

“The Significance of the Statue” **Daniel 2:27-49**

1. Daniel says in Daniel 2:28-20 that the king’s dream is prophetic about things to come and what was going to happen. And Daniel humbly affirms that the mystery of the dream was not revealed to him because he was wiser than others. Where else in chapters 1 and 2 have you seen the humility of Daniel as he gives credit to God for wisdom and power?

2. The image reveals the Gentile kingdoms that would rule over the people of Israel. What king and nation is represented by the head of gold?
Who bestowed on this ruler his kingdom, power, strength, and glory?

Who is represented by the chest and arms?
They conquered the Babylonians in 539 B.C.

The belly and thighs of bronze represent the Greeks (the third kingdom to arise) who, led by Alexander the Great, conquered the Medo-Persians between 334-330 B.C. Alexander’s empire, which extended as far east as northwest India, was seemingly “over all the earth” (v.39).

Who is represented by the legs of iron?
This fourth kingdom conquers the Greek Empire in 63 B.C.
The Roman Empire was stronger than all of the previous empires but it became characterized by division and a divided kingdom (iron mixed with clay).

3. Daniel then turns his focus on the overthrow of these kingdoms. We read in verse 34 that the statue was destroyed by a rock (not by human hands). Read Psalm 118:22 and 1 Peter 2:6-8. In Scripture, the Rock often refers to Jesus Christ, Messiah...the King who will one day rule over the earth, subduing it to His authority, and bring to culmination God’s original destiny for man.

Upon hearing Daniel’s amazing interpretation, what does Nebuchadnezzar do in verses 46, 48-49 (there are at least 5-6 things that he does!)?

How does Nebuchadnezzar’s respond when he considers our God (v. 47)?

What should our response be when we consider the greatness and majesty of God?

4. How has what you have seen today given you confidence in knowing that God is in control of history, and that His Word can be trusted?