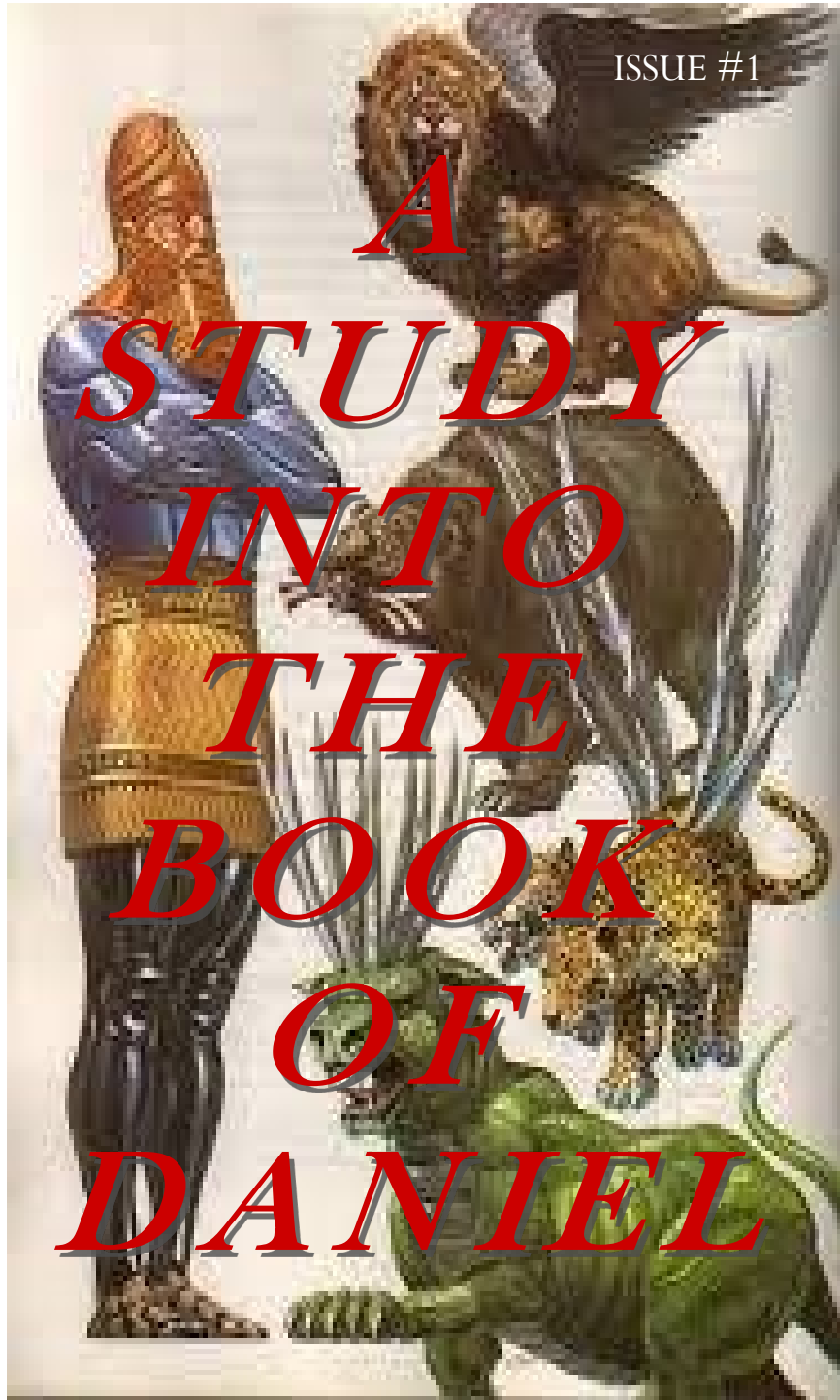


ISSUE #1

*A
STUDY
INTO
THE
BOOK
OF
DANIEL*





Y.E.A.



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"Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price," Isa. 55:1.

"...freely ye have received, freely give," Mat. 10:8.

Please note:

The true Names of the Creator, Yahweh, and His Son Yahshua the Messiah, are used throughout this booklet, instead of the common but erroneous forms found in most translations of the Holy Scriptures.

These Names are found thousands of times in the Original, Inspired Scriptures, but most translators say they have “followed longstanding tradition” by inserting substitutes such as “LORD” and “GOD” in place of Yahweh’s Name, and the Savior’s True Name has been corrupted by centuries of Greek, Latin, and French influence. For more information, or for additional copies of this booklet, please write to the U. S. address on the preceding page.

