



JESUS CHRIST
I AM THAT I AM

Great Commission Ministries
BEREAN'S Bible Study

The Book of
DANIEL

<http://jesuschrist.thegreatiam.googlepages.com>

HISTORY

- A prophetic history of Gentile world power from the reign of Nebuchadnezzar to the coming of Christ.
- Daniel emphasized God's sovereignty in relation to the Gentile world empires and revealed Him as the One controlling and overruling in their affairs, until the time of their destruction at the coming of His Son.



- The vision is that of the overruling God, in wisdom, knowing and, in might, working; of kings reigning and passing, of dynasties and empires rising and falling, while God, enthroned above, ruled their movements.
- Daniel revealed God as the One controlling the rise and fall of the kingdoms of this world until their final destruction and establishment of His own kingdom.



AUTHOR

- Prophet Daniel
- He was of the tribe of Judah and probably a member of the royal family (1:3-6).
- While yet a youth, he was carried captive to Babylon in the third year of King Jehoiakim (II Chronicles 36:4-7), eight years before Ezekiel.
- Together with three other young men, he was stationed at the court of Nebuchadnezzar for special training in the learning of the Chaldeans.



THE MEANING OF THEIR NAMES

The Meaning of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah		
Hebrew Name	<u>Meaning</u>	Babylonian Name
Daniel	God is Judge	Belteshazzar
Hananiah	Jehovah is gracious	Shadrach
Mishael	Who is he that is God	Meshach
Azariah	Jehovah has helped	Abed-Nego



- There he attained one of the highest ranks in the kingdom, a position which he retained under the Persians rulers who succeeded the Babylonians.
- He prophesied during the whole of the captivity, his last prophecy being delivered in the reign of Cyrus, two years before the nation's return to Palestine.



SCOPE

- The historical elements in Daniel cover approximately seventy-three years, from Nebuchadnezzar to Cyrus, or 607 B.C. to 534 B.C.



CONTENTS

Daniel and His Companions (Chapter 1)

- Four outstanding young Jews, including Daniel, were chosen to receive instruction in the king's court.
- Surrounded by the sensuality of this oriental environment, Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself (verse 8).
- He and his companions chose not to partake of the food of the king, which would have been a sanction of his idolatry.



- Put to the test, the plain food they ate proved better as they were healthier in body and clearer in mind than any others.
- They were allowed to continue on their own fare.



- Daniel 1:17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.



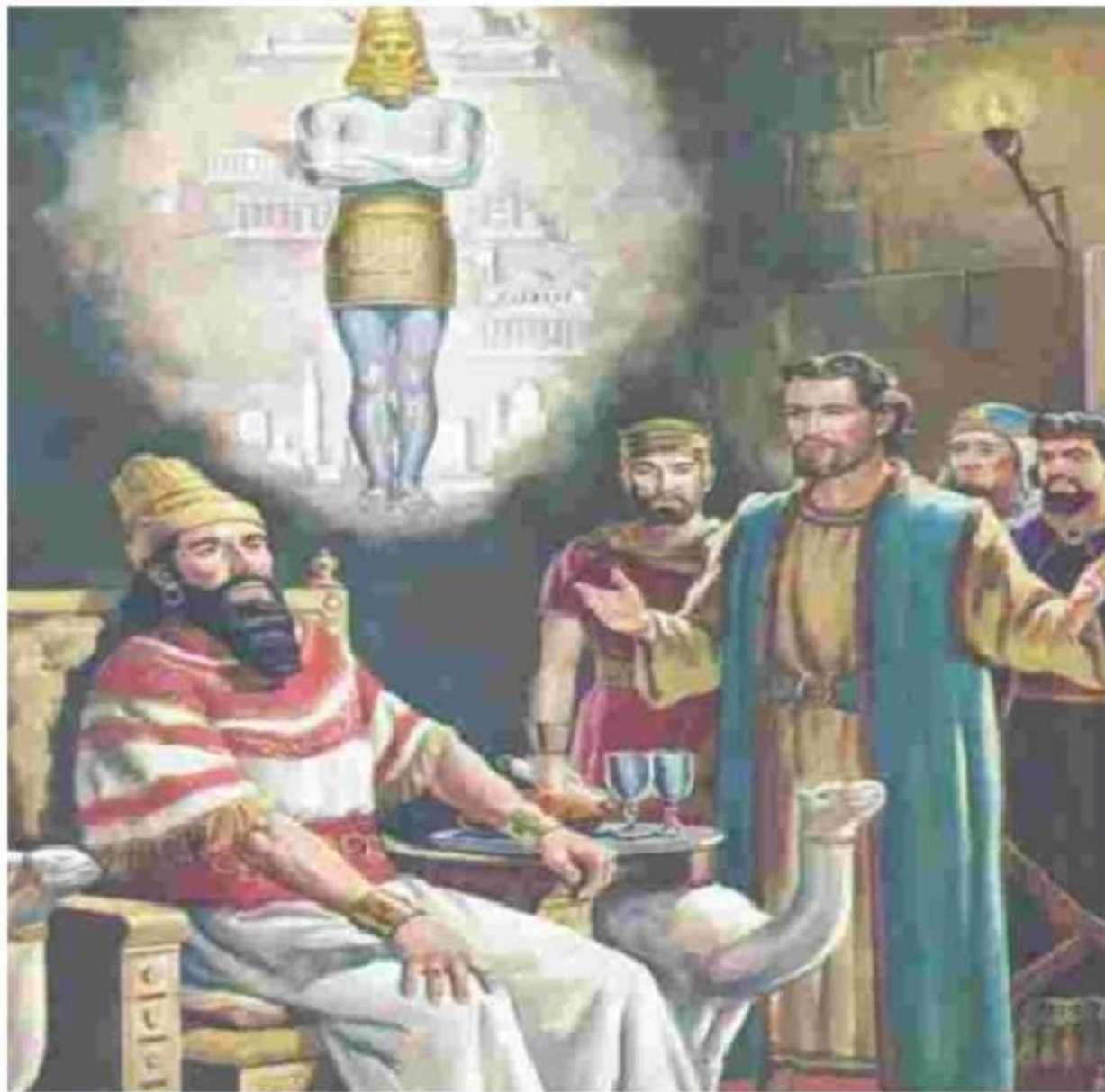
GOD'S CONTROL OF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD (CHAPTERS 2-7)

