to me what we asked of You, For You have made known to us the king's demand." 24 Therefore Daniel went to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise [men] of Babylon. He went and said thus to him: "Do not destroy the wise [men] of Babylon; take me before the king, and I will tell the king the interpretation." 25 Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king, and said thus to him, "I have found a man of the captives of Judah, who will make known to the king the interpretation." 26 The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name [was] Belteshazzar, "Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen, and its interpretation?" 27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, "The secret which the king has demanded, the wise [men], the

astrologers, the magicians, and the soothsayers cannot declare to the king. 28 "But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these: 29 "As for you, O king, thoughts came [to] your [mind while] on your bed, [about] what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be. 30 "But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for [our] sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart. 31 "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor [was] excellent, stood before you; and its form [was] awesome.

THE DREAM

32 "This image's head [was] of fine **GOLD**, its chest and arms of **SILVER**, its belly and thighs of **BRONZE**, 33 "its legs of **IRON**, its feet partly of **IRON AND** partly of **CLAY**. 34 "You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. 35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

WORLD HISTORY
FORETOLD

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream
Daniel 2:31-45

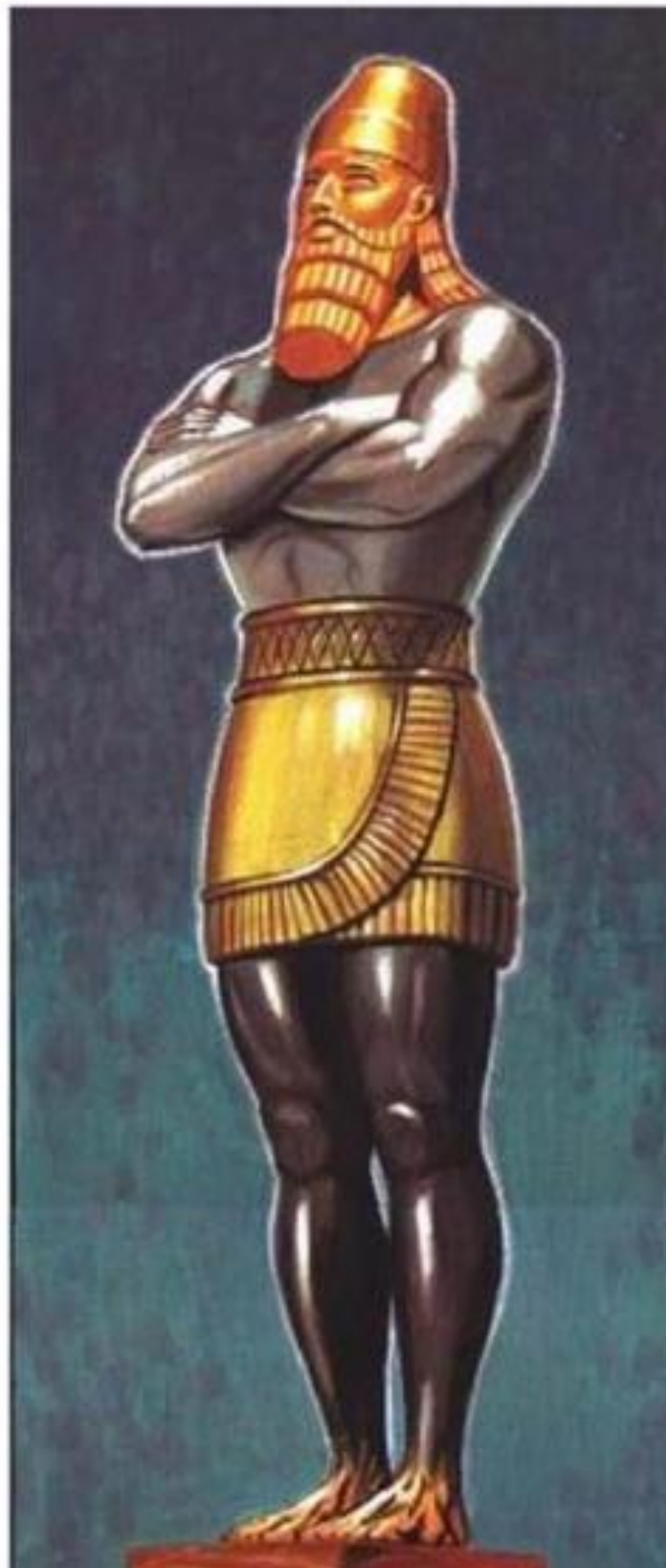
Head of Gold
BABYLON
B.C. 605-539

Breast of Silver
PERSIA
B.C. 539-331

Thighs of Brass
GREECE
B.C. 331-168

Legs of Iron
ROME
B.C. 168- A.D. 476

Feet of Iron and Clay
REVIVED ROMAN
EMPIRE
A.D 476 - 2nd Advent



THE INTERPRETATION

36 "This [is] the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king. 37 "You, O king, [are] a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; 38 "and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given [them] into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all – **you [are] this head of gold**. 39 "But after you shall arise **another kingdom** inferior to yours; then another, **a third kingdom** of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. 40 "And **the fourth kingdom** shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, [that kingdom] will break in pieces and crush all the others.

THE PRESENT ERA – ROME IS IN THE LAST MIX OF NATIONS

