



Daniel: A Faithful Life in a Hostile Culture
Daniel 2:31-49
From Sermon 9.13.26

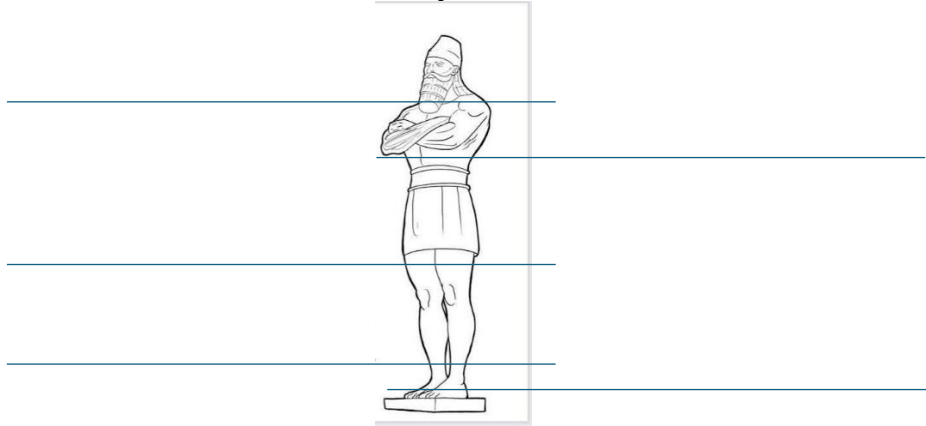
Read *Daniel 2:31-49*

Overview from Sunday's sermon: We finally arrive at the dream and its interpretation. It's no small thing. Through faithful Daniel, God has revealed the future to Nebuchadnezzar and to the world. No human mind could come up with this. God will sovereignly use pagan ancient kingdoms to bring about His purpose. The main plan being the 1st Coming of Messiah in the Promise Land.

1. What had Nebuchadnezzar seen in his dream? A giant statue made of various minerals/materials.

1a. What did the image/statue represent? Successive Ancient Empires

List the body part and the metal from Daniel's interpretation:



2. What were those successive ancient empires? Babylon—Persia—Greece—Rome

3. How would/did God use each of those prophesied kingdoms?

- Babylon—the birthplace of all false/pagan religions. Took Judah into exile. Revived in the Tribulation.
- Persia—releases God's people to return to Israel and rebuild (Ezra/Nehemiah). The magi. Islam.
- Greece—Alexander's Hellenization of the known world gave that world a universal language. The New Testament would be written in Greek, and every culture could read it.
- Rome—the empire in power at Jesus' First Coming. Paved the western world with roads allowing both the Gospel and the Christian Church to spread quickly.

4. What are the modern-day names for the regions of Babylon and Persia? Iraq & Iran

4a. Why does that matter? After being obscure, meaningless nations and regions for millennia, in the last century they rose again to prominence due to Islam, their hatred of Israel and America, and the commodity of crude oil.

5. According to both Scripture and history, did the Roman Empire actually end? Debated. The toes of iron mixed with clay would imply it never really ended. Today, the nations once ruled by Rome are united and it's the Seat of the Catholic Church.

6. Who or what is this stone "*cut without hands*" that turns into a mountain and wipes out all earthly kingdoms? Jesus Christ. See also *Luke 20:17-18*