

# "The Times of the Gentiles" (Part 2)

Daniel 2:36-49



In our last message on Daniel we looked at the dream that Nebuchadnezzar had as Daniel described to him. It was a "great image" (vs. 31) that was considered by the king as "terrible." It was an image of a man with a golden head, his breast and arms of silver, his belly and thighs of brass, his legs of iron, and his feet part iron and part clay. He saw a stone

cut out of the mountain that destroyed the image and then became a great mountain that "filled the whole earth" (vs. 35).

In the verses before us in this message – vs. 36-49 – we will look at the interpretation of that dream which identifies each of those parts of the image as well as the stone that destroyed it. We will then see what Nebuchadnezzar intended to do to Daniel after he told him the interpretation (as was promised in 2:6).

### Daniel 2:6

<sup>6</sup> But if ye shew the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honour: therefore shew me the dream, and the interpretation thereof.

## **II. INTERPRETATION – VS. 36**

***A. "This is the dream" – the previous 4 verses described the actual dream***

***B. "And we will tell the interpretation thereof"***

1. An interesting point here is the "we" of the verse.
2. In 2:17-18 shows that Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah were involved with the dream and the revealing of it to Daniel in that they prayed with Daniel about it.
3. 2:30 mentions that the revelation was for "their sakes that shall make known the interpretation."
4. So, it would seem that the "we" in this verse is the "their" of vs. 30, pointing back

to the three friends of Daniel in vs. 17-18.

5. It would appear that all of them were involved in this and all of them were rewarded for it in the end – vs. 49.

### **C. "Before the king" – in his presence**

## **III. IDENTIFICATION – VS. 37-45**

NOTE: These metals show these empires' degeneration one to the other, from gold to silver, to brass, to iron, and feet of iron and clay mixed. It is top-heavy, built on a weak foundation showing that man and his government will deteriorate, contrary to evolution.

### **A. The head of gold – vs. 37-38 – the first kingdom mentioned, the kingdom of Babylon, the greatest of their kings being Nebuchadnezzar**



#### **1. Vs. 37**

- a) "Thou, O king, art a king of kings" – simply stating the obvious – he was the king over

all other kings and kingdoms of the then known world that Daniel knew about – this isn't saying he was God, or equivalent to God, just that he was a superior to other kings.

#### Ezekiel 26:7

<sup>7</sup> For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will bring upon Tyrus Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, a king of kings, from the north, with horses, and with chariots, and with horsemen, and companies, and much people.

- b) "For the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory" – what Nebuchadnezzar had all came from God.

#### Daniel 2:21

<sup>21</sup> And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

#### Proverbs 8:15

<sup>15</sup> By me kings reign, and princes decree justice.

#### Jeremiah 28:14

<sup>14</sup> For thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; I have put a yoke of iron upon the neck of all these nations, that they may serve Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon; and they shall serve him: and I have given him the beasts of the field also.

## 2. Vs. 38

- a) "And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls

of the heaven hath given into thine hand."

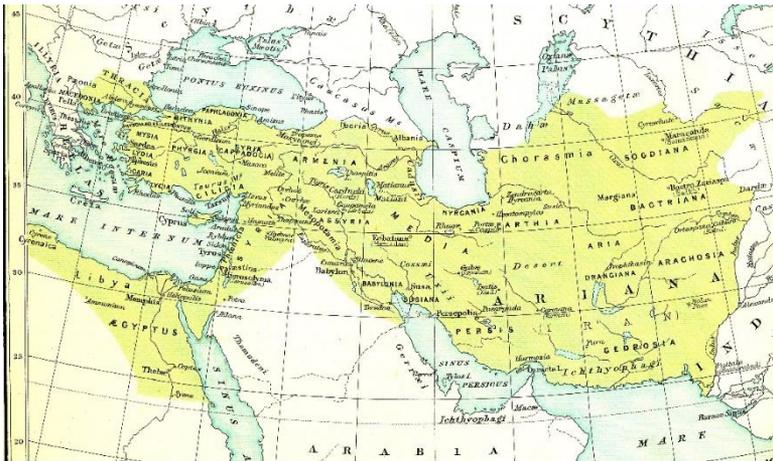
(1) *Again, not to be taken as control over all of creation for that is reserved for God Himself.*

(2) *This is speaking of wherever Daniel could go, the world as Daniel knew it, was controlled by Nebuchadnezzar, who was a totalitarian ruler, with literal control over everything that lived – men, beasts, birds, etc.*

b) "And hath made thee ruler over them all" – Nebuchadnezzar was absolute ruler.

c) "Thou art the head of gold" – may not have been the largest kingdom (the Medes and Persian Empire, Greece and Rome were all larger in scope) but it was the most totalitarian and most finite of them all.