41 "Whereas you saw the **feet and toes**, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet **the strength of the iron shall be in it**, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. 42 "And [as] the toes of the feet [were] partly of iron and partly of clay, [so] the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. 43 "As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, **they (the nations at the end of time) will mingle with the seed of men**; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

THE COMING OF CHRIST – THE END!

44 "And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

45 "Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay,

the silver, and the gold--the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure." 46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel, and commanded that they should present an offering and incense to him. 47 The king answered Daniel, and said, "Truly your God [is] the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret." 48 Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise [men] of Babylon. 49 Also Daniel petitioned the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego over the affairs of the province of Babylon; but Daniel [sat] in the gate of the king.

DANIEL 7

THE VISION OF THE FOUR WORLD EMPIRES: BABYLON, MEDO-PERSIA, GREECE AND ROME (as per the dream of Daniel 2)

1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head [while] on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts. 2 Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. 3 "And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other. 4 "The first [was] like a **LION**, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it. 5 "And suddenly another beast, a second, like a **BEAR**. It was raised up on one side, and [had] three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!' 6 "After this I looked, and there was another, like a **LEOPARD**, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it. 7 "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, **A FOURTH BEAST**, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It [was] different from all the beasts that [were] before it, and it had ten horns.



ANTICHRIST

8 "I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, [were] eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous [LITERALLY BLASPHEOUS] words.

THE FINAL JUDGMENT AND SECOND COMING OF CHRIST – THE END!

9 "I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment [was] white as snow, And the hair of His head

[was] like pure wool. His throne [was] a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire; 10 A fiery stream issued And came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, And the books were opened. 11 "I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. 12 "As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

THE COMING OF CHRIST – THE END!

