The Times of the Gentiles

Presented by Fred DeRuvo

Section Two: Times of the Gentiles

The **Times of the Gentiles** can best be defined as that long period of time from the Babylonian Empire to the Second Coming of the Messiah during which time the Gentiles have dominance over the City of Jerusalem.

This does not rule out Jewish control of the city, but any such Jewish control will be temporary until the Second Coming (i.e. Maccabbean period, First Jewish Revolt against Rome, Second Jewish Revolt against Rome and since then as a result of the Six Day War).
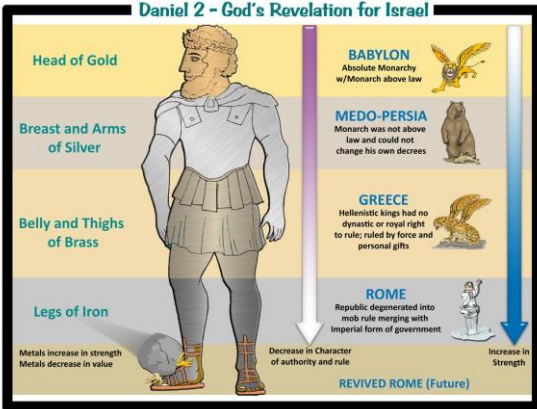

Daniel 2 – God's Revelation for Israel

Head of Gold — **BABYLON** Absolute Monarchy w/Monarch above law

Breast and Arms of Silver — **MEDO-PERSIA** Monarch was not above law and could not change his own decrees

Belly and Thighs of Brass — **GREECE** Hellenistic kings had no dynastic or royal right to rule; ruled by force and personal gifts

Legs of Iron — **ROME** Republic degenerated into mob rule merging with Imperial form of government

Metals increase in strength
Metals decrease in value

Decrease in Character of authority and rule

Increase in Strength

REVIVED ROME (Future)

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream as interpreted by Daniel

Babylon – First Empire

- **Head of Gold** is represented by Babylon (vv. 37-38). Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the Solomonic Temple and Jerusalem in 586 B.C.
- Began the Gentile domination of Jerusalem
- Nebuchadnezzar was given grant to rule the entire earth, but chose not to exercise this rule as confirmed in Jeremiah 27:5-8 and Ezekiel 26:7-14
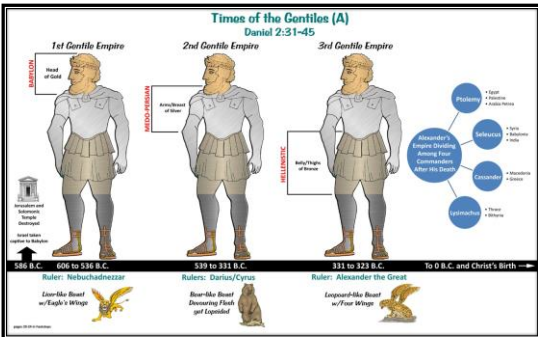
Medo-Persian – Second Empire

- **Two Arms of Silver** united is represented by the Medes and Persians, who established the Medo-Persian Empire (v. 39)
- This empire is declared to be *inferior* to the Babylonian Empire.
- Lacked inner unity because the Medes and Persians, though united, never fused into one people.
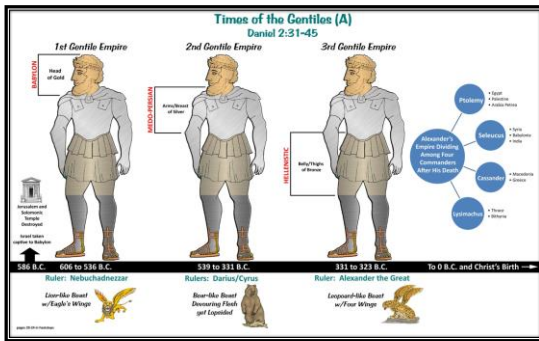
Hellenistic – Third Empire

- **The Belly and Two Thighs** is represented by Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic Empire (v. 39b)
- This empire embraced both east and west
  - Two thighs may also represent Syria and Egypt, which arose from the Hellenistic Empire and controlled Jerusalem and Jewish territory
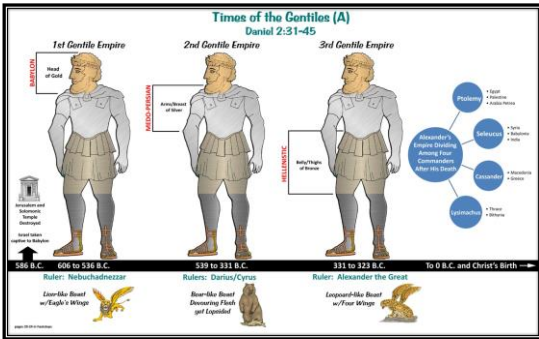
Times of the Gentiles (A)
Daniel 2:31-45