***B. The breast and arms of silver – vs. 39a – the second kingdom, the kingdom of the Medes and Persians, the greatest ruler of this kingdom was Cyrus***



### Daniel 5:28-31

**28** PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

**29** Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

**30** In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.

**31** And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.

1. "And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee" – indicated by the silver, the kingdom might have been larger in size but not in power and absolute authority – the Law of the Medes and the Persians was one of unified law, rather than of dictatorial absolutes.
2. It could be said that the left arm might be Media and the right arm Persia – two nations that combined to come under one ruler, Cyrus the Great, prophesied by Isaiah 175 years before

### Isaiah 44:28-45:4

**28** That saith of Cyrus, He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.

**1** Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;

<sup>2</sup> I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron:

<sup>3</sup> And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call thee by thy name, am the God of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me.

***C. The belly and thighs of brass – vs. 39b – the third kingdom, Greece under Alexander the Great as its greatest ruler***



**Daniel 8:21**

<sup>21</sup> And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

1. "Shall bear rule over all the earth" – again, not every place on earth was under his control, but the part that had been

controlled by the previous kingdoms was taken by Alexander and then some – so, in effect, he ruled over "all the earth" that was knowable at the time (that man could travel to).

2. "The upper part of the legs represented the twofold stage of the last period of the Alexandrian Empire, which especially concerned the Jews, namely, Syria and Egypt." John F. Walvoord. Daniel: The Key to Prophetic Revelation: A Commentary (Kindle Location 1014). Kindle Edition.
3. This division carried on through the Roman Empire, which also was divided in two, just as Media and Persia were.

### ***D. Legs of iron, feet part iron and clay – vs. 40-43 - the fourth kingdom, the Roman Empire***

Luke 2:1

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.



1. Vs. 40 – "The fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron..." – this can be seen as the most important of the world empires to this point considering the amount of detail given to it by Daniel.
  - a) Rome – "breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things" – the Roman empire was largest in scope of the four, and the strongest as far as might and influence goes, yet inferior to the totalitarian rule of Nebuchadnezzar (Rome was Emperor-ruled, with the Senate).
  - b) "Shall it break in pieces and bruise" – speaks of the power of the Roman Empire over the previous three kingdoms, even though inferior in value (as iron compared to the other metals) it was more powerful in force.

#### Daniel 7:7

<sup>7</sup> After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

Leupold states, "The Roman legions were noted for their ability to crush all resistance with an iron heel. There is apparently little that is constructive in the program of this empire in spite of Roman law and Roman roads and civilization because the destructive work outweighed all else, for we have the double verb `crush and demolish ["break in pieces and bruise," AV]."

John F. Walvoord. Daniel: The Key to

Prophetic Revelation: A Commentary  
(Kindle Locations 942-944). Kindle Edition.

2. Vs. 41-43 – Daniel goes over the same point of the iron mixing with clay three different times here to emphasize the point.
  - a) Much is made of this mixing, but it is simply stating that the Roman nation would be divided into two (that part is history now), represented by the two legs; and in the future into 10 parts, which is seen in Rev. 16 and 17.

#### Revelation 16:12

<sup>12</sup> And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.

#### Revelation 17:12

<sup>12</sup> And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

- b) The two legs are seen by some as the division of the Empire into East and West – West with Rome as the capital and East with Constantinople (modern-day Istanbul) as the capital (this happened initially in 285 A.D. under Diocletian).
- c) The legs were longer than any other part and shows that this empire was to be the longest in duration – about 1,000 years.
- d) The iron symbolizes the autocracy (the absolute rule of one man) of the Caesars (totalitarianism).
- e) The clay symbolizes the democracy of the

masters (the Senate leaders of Rome). In the end time the clay will be the government of the masses – a democracy for some and a government by dictator for others.

