

RUSSELL SANDERS

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DANIEL THE MAN – LESSON 7

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM INTERPRETATION

Yesterday we dealt with Nebuchadnezzar's hidden dream and Daniel's God-given description and the King's response to Daniel. Today we continue in Daniel chapter two to look at the dream itself.

The dream was of a very large and bright image like a man. The head was fine gold. His breast and arms were made of silver. His belly and thighs were brass. His legs (calves) were of iron. His feet were part iron and part clay.

Then a stone *"that was cut without hands"* (vs. 34) smote the iron and clay feet of the image breaking them into pieces. It broke up the entire image and all of its parts. The many pieces of the shattered image were blown away like chaff in the wind. The stone grew into a very large mountain that covered the whole earth.

The dream was exactly how Nebuchadnezzar had dreamed. Now Daniel would interpret its meaning as given to him by God.

The head of gold was Nebuchadnezzar and his vast Babylonian empire. It was told to him in vs. 30, *"The God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory."* The subtle message was that it was a gift from God, not of the King's own might.

After Babylon, the head of gold, comes an empire represented by the breast and arms of silver. We shall see in chapter seven that this represented the Medo-Persian Empire that succeeded the Babylonian Empire.

The belly and thighs of brass represented the third empire of Greece which ruled all the known world and paved the way in language and culture for the advent of Christ.

The fourth empire was Rome as they built a vast system of highways that would allow for the evangelization of the world by Christian missionaries following the rise of Christ's church. That Roman empire of legs of iron will be broken at its feet as iron and clay do not mix well.

We will learn more about that in a much later vision given to Daniel in chapter seven at a much older age that expanded on Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

Tomorrow we will see a test of faith and how God honors such faith as we study chapter three.