

# Five Prophetic Kingdoms

Daniel 2 & 7; Revelation 13 & 17

## Daniel 2: The Statue of Four Kingdoms

- Four sections of the statue:
  - Head of gold: Nebuchadnezzar & Babylon (612-539 BC)
  - Chest of silver: Medo-Persian Empire (539-331 BC)
  - Belly-thighs of bronze: Greece (332-63 BC)
  - Legs of iron, feet of iron mixed w/ clay: Roman Empire (63-1948)



## The Fifth Kingdom

- A rock cut out w/o hands struck and destroyed the statue and became a mountain that filled the entire earth (Dan. 2)
- One like a Son of Man given the eternal Kingdom of glory (Dan. 7:13-14).

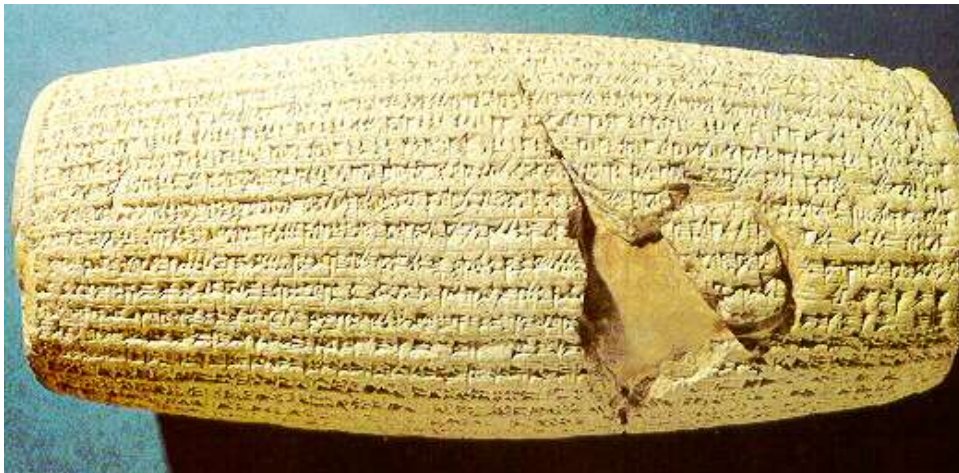


# Daniel 7

A Vision of the Future

## The Kings of Babylon

- Nebuchadnezzar 605-562
- Amel Marduk (Evil-Merodach [2 Kgs 25:27]) 562-560
- Neriglissar 560-556
- Labashi Marduk 556 (one month rule)
- Nabonidus 556-39 (Belshazzar, [Daniel 5] was his **regent**)—he reigned while Second Isaiah prophesied though there is no reference to him by this prophet



Marduk chose Cyrus and he defeated Nabonidus. Cyrus accuses Nabonidus of neglecting the gods and oppressing the people.

Cyrusbar.jpg

## Daniel 7:1-3

- Belshazzar's first year: 553 BC.
- The events of Daniel 7 precede chapter 5.
- Great sea = the world of Gentile nations.
- The beasts represent Gentile nations.
- Each one was distinctly different from the other, although the final beast was distinct from the previous three.

## DANIEL 7:4

Babylon



## Daniel 7:4

- The lion symbolizes Babylon here and also in Jeremiah 4:6-7.
- Lion statues found outside palaces in ancient Babylon.
- The eagle's wings speak of swiftness, as the lion of strength.

## DANIEL 7:5

Medo-Persia



## Daniel 7:5

- Bear represents Medo-Persia (strength & ferocity).
- Size fits the massive Persian armies.
- Three ribs: Lydia, Egypt, & Babylon.
- Xerxes (cf. Esther) moved 2.5 million men to attack Greece.
- Duality of Medo-Persia is suggested by reference to the beast's side.

## DANIEL 7:6

Greece



## Daniel 7:6

- Alexander the Great rose fast, in 12 years.
- Four heads: Alexander's four generals who reigned after Alexander's death.
  - **Cassander** over Macedon & Greece.
  - **Lysimachus**, over Thrace and Bithynia.
  - **Ptolemy** over Egypt.
  - **Seleucus** over Syria.