- f) The toes symbolize a yet future ten-fold division of the territory of the Roman Empire during the last half of the Tribulation (Rev. 16 and 17, and Daniel 7) – some call this the Revived Roman Empire.

3. Vs. 43 uses the phrase "they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men."

"While intermarriage may form an element of it, it is not necessarily the main idea. Keil concludes, 'The figure of mixing by seed is derived from the sowing of the field with mingled seed, and denotes all the means employed by the rulers to combine the different nationalities, among which the connubium [intermarriage] is only spoken of as the most important and successful means.' The final form of the kingdom will include diverse elements whether this refers to race, political idealism, or sectional interests; and this will prevent the final form of the kingdom from having a real unity. This is, of course, borne out by the fact that the world empire at the end of the age breaks up into a gigantic civil war in which forces from the south, east, and north contend with the ruler of the Mediterranean for supremacy, as Daniel himself portrays in Daniel 11:36-45." (Walvoord)

4. The text here for the Roman Empire is dealing with two very distinct differences in time:

- a) One that took place for Daniel that was in

his future (prophecy) but for us was seen in the past.

- b) Two, the Tribulation period of Christ, looking past the entire Church age in the same verse.
- c) This is not uncommon in the Old Testament and can be seen in Isaiah's writing

#### Isaiah 61:1-2

<sup>1</sup> The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

<sup>2</sup> To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn;

"Probably the best solution to the problem is the familiar teaching that Daniel's prophecy actually passes over the present age, the period between the first and second coming of Christ or, more specifically, the period between Pentecost and the rapture of the church. There is nothing unusual about such a solution, as Old Testament prophecies often lump together predictions concerning the first and second coming of Christ without regard for the millennia that lay between (Lk 4:17-19; cf. Is 61:1-2)." (Walvoord)

### ***E. The fifth kingdom will be that of the Millennial reign of Christ – vs. 44-45.***

- 1. Vs. 44 gives the details of the fifth and final kingdom that will rule over this earth.
  - a) "And in the days of these kings"

(1) *In the days of the kingdom of the "ten toes" (vs. 42-43) and the days of the ten kings (7:8, 15-28)*

(2) *This is seen as happening simultaneously – the event of vs. 44 takes place while the kingdom of the 10 toes was in power.*

"According to Daniel's prophecy, the ten-toe stage is simultaneous, that is, the kingdoms existed side by side and were destroyed by one sudden catastrophic blow. Nothing like this has yet occurred in history." (Walvoord)

(3) *This takes place at the very end of the Tribulation period – at what is called the Battle of Armageddon*

#### Revelation 16:12

<sup>12</sup> And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.

#### Revelation 17:12

<sup>12</sup> And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast.

b) "Shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom"

(1) *This point should settle any argument that the amillennialist interpretation of prophecy would be able to make – there has not been a kingdom that the God of heaven has set up on earth that would fit this verse.*

- (2) *This kingdom is seen in verses 34-35 as coming on suddenly and destroying every remnant of all the others (each kingdom mentioned had parts of the others involved in them).*
- (3) *God is the one doing the setting, as well as saying that the God of heaven is the one that rules in this kingdom.*

#### Genesis 49:10

**10** The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.

#### Psalms 2:6-12

**6** Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.

**7** I will declare the decree: the LORD hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.

**8** Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession.

**9** Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

**10** Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth.

**11** Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling.

**12** Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.

### Isaiah 9:6-7

<sup>6</sup> For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

- c) "Which shall never be destroyed" – it shall never end

### Daniel 7:13-14

<sup>13</sup> I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

<sup>14</sup> And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

### Revelation 11:15

<sup>15</sup> And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

- d) "And the kingdom shall not be left to other people" – there will not be another kingdom, nor another ruler to come after the kingdom of Christ on earth – the event to follow the reign of Christ is that this earth and heaven will be destroyed.

### 2 Peter 3:10–12

<sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

<sup>11</sup> Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,

<sup>12</sup> Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat?