A STUDY INTO THE BOOK OF DANIEL

PREFACE

The book of Daniel is a most important book because of the history and prophecies that are related to it. In actuality, the book of Revelation can't be understood without first taking a look into the book of Daniel in order to see what was prophetically revealed there. We know that many of the things in Daniel have been sealed until the last days, "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased," Dan. 12:4. We are closer to the last days now than we have ever been, of course. How much time is left? We don't know for sure, but in accordance with the heavenly calendar, we are very, very close to the end of this age and the beginning of a new one. While we do have an idea, so many, many in the past and present have set dates that have turned out to be bogus. But the book of Daniel can also give us a very general idea since there are times given in it.

We can also determine that we are close to the end of the age because of the explosion in knowledge that has taken place in the last century with an ever increasing rapid expansion in these days, as is related in the above verse. Man is now accomplishing things that we have no recorded history of to this point. With the advent of the space and computer age, knowledge is increasing by leaps and bounds, but then, so is evil, wickedness and violence. But the knowledge that man is increasing in is worldly, physical knowledge, which is in contradiction to the Scriptural revelations. The more man increases in his own knowledge, the more he forsakes and the further away he gets from Yahweh's knowledge. Why? Paul writes, "For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the disputer of this world? Hath not Yahweh made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of Yahweh the world by wisdom knew not Yahweh, it pleased Yahweh by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe," 1 Cor. 1:19-21.

Do you understand what is being said here? There is the wisdom of this world, which is the wisdom of man, and there is the wisdom of Elohim, which is the wisdom of Yahweh. The wisdom of Yahweh, to this world and to man is foolish, but Yahweh will destroy the wisdom of this world, and man's wisdom by His greater, and only true wisdom! HalleluYah!

Paul continues in the next chapter, "Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world,

that come to nought: But **we speak the wisdom of Elohim in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which Yahweh ordained before the world unto our glory:** Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Sovereign of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which Yahweh hath prepared for them that love him. But Yahweh hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for **the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of Elohim.** For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of Elohim knoweth no man, but the Spirit of Elohim. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of Yahweh; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of Yahweh. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Spirit teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. **But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of Yahweh: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned,"** 1 Cor. 2:6-14.

Man's knowledge causes him to reject the Creator. But we are getting to the point where the knowledge contained in the book of Daniel and the other Scriptures is also being revealed, but few are paying attention to it because of unbelief and the faulty wisdom of the spirit of man. We are going to see the evidence of these things as they are recorded in the book of Daniel and the rest of the prophets. This study must be a lengthy in-depth study, as deep as we can possibly go. But we must learn of these things so that we can be forewarned.

ADAM AND ISRAEL

We need to set the stage for the book of Daniel in the first place. In the beginning of chapter one, Daniel and his companions find themselves thrust into captivity by the Babylonian King Nebuchadnezzar (Dan. 1:1-3). Why did this take place? Why did judgment come upon Israel and Judah?

The Israelites were the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Yahweh stated in the Prophet Isaiah that Abraham was His friend, "But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham **my friend,**" Isa. 41:8. The Hebrew word for "friend" is *ahav* (אהב/אָהַב), which is, in all actuality, the word for LOVE!

The book of Genesis records the creation along with Adam who was made in the image of Elohim. But Adam's act of rebellion has brought death upon not only himself, but every man, "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned: (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law. Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that

was to come," Ro. 5:12-14.

Later the forefathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob came along who were utilized to raise up the house of Israel. Under Joseph they went down into Egypt, which at the first brought about deliverance not only for themselves, but the Egyptians. However, a later Pharaoh arose who had purposely forgotten about the marvelous deliverance through Joseph. He worked subtly and underhandedly to bring Israel into the bondage of slavery.

Through the hand of Moses, Yahweh eventually delivered His people from that Egyptian bondage with a mighty and powerful hand. He judged Egypt and her false gods, false religious system with wondrous acts and brought Israel out into the wilderness where He made a covenant with them. It is stated in the book of Psalms, "I have said, Ye are elohim; and all of you are children of the most High. But ye shall die like men, and fall like one of the princes," Psa. 82:6-7.