## The Kingdoms & Dates

- Dan 7:4-6... Rulership passed from Nineveh (Assyria) to Babylon in 612.
- ...from Babylon to Persia in 539 B.C.
- ...from Darius III to Alexander in 331.
- Dominion given to Alexander... he conquered Darius' 600,000 men with his 30,000 men.



## Daniel 7:7: Rome

- Conquered Macedon in 168 BC;
- Pergamos in 133 BC;
- Syria in 65 BC;
- Egypt in 30 BC.
- Devoured nations, tread them down, but never ruled the whole world, not even the known world of that time (e.g., India, Scotland, Parthian Empire).



## Fourth Empire: Four Stages

- United stage (Dan. 2:40; 7:23a)
- Two division stage (2:41; 7:23b), one world government.
- Ten division stage (2:42-43; 7:24a), partly strong and part brittle and weak.
- Antichrist stage (7:24b-26), arising after the ten division stage (24b).
- While the 4<sup>th</sup> empire is diverse from previous three, the little horn is diverse from the previous ten horns.

DANIEL 7:8



# The Everlasting, Fifth Kingdom

Stone Cut Out,  
Not by Human Hands

## Everlasting Kingdom

- **THE STATUE**
- A stone was cut out, not by human hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and broke them in pieces.
- Then the rest of the statue broke into pieces and what remained was carried away in the wind.



## Everlasting Kingdom

- **THE STATUE**
- Daniel told the king that God will set up a kingdom that will crush all earthly kingdoms and bring them to an end. God's kingdom will never be destroyed and will endure forever.



## Everlasting Kingdom

- The book of Daniel shows that God did not forget his promises and that He is sovereign over all kingdoms.
- God's promises have been fulfilled in the Son of Man, who established an everlasting kingdom on earth.



## Everlasting Kingdom

- “And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’ ”

—Revelation 21:3–4

## Everlasting Kingdom

- **THE STATUE**
- Then the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain that filled the whole earth.
- The stone represents God’s eternal kingdom that is more powerful than any other kingdom.



## Everlasting Kingdom

- After seeing the vision of the four beasts from the sea, Daniel saw one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven ([Dan. 7:13–14](#)).
- The son of man [Jesus] approached the Ancient of Days [God, the Father] and was led into his presence.



## Everlasting Kingdom

- **THE SON OF MAN**
- The son of man was given authority, glory and sovereign power. All peoples & nations of every language worshiped Him.
- His dominion is an everlasting dominion; His kingdom will never be destroyed.



# A Closer Look at the Fourth Beast

## Fourth Empire: Imperialism

- Different from previous empires in that it was imperialistic.
- **Five stages of Imperialism**
  1. United stage: Rome (63 BC to AD 364)
  2. Two division stage: (364 to 1453); after Turks invaded Constantinople, the rulers, scribes, and scholars infiltrated Russia to set up Roman imperialism under a Czar (Russian for Caesar). Russia then called herself the Third Roman Empire...

## ■ Five stages of Imperialism

2. (cont.)... In the west, Rome remained from 364-476. Power then shifted to France where Charlemagne (AD 800) called his domain the ***Holy Roman Empire*** of the Frankish nation. Later in 962, Otto I defeated the Franks and set up the Holy Roman Empire in Germany where leaders were called *Kaisers*—German for “Caesar.”

## ■ Five stages of Imperialism

3. One world govt. stage (all future)—seen in Daniel 7 but not Daniel 2.
  - *Will devour the whole earth*, something Rome never truly did (didn't even extend to the borders Alexander the Great had in India nor Scotland nor the Parthian empire). Daniel 7:23 demands that the fourth empire will at some point control the entire world and devour it.
4. Ten Division Stage will cover the entire world, not just Europe. These administrative districts will help to avoid economic collapse.

## ■ Five stages of **Imperialism**

5. Antichrist stage: This man will arise and uproot three kings, and the other seven will submit to his authority. This will introduce ***Absolute Imperialism***, making this man *diverse* from all who preceded him.