- e) "But it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever"

*(1) Amillennialists say this kingdom began with Christ coming the first time and establishing the church – the church, they say, fulfills this dream.*

*(2) This point shows that that's not possible – the church did not break in pieces and consume all others – in no way does it fulfill this point.*

2. Vs. 45 shows that this dream, and its fulfillment is absolutely certain and absolutely sure.

a) "Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands"

(1) *"The stone" – none other than the Son of God Himself; the Messiah; the Christ*

#### Psalm 118:22

**22** The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

#### Isaiah 28:16

**16** Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste.

#### Zechariah 12:3

**3** And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.

#### Acts 4:10–11

**10** Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

**11** This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

#### 1 Peter 2:3–7

**3** If so be ye have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

**4** To whom coming, as unto a living

stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, and precious,

<sup>5</sup> Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.

<sup>6</sup> Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded.

<sup>7</sup> Unto you therefore which believe he is precious: but unto them which be disobedient, the stone which the builders disallowed, the same is made the head of the corner,

(2) *"Without hands" - no human involvement was seen here - the Stone was taken out of the mountain and appeared - Jesus appeared the first time from the heavenly Seed, and the second time He will appear on the Mount of Olives, with no human involvement.*

- b) "And that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold" - vs. 35 - utterly destroys all other nations
- c) "The great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter" - a prophecy from God Himself
- d) "And the dream is certain" - very emphatic, very absolute - nothing could change it then, and nothing can change it now.
- e) "And the interpretation thereof sure" - since the dream was certain (and that it came from God) then the interpretation is

just as certain, just as sure, for it also came from God.

#### **IV. INTENTION – vs. 46-49**

##### ***A. Toward Daniel – vs. 46, 48***

1. Vs. 46 - he "worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odours unto him"
  - a) He didn't worship Daniel as a god – Nebuchadnezzar was a god to others and would not have stooped in that way to another man. This is seen in other places where men were "worshipped" – bowed to in reverence to who they were and who they represented.

[Acts 10:25](#)

<sup>25</sup> And as Peter was coming in, Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him.

- b) Daniel wasn't accepting this "worship" as a god either – he wasn't putting himself in the place of the God of heaven, as some critics teach.

An interesting point to make here: Daniel, a teenager from a conquered nation now is being bowed to with the same reverence as the king himself would receive from those he conquered and that served him by the very king that conquered them. This shows that God will honor those that serve Him – in unusual ways at times.

- c) Nebuchadnezzar was simply recognizing him as a worthy representative of his God.  
"It is quite clear, however, from the resulting conversation of the king with

Daniel, that Nebuchadnezzar merely regarded Daniel as a worthy priest or representative of his God and was honoring him in this category. This is brought out in the king's statement to Daniel, "Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret." In other words, even the king understood that Daniel was the ambassador and representative of God but not deity himself. It is probably for this reason that Daniel permitted the king to do what he did. In any case, it hardly would have been proper for Daniel under these circumstances to have interrupted the king with a protest." (Walvoord)

## 2. Vs. 48 – Daniel was made a "great man"

- a) One of great prominence and authority, as well as one of great wealth
- b) This doesn't happen to every child of God that lives a godly life and does right, but it demonstrates for us that God will reward a godly life – whether it happens here, at the Judgment Seat of Christ and/or during the Millennial reign of Christ.
- c) "Made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon" – "the whole monarchy was divided into several provinces, over each of which was a deputy governor; this of Babylon was the chief of them, Babylon being the metropolis of the empire; the whole government of which, and all belonging to it, was given to Daniel; a proof of the king's high esteem for him." (Gill)
- d) "And chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon" – because the other wise men couldn't give the dream, and Daniel could and did, Nebuchadnezzar

rewarded him for it by putting him over all the other wise men in the nation of Babylon.

- e) Something very similar to this happened to Joseph under Pharaoh – again, showing not only the providence of God but the rewarding of His children for doing right.

#### Genesis 41:39–43

**39** And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:

**40** Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

**41** And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, See, I have set thee over all the land of Egypt.

**42** And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand, and put it upon Joseph's hand, and arrayed him in vestures of fine linen, and put a gold chain about his neck;

**43** And he made him to ride in the second chariot which he had; and they cried before him, Bow the knee: and he made him ruler over all the land of Egypt.

- f) Another example of this in Scripture is with Mordecai in the Book of Esther.