The literal Hebrew word for "men" is the word or name Adam! Yahshua, Himself told them, "Is it not written in your law, I said, Ye are elohim? If **he called them elohim, unto whom the word of Elohim came**, and the scripture cannot be broken; Say ye of him, whom the Father hath sanctified, and sent into the world, Thou blasphemest; because I said, I am the Son of Elohim?" Jn. 10:34-36. Notice that! He called them elohim to whom the Word of Elohim came! Yet they are/were going to die like Adam.

The Prophet Hosea helps to give us a little more understanding, "O Ephraim, what shall I do unto thee? O Judah, what shall I do unto thee? for your goodness is as a morning cloud, and as the early dew it goeth away. Therefore have I hewed them by the prophets; I have slain them by the words of my mouth: and thy judgments are as the light that goeth forth. For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of Elohim more than burnt offerings. But they like men have transgressed the covenant: there have they dealt treacherously against me," Hos. 6:4-7.

Once again, the word "men" is translated from the Hebrew word/name Adam! Yahweh made a covenant with Adam, but Adam transgressed that covenant. He then came to Israel in a most powerful way, made a covenant with them elevating them to become princes, kings, elohim to the rest of the world, but they, like Adam, transgressed His covenant, and therefore had to suffer the pangs of corruption, death, and destruction.

After Solomon's reign and death the house of Israel was divided between the northern kingdom which was ruled from Samaria by Ephraimite kings and the southern kingdom of Judah ruled by King David's descendants from Jerusalem. The northern kingdom named Israel fell away from the worship of Yahweh and never returned. They were finally destroyed in about 723 -721 BCE. The south-

ern kingdom of Judah continued for almost two hundred years before Yahweh brought King Nebuchadnezzar and his Babylonian forces against them because of their infidelity. The first general defeat and captivity occurred around 606-602 BCE. The final destruction of Jerusalem took place around 587-585 BCE.

BABYLON

Adam and Eve became confused when they partook of the forbidden fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Israel became confused when they transgressed Yahweh's covenant. Thus, the world is in a truly confused mess. Babylon comes from the Hebrew word Babel/Bavel which means confusion! Babylon (confusion) became the world ruling kingdom of the day, and the book of Revelation reveals that Babylon is still ruling today. The whole world has been deceived by the serpent dragon Satan, "And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, **which deceiveth the whole world**: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him," Rev. 12:9.

The world is still ruled by Babylon's successors. The world is still in chaos and confusion. We are going to find that as we go through the book of Daniel there are dreams, images, visions, etc. given which are confusing and not able to be understood until Yahweh reveals them to His servants of which Daniel is a special servant, but even Daniel doesn't understand everything that is revealed to him by Yahweh. It is Yahweh's choice to reveal whatever He so desires to whomsoever He so chooses, but there are still many hidden things that He has reserved to Himself which will be revealed if and when He so chooses.

The Proverbs state, "It is the glory of Elohim to conceal **a thing**: but the honour of kings is to search out **a matter**," Prov. 25:2. Interestingly, "a thing" and "a matter" are both translated from the very same Hebrew word, which is *dabar* (דָּבָר/אִשָּׁר). This Hebrew word *dabar* is the word for "word." Thus, when the Word of Yahweh appeared to Abram the Hebrew He was Dabar-Yahweh (דָּבָר-יְהוָה/אִשָּׁר - אִשָּׁר).

All things were made by the Word of Yahweh (דָּבָר-יְהוָה/אִשָּׁר - אִשָּׁר), "By the word of Yahweh (דָּבָר-יְהוָה/אִשָּׁר - אִשָּׁר) were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear Yahweh: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast," Psa. 33:6-9.

This same word eventually became flesh, "In the beginning was the Word (דָּבָר/אִשָּׁר), and the Word was with Yahweh, and the Word was Yahweh. The same was in the beginning with Yahweh. All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the

light of men....**He was in the world, and the world was made by him,** and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of Elohim, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of Elohim. And the Word (דבר/אשד) was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth," Jn. 1:1-4, 11-14.

I have utilized both the modern day Hebrew as well as the more ancient Paleo Hebrew to illustrate the truth about the Word of Yahweh/Dabar-Yahweh (יהוה דבר/אשד - אשד). The more ancient Hebrew was a more pictorial way of presenting language. In other words, the letters were represented by pictures, hieroglyphics, in order to make up the words. The pictures will reveal eye-opening truths that we had not otherwise known, nor understood.

