

Read Daniel 2:37-49

37 Your Majesty, you are the greatest of kings. The God of heaven has given you sovereignty, power, strength, and honor. **38** He has made you the ruler over all the inhabited world and has put even the wild animals and birds under your control. You are the head of gold.

Read the vision vv. 39-45

The image represented the four Gentile powers that would exercise world dominion, ruling over the Jewish people. Nebuchadnezzar was the head of gold (v. 38). Persia was the arms of silver, one arm representing Media and the other Persia. Greece, the third kingdom, was the belly and thighs of bronze. The Roman Empire was the two legs and feet of iron. It's a strange vision isn't it?

44 "During the reigns of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed or conquered. It will crush all these kingdoms into nothingness, and it will stand forever.

45 That is the meaning of the rock cut from the mountain, though not by human hands, that crushed to pieces the statue of iron, bronze, clay, silver, and gold. The great God was showing the king what will happen in the future. The dream is true, and its meaning is certain."

46 Then King Nebuchadnezzar threw himself down before Daniel and worshiped him, and he commanded his people to offer sacrifices and burn sweet incense before him.

47 The king said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is the greatest of gods, the Lord over kings, a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this secret."

48 Then the king appointed Daniel to a high position and gave him many valuable gifts. He made Daniel ruler over the whole province of Babylon, as well as chief over all his wise men.

49 At Daniel's request, the king appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to be in charge of all the affairs of the province of Babylon, while Daniel remained in the king's court.

What did Daniel tell King Nebuchadnezzar (v. 37)? The God of Daniel had made him a great and powerful king.

What is the new kingdom that God will set up after the four Gentile kings (v. 44)? The kingdom that Jesus comes to set up.

What will that kingdom do? It will never be destroyed. It will crush all the other kingdoms and it will stand forever.

How did King Nebuchadnezzar react to Daniel's interpretation (v. 46)? He was so excited. He worshipped Daniel and ordered his people to also worship Daniel with sacrifices and incense.

What did the king think about Daniel's God? (v. 47)? The king confessed that Daniel's God was the greatest of all the gods. And he knew that God had revealed the meaning of the dream to Daniel.

How did the king reward Daniel for correctly telling him what the dream was and what it meant (v. 48)? He made Daniel the most important person in his kingdom, even ruler over all the king's wise men. And he gave Daniel lots of expensive gifts.

What did the king do for Daniel's three friends (v. 49)? He gave them a very important job.