

Outline

Daniel 2:31-35 The Dream of the Statue

Conservative scholars Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece, and Rome

Critical or Liberal scholars Babylon, Media, Persia, Greece

Daniel 2:36-38 The Dream's Interpretation

1st Kingdom Babylon: The Head of Gold

Daniel 2:39 2nd Kingdom Medes & Persians: The Chest & Arms of Silver

3rd Kingdom Greece: The Belly & Thighs of Bronze

Daniel 2:40 4th Kingdom Rome: The Legs and Feet of Iron & Clay

Outline (continued)

Daniel 2:44-45 5th Kingdom

Stone – The Reign of Messiah, the Kingdom of God

Psalm 118:22 (NASB)

Isaiah 2:1-5 (NASB)

Cornerstone grows into everlasting temple

I Cor 3:16-17; Eph 2:19-22; I Peter 2:4-9; Revelation 3:12

Daniel 2:46-48 Nebuchadnezzar's Response & Daniel's Elevation



Outline (continued)

Conclusion:

Wrong ways to respond to the dream:

- 1) Living for the _____
- 2) _____ the dream
- 3) Believing the " _____ " heresy

Outline (continued)

Why is this wrong?

Deterioration

Domination

Weakness

Fragmentation

Vacillation

Transience or impermanence

Inferior

Force

Fragility

Disunity

Instability

Doesn't last

Outline (continued)

Right Ways to respond to the Dream: Daniel and 3 men God is able to deliver His kingdom is enduring, we will live for that. Kingdom of God and our response

- 1) the Nebuchadnezzar's in your life
1 Peter 2:7 Romans 13:1-7

1 Peter 2:17 (NASB).¹⁷ Honor all people, love the brotherhood, fear God, honor the king.

Outline (continued)

- 2) _____ in the Babylon Jeremiah 29:5-7
- 3) _____ in God's Ultimate Victory and Enduring,
Indestructible Kingdom

Revelation 11:15 (NASB) ¹⁵ Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever."

Message slides



DANIEL

A Kingdom Worth Living For



The Enduring Kingdom

Daniel 2:31-45 (NASB)

31 "You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome.

 Daniel 2:31 (NASB)

32 "The head of that statue *was made* of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze,

A crescent moon is visible in the lower-left quadrant of the image, set against a deep blue sky filled with soft, white, wispy clouds. The overall scene is a serene night or twilight sky.

Daniel 2:32 (NASB)

33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron
and partly of clay.



Daniel 2:33 (NASB)

34 "You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them.

A crescent moon is visible in the lower-left quadrant of the image, set against a deep blue sky filled with soft, white, wispy clouds. The overall scene is serene and celestial.

Daniel 2:34 (NASB)

35 "Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.

Daniel 2:35 (NASB)

Conservative Scholars

1st Babylon

2nd Medes-Persians

3rd Greece

4th Roman

Liberal Scholars

Babylon

Medes

Persian

Greece

Gold=Babylon

Silver=Medo-Persia

Bronze=Greece

Iron=Rome

Iron & Clay=Nations



36 "This was the dream; now we will
tell its interpretation before the king.



Daniel 2:36 (NASB)

37 "You, O king, are the king of kings,
to whom the God of heaven has given
the kingdom, the power, the strength
and the glory;

A crescent moon is visible in the lower-left portion of the image, set against a deep blue sky filled with soft, white, wispy clouds. The overall scene is serene and celestial.

Daniel 2:37 (NASB)

38 and wherever the sons of men dwell, or the beasts of the field, or the birds of the sky, He has given *them* into your hand and has caused you to rule over them all. You are the head of gold.

 Daniel 2:38 (NASB)

39 "After you there will arise another kingdom inferior to you, then another third kingdom of bronze, which will rule over all the earth.

A crescent moon is visible in the lower-left portion of the image, set against a deep blue sky filled with soft, white, wispy clouds. The overall scene is serene and celestial.

Daniel 2:39 (NASB)

40 "Then there will be a fourth kingdom as strong as iron; inasmuch as iron crushes and shatters all things, so, like iron that breaks in pieces, it will crush and break all these in pieces.



Daniel 2:40 (NASB)

41 "In that you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it will be a divided kingdom; but it will have in it the toughness of iron, inasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with common clay.

 Daniel 2:41 (NASB)

42 "As the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of pottery, so some of the kingdom will be strong and part of it will be brittle.

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Daniel 2:42 (NASB)

43 "And in that you saw the iron mixed with common clay, they will combine with one another in the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, even as iron does not combine with pottery.

 Daniel 2:43 (NASB)

44 "In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and *that* kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever.

Daniel 2:44 (NASB)

45 "Inasmuch as you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will take place in the future; so the dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy."

Daniel 2:45 (NASB)

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face and did homage to Daniel, and gave orders to present to him an offering and fragrant incense.

A crescent moon is visible in the lower-left quadrant of the image, set against a dark blue night sky filled with stars and wispy white clouds. The text "Daniel 2:46 (NASB)" is positioned to the right of the moon.