The first letter in this Hebrew word *dabar* (דבר/אשד) is a *dalet*. The *dalet* (ד/א) is the picture/hieroglyphic for a door. The second letter is a *beit* (ב/ש), which is the picture of a house, tent, temple, family. The third letter is a *resh* (ר/א), which is the picture of the head of a man. The much more ancient Pictorial Hebrew makes it more clear (רש). So *dabar*, in pictorial, is the door (*dalet*; ד/א) to the head (*resh*; ר/א) of the house (*beit*; ב/ש).

Isn't this so true? Our words come from the door (mouth) of our heads. The head is the house where the door resides. Yahshua, being the Word, is the door to the head of Elohim, the Father. He said so Himself, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber. But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the porter openeth; and the sheep hear his voice: and he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out. And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice. And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers. **This parable spake Yahshua unto them: but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.** Then said Yahshua unto them again, Verily, verily, I say unto you, I am the door of the sheep. All that ever came before me are thieves and robbers: but the sheep did not hear them. **I am the door:** by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture," Jn. 10:1-9.

Notice that He was speaking a parable. In Matthew chapter thirteen, it is revealed that Yahshua came speaking in parables in order to keep things from being understood, "And the disciples came, and said unto him, Why speakest thou unto them

in parables? He answered and said unto them, Because it is given unto you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it is not given. For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance: but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath. Therefore speak I to them in parables: because they seeing see not; and hearing they hear not, neither do they understand. And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them," Mt. 13:10-17.

This doesn't mean that His disciples understood His parables. He always had to explain to them what His parables meant until they received the gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2), then they were given the Holy Spirit so that they could understand spiritual things.

In actuality, Yahshua is the door to the Heavenly Father. None can come to the Father except through Him, "Yahshua saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: **no man cometh unto the Father, but by me,**" Jn. 14:6.

Furthermore, since Yahshua is the Word through which all things are created, let's take a look at the last two letters of the Hebrew word *dabar*. They are *beit* (ב/פ) and *resh* (ר/א). When they are isolated together, they make up the Hebrew word *bar* (בר/א פ), which is one of the chief Hebrew words for SON! Since the *beit* is an hieroglyphic for a house, tent, temple, family, and the *resh* is an hieroglyphic for the head of a man, then the Hebrew word *bar* (son) hieroglyphically means "a head (ר) of the house, or family (ב)." (I have presented this *resh*, and *beit* in the even more ancient Pictorial Hebrew to hopefully get the point clearly across.)

Yahshua is the Son of Elohim (Mt. 3:17; 17:5; Mk. 9:7; Lk. 9:35; 2 Pet. 1:17). He is the door to the Father (Jn. 14:6). He is the Word (Jn. 1:1-14). He is also identified as the Word of Yahweh in Revelation chapter 19, "And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called **The Word of Yahweh** (Dabar-Yahweh). And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine

linen, white and clean. And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations: and he shall rule them with a rod of iron: and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty Yahweh. And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND SOVEREIGN OF SOVEREIGNS," Rev. 19:11-16. We know that this is speaking of Yahshua the Messiah!

The world, of course, is in confusion concerning these things even as are the overall preponderance of assemblies who call themselves after the name Yahweh, etc. Moses, the Psalms, and the Prophets (including Daniel) were writing about Him. So also did those who penned the New Testament evangels, epistles, etc. All are declaring what He has done, is doing, and will do, HalleluYah!!!!

DANIEL CHAPTER 1

With the things in mind from the Preface posted in edition 115, let us get into the book of Daniel and see what we can deduct from the written pages.

Da 1:1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.

2 And the Sovereign gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of Elohim: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his elohim; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his elohim.

COMMENT: Yahweh was now in the process of overthrowing and destroying the remaining house of Israel called Judah and her reign on the earth because of her unfaithfulness to His covenant. But what is also interesting about verse two is the fact that the temple's vessels are given into Nebuchadnezzar's hands who takes them and places them into the temple of his elohim. Babylon, as Egypt and the rest of the world, worshipped many false gods, but they always had a chief god who was over all the others. The Babylonians worshipped Nebow, Marduk, Bel, Ishtar, etc. This placing of Yahweh's vessels into the temple of Babylon's elohim has to do with the fact that the Babylonians were taking many of the powers, glory, and honor of Yahweh and were going to bestow them upon their false elohim. Nebuchadnezzar is, in effect, as did the Romans, taking the Elohim of the Hebrews captive and placing Him into the temples of Babylon's own deities.

