

# Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

Daniel 2:31-45

Introduction:

- A. Nebuchadnezzar's impossible demand of his wise men.
- B. Daniel saves the wise men by recalling and interpreting the dream.
- C. What does a Babylonian king's dream over 2600 years ago have to do with us?
  - 1. Christians are beneficiaries of the fulfillment of that dream.
  - 2. Establishes that the kingdom has already been established - not yet to be.
- D. Let us examine the dream itself, Daniel's interpretation and its ultimate fulfillment.

Discussion:

## I. The Dream

- A. God's use of special dreams in revelation.
  - 1. Spoke in "diverse manners" in times past (Heb. 1:1).
  - 2. Joseph's dreams (Gen. 37:5-11)
  - 3. Pharaoh's dream (Gen. 41).
  - 4. Joseph's (Mary's husband) dreams (Matt. 1,2)
  - 5. A method used by the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:17).
  - 6. Not all dreams were divinely inspired (Isa. 29:8).
- B. The image (vv. 31-33)
- C. The stone cut without hands (vv. 34-35)

## II. The Interpretation

- A. The head of **gold** - Babylon (vv. 36-38).
  - 1. Nebuchadnezzar's rule (606-562 BC)
  - 2. Became part of Persian Empire (539 BC)
- B. The breast and arms of **silver** (v. 39).
  - 1. The Medo-Persian Empire (539-334 BC).
  - 2. Conquered by Alexander the Great (334 BC)
- C. The belly and thighs of **brass** (v. 39).
  - 1. Grecian or Hellenistic empire (4<sup>th</sup> to 1<sup>st</sup> century BC)
  - 2. Gradually gave way to Roman power.
- D. The legs of **iron** and feet of iron and clay (vv. 40-43).
  - 1. The Roman dominance begins in 1<sup>st</sup> century BC.
  - 2. Both strong and weak - United then divided.
- E. The stone - the indestructible kingdom (vv. 44-45)

## III. The Fulfillment

- A. The King born in the days of the Caesars (Luke 1:31-33; 2:1)
- B. His kingdom established.
  - 1. Preached "at hand" (Matt. 3:2; 4:17)
  - 2. In that generation (Mark 9:1).
  - 3. Fulfilled on Pentecost (Acts 2:29-36).
  - 4. Christians in it (Col. 1:13).
  - 5. Same as the church (Matt. 16:18,19; Acts 2:30-33 w/ Eph. 1:20-23).
- C. Roman empire could not destroy it, but empire was destroyed.

Conclusion:

- A. Are you a citizen of the kingdom?
- B. God has made Jesus both Lord and Christ? Have you?
- C. If you will receive the remission of sins you will be in the kingdom (Col. 1:13, 14; Acts 2:38)