- In response to an unexpressed desire on the part of Nebuchadnezzar to know the future of his great empire, God gave him a dream, which, as interpreted by Daniel, gave the monarch a revelation of the rise, progress, and fall of Gentile world power during that period described by Christ as “the time of the Gentiles (Luke 21:24).”



- “The time of the Gentiles” Refers to that period of time during which world dominion is in the hands of the Gentiles instead of the Jews.
- This period began with the captivity, 606 B.C., and will end with the second coming of Christ.





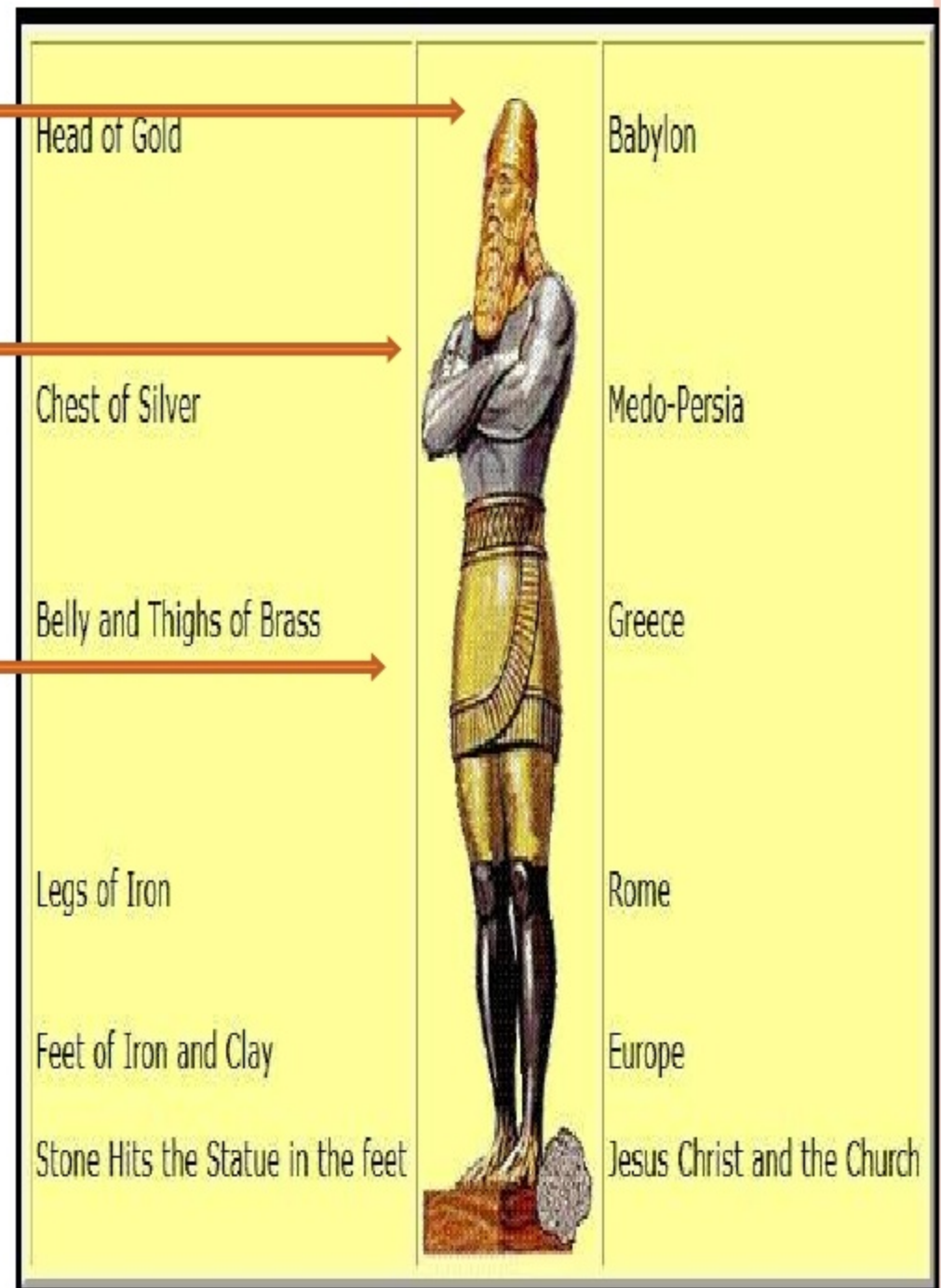
- Dan 2:31 Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness *was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.*
- Dan 2:32 This image's head *was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass,*
- Dan 2:33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.
- Dan 2:34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet *that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.*
- Dan 2:35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.