## Five Kingdoms in Review

### Daniel 2

1. Babylonian Empire
2. Medo-Persian Empire
3. Hellenistic Empire
4. Fourth Empire
  - a. United stage
  - b. One world govt. stage
  - c. Ten division stage
5. Messianic Kingdom

### Daniel 7

1. Babylonian Empire
2. Medo-Persian Empire
3. Hellenistic Empire
  - a. United stage
  - b. Four division stage
4. Fourth Empire
  - a. United stage
  - b. Two division stage
  - c. One world govt. stage
  - d. Ten division stage
  - e. Antichrist stage
5. Messianic Kingdom



## Revelation 13:1-10

- Total focus is on 4<sup>th</sup> empire, emphasizing specifically the Antichrist (fifth) stage.
- Beast (same as Daniel saw in chapter 7) has ten horns, seven heads
  - Horns = 10 kingdoms (4<sup>th</sup> stage of Imperialism; stage 4 overlaps w/ stage 5).
- New element in Rev 13 is Beast w/ 7 heads.
  - leopard-like body (Greece); bear-like feet (Medo-Persia); lion-like mouth (Babylon) means all former kingdoms unite in Beast.

- Rev 13:3–10 concentrates on the fifth stage of the Fourth Empire, the AC Stage.
- In v. 3, the death & rez of the AC is viewed. The 7<sup>th</sup> head was smitten to death but later healed.
- In v. 4, the worship of the AC is described.
- In vv. 5–7, the activities of the AC are described, similar to those in Daniel 7: he speaks great things (v. 5a); reigns with absolute control for 3½ years (v. 5b); blasphemes against heaven (v. 6); wars against saints (v. 7a) & the nations (v. 7b).
- In v. 8, the worship of the AC is described again, concluding w/ a warning for those who do (9-10).
- Rev 13 just adds the 7 horns not seen previously

## Revelation 17:7-14

- Beast is same as the one in Rev 13 & Dan 7, having ten horns & seven heads
- Heads = mountains, and mountains are used symbolically for kingdoms or kings.
- Thus, Rome is not in view, kings are.
- NOTE: the ten kings are *contemporary* w/ one another; BUT the seven heads are seven *sequential* kings.

- At the time of John's writing of Revelation, five kings had already come and gone. The sixth "head-mountain-king" was ruling but one more was to follow.
- In this sixth king, Imperialism was in place—the united, Roman stage of the 4<sup>th</sup> empire
- Rome had five previous stages:
  - The Tarquin kings (753-510 BC); the Counselars (510-494); the Dictators (494-390); the Republicans (390-59); the Triumvirate (59-27).
  - The sixth head began in 27 BC and will continue until the mid-Tribulation.

## The Final Head of the 4th Empire

- One head remains to be: the 7<sup>th</sup> head—the Antichrist Stage and the stage of Absolute Imperialism.
- Once the 7<sup>th</sup> head is established, *he must continue for a little while, 3½ years.*
- Thus, the seven heads are chronological

## An 8<sup>th</sup> King, but of the Seven?

- Seen in his relationship to the 10 horns, the 10 kingdoms that come out of the One World Government, the 4<sup>th</sup> stage of the Fourth Gentile Empire of Imperialism.
- Now when the AC begins to take control, he uproots three of the 10 horns, leaving seven for the remainder of the Tribulation period.
- The AC is contemporary with these seven, making him an eighth. So “seven” refers to the heads, & “eight” refers to the horns.

1. Babylonian Empire
2. Medo-Persian Empire
3. Hellenistic Empire
  - a. United stage
  - b. Four division stage (developmental prelude to the fourth Gentile empire)
    - a) Tarquin kings
    - b) The Counselors
    - c) The Dictators
    - d) The Republicans
    - e) The Triumvirate
4. Imperialism
  - a. United stage
  - b. Two division stage (East & West)
  - c. One world govt stage
  - d. 10 kingdom stage (Ten kings)
  - e. Antichrist stage (7<sup>th</sup> ruler; 11<sup>th</sup> horn that becomes an eighth horn)
5. Messianic Kingdom