Roman – Fourth Empire

- **Legs of Iron** and the yet future empire are both represented by Rome – the Fourth Empire
- This fourth empire goes through three stages
  – United Stage (v. 40)
  – Two Division Stage (v. 41)
  – Ten Division Stage (vv. 42-43, as seen in the 10 toes)
- Part of the empire will be weak and part strong
- Unity is impossible
- This empire totally subdues and crushes all that precedes it

Messianic Kingdom – Fifth Empire

- **Stone** always represents the Second Person of the Trinity – Jesus Christ, the Son (when used symbolically)
- **Mountain** always refers to a symbol of a king, kingdom or throne (when used symbolically)
- This kingdom is set up during the Ten Division Stage (v. 44a) and brings to an end the domination of the other kingdoms (v. 44b)
- Ultimately, the Gentile domination of Jerusalem will be smashed completely at the Second Coming of Jesus Christ
- Once destroyed, God's Kingdom will be set up by the Stone the builders rejected

Daniel 2 Summary

Daniel 2 teaches that four Gentile empires will follow one another in sequence, with the Fourth Empire going through several stages.

- The Babylonian Empire
- The Medo-Persian Empire
- The Hellenistic Empire
- The Fourth Empire
  – The United Stage
  – The Two Division Stage
  – The Ten Division Stage

• Human origin
• Temporary

- Messianic Kingdom

• Divine origin
• Eternal

Times of the Gentiles (B)
Daniel 2:31–45
Developmental Prelude to the Fourth Gentile Empire
Previous Forms of Roman Government

THE 1ST HEAD	THE 2ND HEAD	THE 3RD HEAD
The Tarquin Kings	The Counselors	The Plebians or Dictators
*753 - 510 B.C.	*510 - 494 B.C.	*494 - 390 B.C.

*dates are approximate

THE 4TH HEAD	THE 5TH HEAD
The Republicans or Decimvers (Oligarchy of Ten)	The Triumvirate
*390 - 59 B.C.	*59 B.C. - 27 A.D.

pages 24-25 in Footsteps

Times of the Gentiles (C)
Daniel 7:1-28
The Sixth Head

THE UNITED STAGE The Roman Empire Strong as Iron	THE TWO-DIVISION STAGE East-West Balance of Power	THE ONE WORLD GOVERNMENT STAGE Toes of Iron & Miry Clay	THE TEN KINGDOM STAGE Ten Horns (Kings) Three uprooted leaving 7th who will submit to the 8th Horn
*63 B.C. – 285 A.D.	*364 A.D. – Present	Future Time Period	Future Time Period
First Stage	*Second Stage*	*Third Stage*	*Fourth Stage*

The Seventh Head
THE ANTICHRIST STAGE
Absolute Imperialism

The Little Horn is the 11th Horn (in relation to the Ten) and becomes the 8th Horn to be destroyed by God ending the Gentile domination of Israel.

Fifth Stage of the Fourth and Final Gentile Empire

The Messianic Kingdom
The Kingdom of the Stone Absolute Monarchy

pages 27-44 in Footsteps

Summary of Times of Gentiles

1. Entire period of Times of Gentiles is to be composed of four Gentile empires:
   a) Babylonian
   b) Medo-Persian
   c) Hellenistic
   d) Imperialistic
2. The Fourth Empire (Imperialism) is developed from the five previous forms of the Roman Government:
   a) Tarquin Kings (First Head)
   b) The Counsulors (Second Head)
   c) The Plebians (Third Head)
   d) The Republicans (Fourth Head)
   e) The Triumvirate (Fifth Head)

Summary of Times of Gentiles

3. The Fourth Empire of Imperialism was to undergo five stages:

Sixth Head
   a) United Stage (First Four)
   b) Two-Division Stage (East-West Balance of Power)
   c) One World Government Stage
   d) Ten Kingdom Stage
   e) Antichrist Stage (Absolute Imperialism/**Seventh Head**)