Daniel 2:46 (NASB)

47 The king answered Daniel and said, "Surely your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, since you have been able to reveal this mystery."

A crescent moon is visible in the lower-left quadrant of the image, set against a deep blue sky filled with soft, white, wispy clouds. The overall scene is serene and celestial.

Daniel 2:47 (NASB)

48 Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts, and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon.



Daniel 2:48 (NASB)

49 And Daniel made request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego over the administration of the province of Babylon, while Daniel was at the king's court.



Daniel 2:49 (NASB)

Wrong Ways to Respond to the Dream

1. Living for the Present
2. Worship the Dream
3. Believing "If only" heresy

Why?

Deterioration

Domination

Weakness

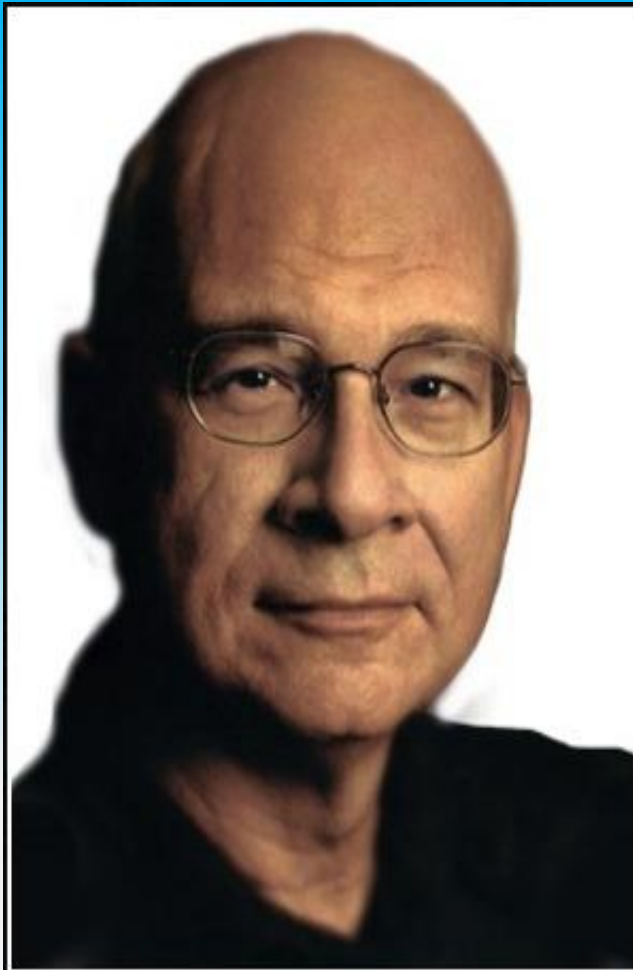
Fragmentation

Vacillation

Transience

Right Ways to Respond to the Dream

1. Honor the Nebuchadnezzars
2. Work in the Babylon
3. Hope in God's Eternal Kingdom



At the end of history the whole earth has become the Garden of God again. Death and decay and suffering are gone.... Jesus will make the world our perfect home again. We will no longer be living 'east of Eden,' always wandering and never arriving. We will come, and the father will meet us and embrace us, and we will be brought into the feast.

— *Timothy Keller* —

AZ QUOTES

A floating island with a castle and a church spire against a starry sky. The island is illuminated from below, and the sky is filled with stars and nebulae. The text 'DANIEL' is overlaid on the island.

DANIEL

A Kingdom Worth Living For
The Enduring Kingdom

Questions

1. Do you believe in the Bible's accurate prophecy of future events, as in Daniel 2 today? Why do you believe in prophecy?
2. If you had a dream in which you were the prominent and chief character that was exalted, how would you feel about yourself? About the dream?
3. If you had a dream in which you were the subordinate characters, how would you feel? Do you think we handle well not being #1 in this country? Why?

Questions (continued)

4. How do you feel about the current state of affairs of the world scene? Are you optimistic or pessimistic? Why? What scares you about the current climate of today? What brings you comfort?
5. Of the three ways to respond poorly to the dream, which one of those do you feel is most prevalent today? Why?
 - 1) Living for the present
 - 2) Worship the dream
 - 3) "if only" heresy

Questions (continued)

6. Which of the following do you see in today's governments and nations?
Deterioration Inferior / Domination Force / Weakness Fragility /
Fragmentation Disunity / Vacillation Instability / Transience or
impermanence / Doesn't last

7. In responding in a right way to the dream, the first point was to honor
the Nebuchadnezzars in our life. Do you find this hard or easy? Why?
(Reflect on the following scriptures for your reflection)

1 Peter 2:17 (NASB)

Romans 13:1-7 (NASB)

Questions (continued)

8. The second point of responding in the right way to the dream was to work in the Babylon you are in right now. How does Colossians 3:23 (NASB) 23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men, speak to the way in which Daniel and his 3 friends did their daily work in the Babylonian Kingdom?
9. The third point of responding in the right way to the dream was to hope and trust in God's eternal kingdom. How could focusing on the Kingdom of God and Christ's reign on earth in the millennium be of comfort and help to you on a daily basis?