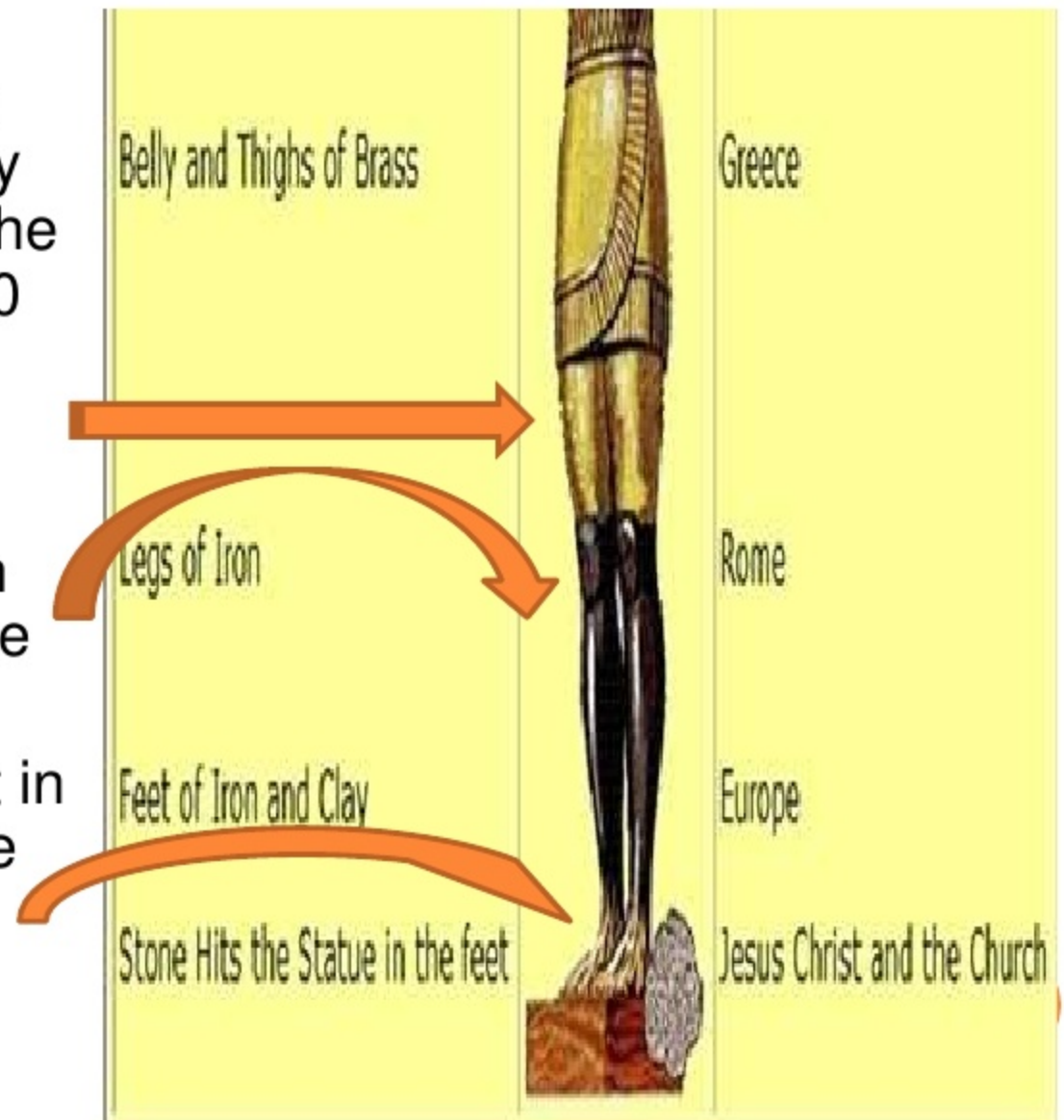
- The succession of world empires was set forth under the figure of a gigantic image composed of various metals.
- In the diminishing value of the metals composing the image, we may see the deterioration of world empires in relation to their character of government.
- The following is the interpretation of Nebuchadnezzar's dream:



- The head of gold symbolized **Babylon**, the empire of Nebuchadnezzar (606-538 B.C.).
- * The breast and arms of silver represented the empire of the **Medes and Persians** (538-338 B.C.), which was inferior to the Babylonians.
- * The lesser value of the belly and thighs of brass typified the **Grecian empire** (330-30 B.C.).
- This empire was later divided into four parts (7:6; 8:8).

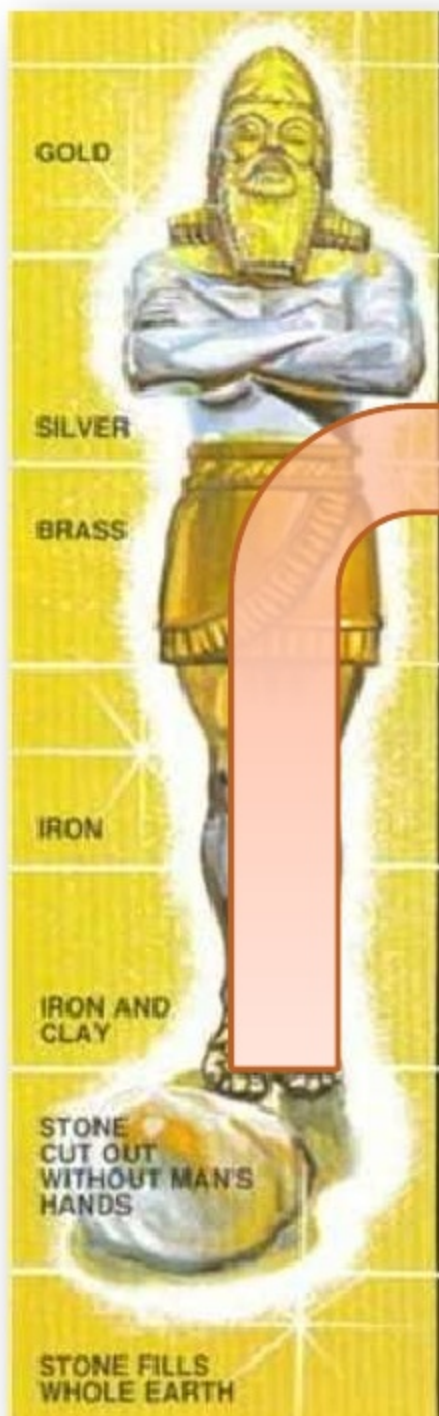


- The legs of iron and the feet and toes of part clay and part iron indicated the **Roman empire** (from 30 B.C. until the return of Christ).
- The two legs symbolize the eastern and western parts in which the empire was divided.
- The ten toes signify that in the last days, the empire will be divided into ten parts.



- Many scholars see a fulfillment of this in the European Economic Community, often called the Common Market.
- The EEC is now comprised of ten nations: Italy, West Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, the United Kingdom, Luxembourg, Denmark, Ireland, and Greece.





- The stone cut without hands, failing at the feet of the image, typifies -the **coming of Christ** at the time when the Roman empire will have been restored.
- The destruction of the image and the growth of the stone indicate the destruction of Gentile world power and the establishing of Christ's kingdom.



CHAPTER 3

- **Dan 3:1** Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height *was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.*