The same practices are being followed to this very day! The heathen rage and the kings, the leaders of the earth set themselves and take counsel together against Yahweh and His Anointed, His Messiah saying, "Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us," Psa. 2:1-3. In other words they are declaring that His laws are done away, but they still utilize a corrupted version of His word in order to gather the people together with them. Have you ever heard of the King James Bible? This Bible has been a powerful tool to spread Christianity throughout the whole world! Yet, the true names of the Creator and the Anointed (the Messiah), that is, the names Yahweh and Yahshua are removed and replaced with the words "the LORD; God, and Jesus Christ instead!

The teaching is that the commandments, especially the Sabbath and annual Holy Days are done away with the pagan sun god's weekly Sunday substituted along with the annual holidays.

Yahweh's people should be somewhat heartened by this because when Jacob/Israel was told that his son Joseph was alive and held a great office in Egypt, he was encouraged to take the rest of the family to go down into Egypt, he went to Beer-sheba where Yahweh appeared to him and informed him that he should go,

"And Israel took his journey with all that he had, and came to Beersheba, and offered sacrifices unto the Elohim of his father Isaac. And Elohim spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I. And he said, I am El, the Elohi of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation: **I will go down with thee into Egypt**; and I will also surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes," Gen. 46:1-4.

Do you understand what Yahweh is implying here? He sent His people into captivity, but He still goes with His people! He allows Himself to be taken into captivity also. Of course, there are some vessels that He refuses to allow to go into captivity. We do know that the Ark of the Covenant never went into captivity to the Babylonians or the Romans. It seems that either Jeremiah took and hid it, or, if we want to believe the Scriptures, it may have been taken into heaven since we read in the book of Revelation, "And the temple of Elohim was opened in heaven, and **there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament**: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail," Rev. 11:9. Testament would be the same as Covenant. But we do know that the vessels, tabernacle, temple, ark of the covenant made by the hands of men were only physical representatives of those things made by Yahweh in the heavens.

The King and Psalmist David understood the concept of Yahweh going with and suffering with His people because He wrote, " Yea, **though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death**, I will fear no evil: for **thou art with me**; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me," Psa. 23:4.

How true! The Word of Yahweh emptied Himself of His majesty, power, esteem, became a man and suffered and died for every one of those Who are His!

The Prophet Amos testifies, "I saw Yahweh standing upon the altar: and he said, Smite the lintel of the door, that the posts may shake: and cut them in the head, all of them; and I will slay the last of them with the sword: he that fleeth of them shall not flee away, and he that escapeth of them shall not be delivered. Though they dig into hell, thence shall mine hand take them; though they climb up to heaven, thence will I bring them down: And though they hide themselves in the top of Carmel, I will search and take them out thence; and though they be hid from my sight in the bottom of the sea, thence will I command the serpent, and he shall bite them: And though they go into captivity before their enemies, thence will I command the sword, and it shall slay them: and I will set mine eyes upon them for evil, and not for good. And Yahweh Elohim of hosts is he that toucheth the land, and it shall melt, and all that dwell therein shall mourn: and it shall rise up wholly like a flood; and shall be drowned, as by the flood of Egypt. It is he that buildeth his stories in the heaven, and hath founded his troop in the earth; he that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the

face of the earth: Yahweh is his name. Are ye not as children of the Ethiopians unto me, O children of Israel? saith Yahweh. Have not I brought up Israel out of the land of Egypt? and the Philistines from Caphtor, and the Syrians from Kir? Behold, the eyes of the Sovereign Yahweh are upon the sinful kingdom, and I will destroy it from off the face of the earth; saving that I will not utterly destroy the house of Jacob, saith Yahweh. **For, lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth.** All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us. In that day will I raise up the tabernacle of David that is fallen, and close up the breaches thereof; and I will raise up his ruins, and I will build it as in the days of old: That they may possess the remnant of Edom, and of all the heathen, which are called by my name, saith Yahweh that doeth this," Amos 9:1-12.

All of the prophets decry the dreadful corruptions, sins, wickedness, and devastations of Israel, but even as they are prophesying destructions, they are also prophesying mercies and restoration.