#### Esther 8:1–2

**1** On that day did the king Ahasuerus give the house of Haman the Jews' enemy unto Esther the queen. And Mordecai came before the king; for Esther had told what he was unto her.

**2** And the king took off his ring, which he had taken from Haman, and gave it unto

Mordecai. And Esther set Mordecai over the house of Haman.

### Esther 10:1-3

<sup>1</sup> And the king Ahasuerus laid a tribute upon the land, and upon the isles of the sea.

<sup>2</sup> And all the acts of his power and of his might, and the declaration of the greatness of Mordecai, whereunto the king advanced him, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Media and Persia?

<sup>3</sup> For Mordecai the Jew was next unto king Ahasuerus, and great among the Jews, and accepted of the multitude of his brethren, seeking the wealth of his people, and speaking peace to all his seed.

## ***B. Toward the God of Daniel – vs. 47***

1. In this verse we begin to see Nebuchadnezzar's recognition of the God of heaven as being the greatest of all gods. This did not last for long, for in chapter 3 we find recorded for us that Nebuchadnezzar took to being a god in place of the God of heaven (read 3:1-25).
2. "Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings" – he recognized the God we serve as the greatest God of all – he did this more than this one time, indicating that he realized who God is, and eventually served Him as well.

### Daniel 3:28-30

<sup>28</sup> Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach,

and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.

**29** Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

**30** Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.

#### Daniel 4:34-37

**34** And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation:

**35** And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

**36** At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.

**37** Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol

and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

3. There are several other instances in Scripture where our God, the God of heaven, is recognized as the God of gods.

#### Deuteronomy 10:17-18

**17** For the LORD your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward:

**18** He doth execute the judgment of the fatherless and widow, and loveth the stranger, in giving him food and raiment.

#### Psalms 136:1-3

**1** O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.

**2** O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endureth for ever.

**3** O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endureth for ever.

4. Christ is also called the Lord of lords, demonstrating that He is God.

#### 1 Timothy 6:14-16

**14** That thou keep this commandment without spot, unrebukeable, until the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ:

**15** Which in his times he shall shew, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords;

**16** Who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto; whom no man hath seen, nor can see: to whom be honour and power everlasting.

Amen.

#### Revelation 17:14

<sup>14</sup> These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

#### Revelation 19:16

<sup>16</sup> And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.

#### Philippians 2:10–11

<sup>10</sup> That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

<sup>11</sup> And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

5. "A revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret" – Nebuchadnezzar recognized that no other god but the God of Daniel could do such a thing.

### ***C. Toward Daniel's friends – vs. 49***

1. Daniel didn't forget his friends when he was exalted to such a great position – as many have done, and as many even today would do – he was true to his friends, as we should be to ours.
2. Daniel, although in powerful position, still had to get permission from the king to elevate Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego.

3. These three were placed in position directly under Daniel – deputies under him to help him with his duties.
4. "But Daniel sat in the gate of the king" – "was the chief officer in the palace; and the greatest confidant and counselor of the king." (Clarke)
  - a) We can contrast Daniel sitting in the "gate of the king" with Lot who "sat in the gate of Sodom."

Genesis 19:1

- <sup>1</sup> And there came two angels to Sodom at even; and Lot sat in the gate of Sodom: and Lot seeing them rose up to meet them; and he bowed himself with his face toward the ground;
- b) Daniel, got to where he was because of a desire to be right with God, and do the will of God; while Lot got to where he was by wanting what he thought best for himself, out of selfish desires.
- c) Daniel was blessed by God and was used by God, while Lot was chastened by God, and lost everything he had because he was to worldly minded.
- d) Question: who do we want to be like?

Conclusion: We can see many things in this passage – from history to prophecy. But the one thing we need to take away from this for us today is that God will honor those that honor Him and will take care of His own. We may not all be exalted like Daniel, to position of authority and wealth, but God has established principles throughout Scripture that if we follow Him and do what He says out of love then

He will take care of us.

As to the prophecy here given, we can see developments today that would indicate that the end, even according to the book of Daniel, is drawing near. The events in Europe and the Near and Middle East are developing to a degree that we can see another kingdom developing that will fall under the accords of the "ten toes" here. We can know that the Lord's return is soon and that His prophetic Words are going to unfold just as He said.