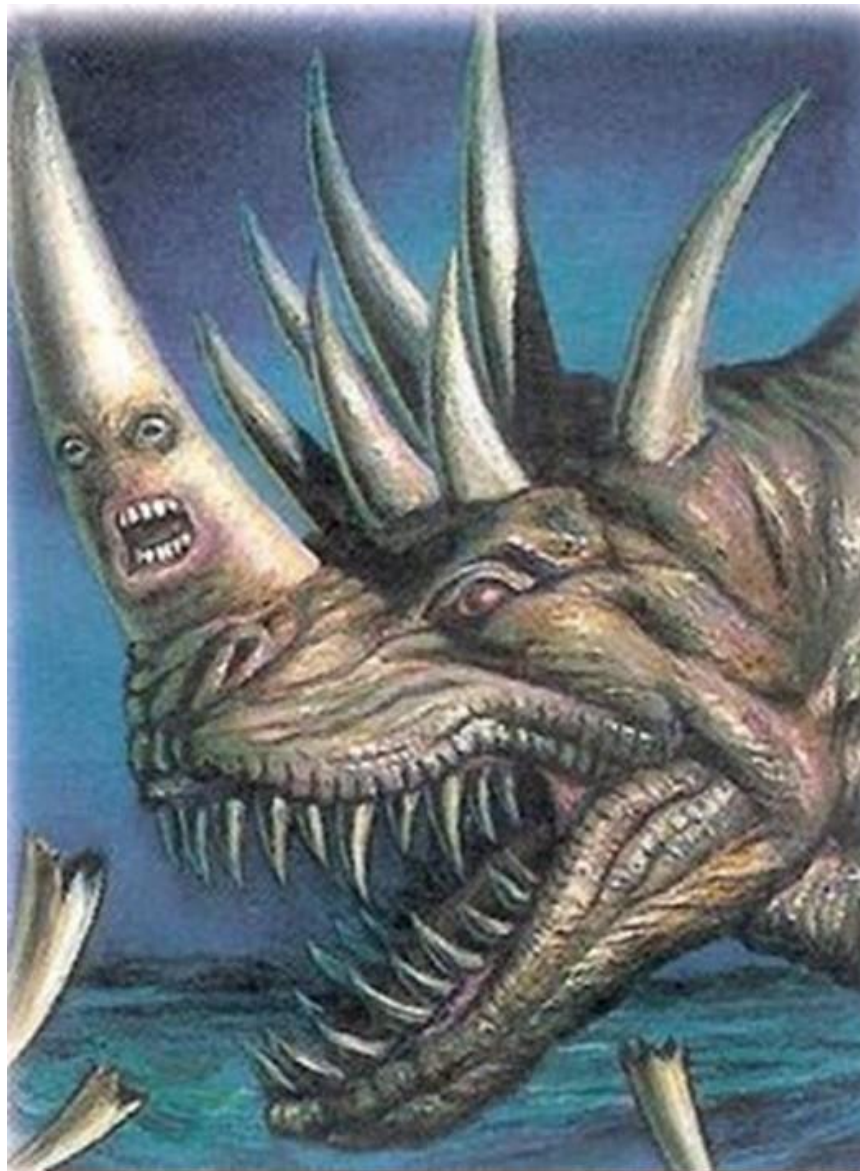
13 "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, [One] like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. 14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion [is] an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom [the one] Which shall not be destroyed.

THE INTERPRETATION

15 "I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within [my] body, and the visions of my head troubled me. 16 "I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things: 17 'Those great beasts, which are four, [are] four kings [LITERALLY KINGDOMS NLT] [which] arise out of the earth. 18 'But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.' 19

ROME AND THE ANTICHRIST

"Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, [with] its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, [which] devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet; 20 "and the ten horns that [were] on its head, and the other [horn] which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous [BLASPHEMOUS] words, whose appearance [was] greater than his fellows.



21 "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, 22 "until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made [in favor] of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom. 23 "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be A fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all [other] kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces. 24 **The ten horns [are] ten kings [Who] shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first [ones], And shall subdue three kings. 25 He shall speak [pompous] [blasphemous – Rev 13] words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then [the saints] shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.**

JUDGMENT AND SETTING UP OF KINGDOM OF CHRIST – THE END!

26 'But the court shall be seated, And they shall take away his dominion, To consume and destroy [it] forever. 27 Then the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom [is] an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.' 28 "This [is] the end of the account. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed; but I kept the matter in my heart."

DANIEL 8

1 In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared [to] me--to me, Daniel--after the one that appeared to me the first time. 2 I saw in the vision, and it so happened while I was looking, that I [was] in Shushan, the citadel, which [is] in the province of Elam; and I saw in the vision that I was by the River Ulai.

MEDO-PERSIA – DARIUS, THEN CYRUS

3 Then I lifted my eyes and saw, and there, standing beside the river, was **a RAM which had two horns, and the two horns [were] high; but one [was] higher than the other, and the higher [one] came up last.** 4 I saw the ram pushing westward, northward, and southward, so that no animal could withstand him; nor [was there any] that could deliver from his hand, but he did according to his will and became great.



GREECE – ALEXANDER THE GREAT

5 And as I was considering, suddenly a male goat came from the west, across the surface of the whole earth, without touching the ground; and the goat [had] a notable horn between his eyes. 6 Then he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing beside the river, and ran at him with furious power. 7 And I saw him confronting the ram; he was moved with rage against him, attacked the ram, and broke his two horns. There was no power in the ram to withstand him, but he cast him down to the ground and trampled him; and there was no one that could deliver the ram from his hand.

