

AMAZING FACTS

2. Countdown to Eternity

How long can the world go on like this? Is something big about to happen?

Matthew 24:3

The disciples ask Jesus Christ about the signs for the last days.

Matthew 24:15

Jesus directs our attention to the book of Daniel in order to understand where we are in the stream of time.

Daniel 1:1-8

The book of Daniel begins with Daniel and his three faithful friends demonstrating their faithfulness to the true God. Thus God honored them highly. The theme of the book of Daniel is about true worship vs. false worship, loyalty to God vs. loyalty to man.

Isaiah 46:9, 10

Only God can declare the "end from the beginning" and therefore accurately tell the future.

Amos 3:7

God reveals His secrets to His servants the prophets.

READ ALL OF DANIEL 2

Verse 1

King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream he couldn't remember.

Verse 19

God revealed to His prophet Daniel the dream.

Verses 28, 29

The dream would show what would happen in the latter days of earth's history.

In approximately 150 words, God outlines over 2,500 years of earth's history.

Verses 31-36

Four metals: gold, silver, brass, and iron representing four kingdoms.

Verse 38

Head of gold represents **Babylon**.

Daniel 5:28, 30, 31

Chest and arms of silver represent **Medo-Persia**.

Daniel 8:1-8, 20, 21

Belly and thighs of brass represent **Greece**.

Daniel 2:40, Luke 2:1

Legs of iron represent **Rome**.

Verses 41, 42

The fourth kingdom (Rome) would divide into many parts like the feet and the toes on the image and some parts would be strong, others weak.

"The images of gold, or silver, or bronze that might serve to represent the nations and their kings were successively broken by the iron monarchy of Rome." —Sir Edward Gibbon, The Rise and Fall of the Roman Empire



This dividing of Rome took place between 351-476 A.D. The most recognized and basic divisions of the Roman empire were: Alemanni (German); Visigoths (Spain); Franks (France); Suevi (Portugal); Burgundians (Swiss); Anglo Saxon (English) Lombards (Italy); Heruli (destroyed in 493 A.D.); Vandals (destroyed in 534); Ostrogoths (destroyed in 538).

Verse 43

"They shall not cleave one to another." Here God predicts that throughout history the ten kingdoms of Europe will never again be brought back together as one nation. Many kings and rulers have tried and failed, proving God right!

Verses 44, 45

In the days of these kings, God will set up His kingdom. The great rock that smashed the image and turned it to powder represents the coming of Christ which will bring the end of all earthly kingdoms and governments, and the setting up of God's eternal kingdom. See also Matthew 21:42-44.

Revelation 21:1-5

A picture of the new heavenly kingdom.

Revelation 22:7, 12, 20

God is sending a message that His coming will be very soon. We must prepare to meet Him today.

THREE THINGS WE LEARN FROM DANIEL 2

1. The Bible can be trusted.
2. Jesus' coming is near.
3. God is in control of everything and can take care of us.