



The Psychics versus Prophet!

Daniel Chapter 2

Throughout the centuries the future has always intrigued people. We have desired to know what lies just ahead. How can we face tomorrow with greater confidence? What kind of world will our children live in? Many sources claim to have reliable information regarding the future. The psychics, astrologers, and fortune tellers all claim to have the ability to predict coming events.

God reveals Himself as the only one who really knows the future. In this chapter, God clearly outlines 2,500 years of history in advance, accurately foretelling the rise and fall of empires. God is wise enough to predict the future and powerful enough to orchestrate the rise and fall of nations.

Miraculously, God hid the dream from Nebuchadnezzar's mind. If the king could have remembered the dream, the psychics would have been able to make up a plausible interpretation. But the wise men of Babylon utterly failed. The angry king condemned them all to death when they could not tell him what he had dreamed.

The Magicians – used sleight of hand, magic and trickery.

The Astrologers – observed the patterns of the stars as a means of attempting to forecast the future.

The Sorcerers – spiritualist who claimed to communicate with the dead for information regarding the future.

The Chaldeans – the educated elite who attempted to tell the future by human genius, mathematical calculations, and an understanding of philosophy.

According to Daniel's inspired interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream, each corresponding metal represented a kingdom that would rule the world. Beginning with Babylon, the prophet traces the destiny of the nations through the centuries.

Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom ruled the world from 605 to 539 B.C. The capital city of Babylon was the center of the most powerful nation in the Middle East at that time. The prophet Isaiah also calls Babylon "the golden city". Isaiah 14:4.

The Medes and Persians overthrew the Babylonians in 539 B.C. Cyrus, the general who led the Medo-Persian armies, is predicted by name 150 years in advance in Isaiah 44:28 and Isaiah 45:1. The Medes and Persians ruled the world from 539 to 331 B.C.

The nation of Greece overthrew the Medes and Persian. The Greeks ruled the world from 331 to 168 B.C. Alexander the Great conquered the world by the time he was thirty-three years old.

The Romans conquered the Greeks in 168 B.C. The Roman Empire ruled the world during the time of Christ. Caesar Augustus, a Roman emperor, passed the decree that all the worlds should be taxed. A Roman court tried Jesus, and Roman soldiers nailed Him to the cross.

The prophet Daniel predicted that the Roman Empire would be divided. The break-up of the empire occurred from 351 to 476 A.D. No fifth world empire overthrew the Romans. Rome was divided exactly as the prophet predicted. The barbarian tribes from the north invaded the Roman Empire, and it was divided into separate, distinct states. The nations of Europe today – France, Germany, England, Spain, Italy, etc... were predicted in this amazing dream.

God's word is clear. These seven prophetic words, "They shall not cleave one to another, have stopped every would-be conqueror of Europe through the centuries. Throughout history, political leaders such as Charlemagne, Charles V, Louis XIV, Napoleon, and Hitler, have attempted to rule the world by uniting Europe. Each has desperately failed. Bible prophecy is accurate. The future is in God's hands. He can be safely trusted.

The rock that was cut out without hands represents the coming kingdom of God. Christ is the Rock. I Corinthians 10:4. Soon all wickedness, evil, and rebellion will be gone forever. The forces of evil will be crushed, broken into pieces forever and destroyed. God will establish His everlasting kingdom forever.

READ ALL OF DANIEL 2

- Vs.1** King Nebuchadnezzar has a dream he couldn't remember.
- Vs.19** God revealed to His prophet Daniel the dream.
- Vs. 28, 29** The dream would show what would happen at the time of the end.
- Vs. 31-36** The dream of the great image.
- Vs.37-40** Four metals: Gold, Silver, Brass, Iron -- representing four kingdoms: Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.
- Vs.41-43** Feet and toes (the fourth kingdom = Rome) would divide into ten parts and some of the divisions would be strong, others weak.
- NOTE:** This dividing of Rome took place in 476 A.D. The ten divisions of the Roman Empire were: Alamanni (German); Visigoths (Spain); Franks (France); Suevi (Portugal); Burgundians (Swiss); Anglo-Saxon (English); Lombards (Italy); Heruli (destroyed in 493); Vandals (destroyed in 534); Ostrogoths (destroyed in 538).
- Vs. 44, 45** In the days of these kings, God will set up His Kingdom.
- Rev. 21:1-5** A picture of the kingdom.
- John. 14:1-3** God promises us this place He has prepared.
- Matt. 24:24-26** Satan will try to deceive people regarding Christ's Second Coming.