THE DIVISION OF THE GREEKIAN EMPIRE AMONG ALEXANDER'S FOUR GENERALS – **W** CASSANDER (MACEDONIA); **N** LYSIMACHUS (THRACE); **S** PTOLEMY (EGYPT, ETC); **E** SELEUCUS (SYRIA)

8 Therefore the male goat grew very great; but when he became strong, the large horn was broken, and in place of it four notable ones came up toward the four winds of heaven.

ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES – A TYPE OF ANTICHRIST

9 And out of one of them came a little horn which grew exceedingly great toward the south, toward the east, and toward the Glorious [Land]. 10 And it grew up to the host of heaven; and it cast down [some] of the host and [some] of the stars to the ground, and trampled them. 11 He even exalted [himself] as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily [sacrifices] were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down. 12 Because of transgression, an army was given over [to the horn] to oppose the daily [sacrifices]; and he cast truth down to the ground. He did [all this] and prospered. 13 Then I heard a holy one speaking; and [another] holy one said to that

certain [one] who was speaking, "How long [will] the vision [be, concerning] the daily [sacrifices] and the transgression of desolation, the giving of both the sanctuary and the host to be trampled underfoot?" 14 And he said to me, "For two thousand three hundred days; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed."

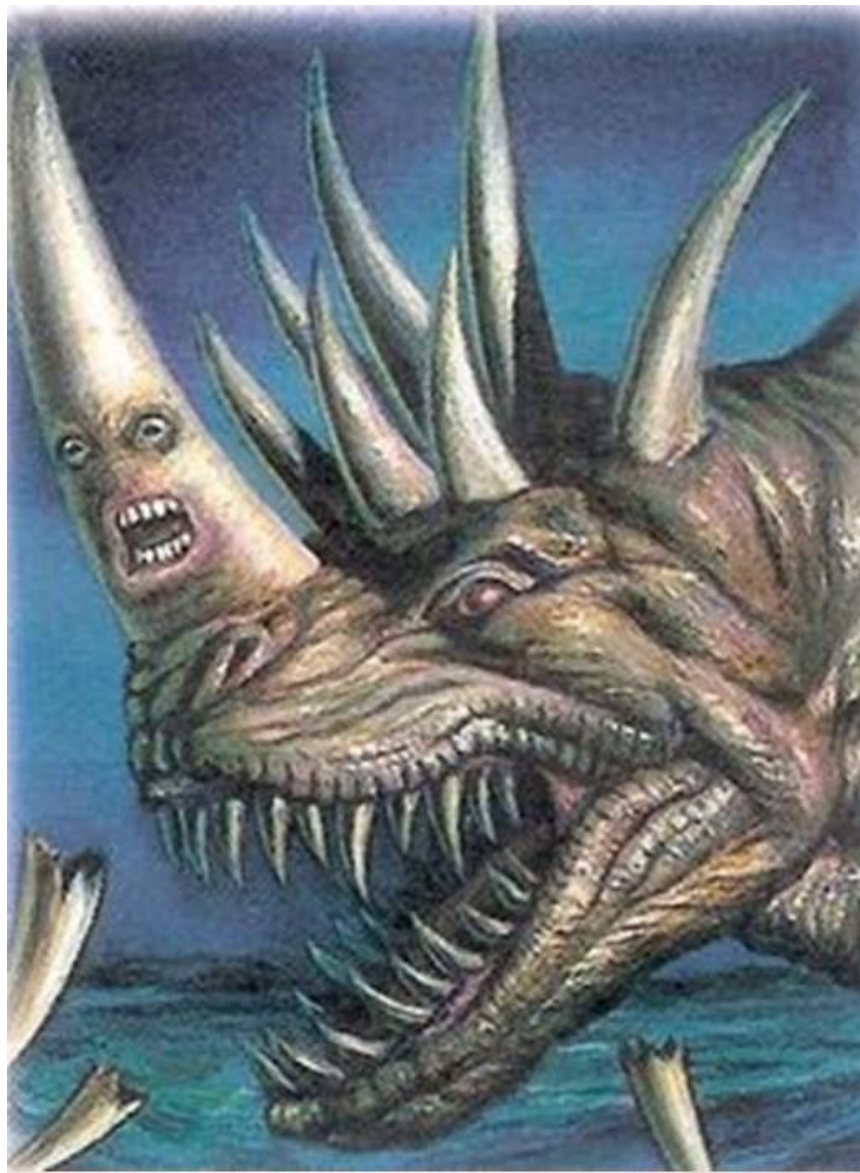
INTERPRETATION

15 Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. 16 And I heard a man's voice between [the banks of] the Ulai, who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this [man] understand the vision." 17 So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision [refers] to the time of the end." 18 Now, as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep with my face to the ground; but he touched me, and stood me upright. 19 And he said, "Look, I am making known to you what shall happen in the latter time of the indignation; for at the appointed time the end [shall be]." 20 "The RAM which you saw, having the two horns--[they are] the kings of MEDIA AND PERSIA. 21 "And the male GOAT [is] the kingdom of GREECE. The large horn that [is] between its eyes [is] the first king. 22 "As for the broken [horn] and the four that stood up in its place, four kingdoms shall arise out of that nation, but not with its power.

ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES – A TYPE AND DESCRIPTION OF ANTICHRIST

23 "And in the latter time of their kingdom, When the transgressors have reached their fullness, A king shall arise, Having fierce features, Who understands sinister schemes. 24 His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; He shall destroy fearfully, And shall prosper and thrive; He shall destroy the mighty, and [also] the holy people. 25 "Through his cunning He shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule;

