

Lecture 17: Daniel – The Reset of Empires

February 21, 2020

Around 600 BC, God “reset” world history—replacing old empires with new empires.

Old Empires

Egypt – Pharaoh (slavery)

Israel – Solomon (idolatry)

Assyria – Sennacherib (185,000 died in one night)

Two Prophets of the Transition

Habakkuk

Ch. 1 – “Violence!”

Ans. Chaldeans (Babylonians)

Chs. 1-2 – “More wicked than us!”

Ans. All the proud will be punished.

Ch. 3 – “In wrath remember mercy.”

Illus. Mountain deer agility—rejoicing in salvation through total economic collapse.

Jeremiah

Ch. 25 – If the city called by *God’s* name is punished, all nations will be punished.

Reset Point

Ch. 31 – News of mercy in wrath: *The New Covenant*

1. Personal Transformation by God – fixing the root of the problem

2. Personal Relationship with God – every member of the covenant

Why?

“...for I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more” (Jer. 31:34).

“This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood” (Jesus).

New Empires


Two Visions: The Four-Metaled Statue (Daniel 2) and the Four Beasts (Daniel 7)

Babylon – Nebuchadnezzar

605 BC – Battle of Carchemish

Medes and Persians – Cyrus (539 BC – against Babylon)

Greece – Alexander (333 BC)

Rome – Caesar (cf. Tsar, Kaiser,...) 

Phases: One, Two, Ten

We still live in these days!

The Kingdom of God – one like the Son of Man

The Sovereignty of God vs. The Kingdom of God

Direct Rule

Indirect Rule

via Man

What can we learn about man?

Human Government – Bestial vs. Humane

Illus. A just ruler in the fear of God is like sunshine causing grass to grow after the rain (2 Sam. 23:3-4).

Nebuchadnezzar



The Antichrist Pattern – e.g. Antiochus Epiphanes

Illus. Concentric Circles – Idols, Christ, Antichrist

The “Hand” Motif

Man: “Who can deliver you from my hand?”

God: The handwriting is on the wall!