And he shall exalt [himself] in his heart. He shall destroy many in [their] prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; But he shall be broken without [human] means. 26 "And the vision of the evenings and mornings Which was told is true; Therefore seal up the vision, For [it refers] to many days [in the future]." 27 And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it.



COMPOSITE OF DANIEL'S PROPHECIES

The Statue in the Book of Daniel

The Kingdoms and King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream



NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM

HEAD
(FINE GOLD)

The golden head of the statue represents the kingdom of Babylon which God gave King Nebuchadnezzar to rule. (Daniel 2:37, 38)

DANIEL'S VISION

LION
Wings of an Eagle

In Scripture, Nebuchadnezzar is compared to both the lion (Jeremiah 47: 50:44) and the eagle (Ezekiel 17:3, 11, 12). Images of lions with eagle's wings were popular in Babylonian architecture and currency. (Daniel 7:4)

THE KINGDOMS

(Daniel 2, 7, and 8)

BABYLONIA

605 BC – 539 BC

King Nebuchadnezzar
to Belshazzar

CHEST AND ARMS (SILVER)

The silver chest and arms of the statue represent the kingdoms of Media and Persia, which is the second power that would rise after Babylon falls. (Daniel 2:39, Daniel 7:5)

BEAR

With Three Ribs on its Mouth

The bear was raised on one side, which may illustrate the dominance of Persia over Media. The three ribs in its mouth may illustrate the three major empires Persia conquered. The bear is commanded to devour much flesh, which may be a reference to Persia's military expansion throughout the ancient world. (Daniel 7:5)
Persia is also symbolized by a ram. (Daniel 8)

MEDO-PERSIA

539 BC – 332 BC
King Cyrus to King Darius II

BELLY AND THIGHS (BRONZE)

The bronze belly and thighs of the statue represent the kingdom of Greece. This third kingdom would rule over the whole earth. (Daniel 2:39).

LEOPARD

With Four Wings and Four Heads

The leopard represents the kingdom of Greece. The wings might illustrate the speed of Alexander the Great's conquest. The four heads might represent the division of Alexander's kingdom into four provinces after Alexander's death. (Daniel 7:6)
Greece is also symbolized by a goat. (Daniel 8)

GREECE

332 BC – 63 BC
Alexander the Great
and the Four Divisions

LEGS (IRON)

The fourth kingdom would be strong as iron and would break, smash and crush things.

FEET "IRON AND CLAY"

FEET (IRON AND CLAY)

The fourth kingdom would be a divided kingdom, different from the others, both strong and weak. This kingdom would have a mixture of people who are not united. (Daniel 2:41-43; 7:23)

BEAST

With Iron Teeth and Ten Horns

SON OF MAN
(Jesus Christ)

In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshipped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. —Daniel 7:13, 14, 27

THE EVERLASTING KINGDOM OF GOD

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