Da 1:3 And the king spake unto Ashpenaz **the master** of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes;

COMMENT: The term utilized for "master" is *rab/rav* (רַב/רָב). The Babylonians are the first ones in the Scriptures to apply this term to men. It is utilized of Nebuzaradan, captain (*rab*) of the guard in 2 Ki. 25:8 and other captains in 2 Ki. 25:10-12, 15, 18, 20; Jer. 39:9-11, 13, 40:1-2, 5, etc. It not only means master and captain, but also great, many, abundant, etc. Thus, the Jewish Rabbis have taken this term in order to identify themselves as ones who are great, abundant, and masters. This is why Yahshua warned, "Then spake Yahshua to the multitude, and to his disciples, Saying, The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat: All therefore whatsoever they bid you observe, that observe and do; but do not ye after their works: for they say, and do not. For they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers. But all their works they do for to be seen of men: they make broad their phylacteries, and enlarge the borders of their garments, And love the uppermost rooms at feasts, and the chief seats in the synagogues, And greetings in the markets, and to be called of men, **Rabbi, Rabbi. But be not ye called Rabbi: for one is your Master, even the Messiah; and all ye are brethren.** And call no man your father upon the earth: for one is your Father, which is in heaven. Neither be ye called masters: for one is your Master, even the Messiah. But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant," Mt. 23:1-11.

Yahshua even links the term Rabbi to the word Master which is *kathegetes* in the

Greek meaning "a guide, teacher, or master." Thus, in utilizing the term Rabbi they are taking the place of Yahshua the Messiah, the Anointed One, claiming that they are the earth's masters, great ones, great teachers, and guides.

Notice that He also admonishes us to call no man "our father" on the earth. We must warn any who will listen that they must not submit themselves to any who would call themselves a Rabbi, nor should they submit themselves to another faith wherein the priests are all called "Father."

Da 1:4 Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.

5 And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.

6 Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:

7 Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel the name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego.

COMMENT: Wisdom, knowledge, and understanding are important things to consider because the book of Proverbs decrees, "Yahweh by **wisdom** hath founded the earth; by **understanding** hath he established the heavens. By his **knowledge** the depths are broken up, and the clouds drop down the dew," Prov. 3:19-20. A great accumulation of knowledge in sciences, mathematics, etc. is required to be able to search out, possess, and understand these things concerning the earth, heavens, and the deeper knowledge concerning how it all works together. These children had to be so very special because they had to be both physically and spiritually without blemish, and they also had to have the capacity to become advanced in wisdom, understanding and knowledge.

Verses 6 and 7 reveal the proclivity of the Babylonians to refuse to accept the Hebrew names and assign their own names linked to their own deities. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were named in accordance with the Hebrew Elohim and terms. But other nations always desire to raise their own idolatrous gods and their blasphemous names above the true Hebrew Elohim.

The Hebrew name Daniel means "El is my judge," but the Babylonian name Belteshazzar means "The treasure of Bel," or "The despository of the secrets (or treasure) of Bel," according to *Adam Clark's Commentary*, and "Bel's prince" according to *Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Commentary*.

Hananiah means "Favored of Yah/Yahweh" in Hebrew while Shadrach means "The inspiration of the sun;" or "God the author of evil, be propitious to us;" or "Let God preserve us from evil," according to *Adam Clark's Commentary*, or "the King," that is, "the Sun" according to *Jamieson-Fausset-Brown Commentary*.

Mishael means He who comes from El in Hebrew while Meshach means "He who belongs to the goddess Sheshach," who is equivalent to the Venus of the Romans or the morning and evening star also known as Lucifer in Isa. 14:12.

Azariah means Yah/Yahweh is my help in Hebrew while Abednego means "Servant of Nego," or "servant of the shining fire." (*Adam Clark Commentary*)

This same style continues in today's world where the Roman Caesars and English kings have taken the Hebrew names of the Creator Yahweh and the Savior Yahshua and changed them to either Latin, Greek, or English names and titles which keeps the true knowledge hidden from sight. This is extremely important since the Prophet Joel, and Apostles Peter, and Paul proclaim that we must call upon the name Yahweh for salvation (Joel. 2:32; Acts 2:21; Ro. 10:13). "The Lord" in each of these passages should be changed to the Hebrew name Yahweh. Also we are told that Yahshua is the only name given under heaven among men whereby we must be saved (Acts 4:12). Yahshua, in reality, means "Yahweh the Savior."

We will find as we go through the book of Daniel that the successive kingdoms of Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome have continued until our day. Persia, Greece, and Rome actually inherited their status from the original Babylon so when we get to our world today, we find the book of Revelation continuing to reveal a great religious system called Mystery Babylon the Great and a great beast possessing the names of blasphemy (Rev. 17:1-5).

Da 1:8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

9 Now Elohim had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my master the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.

11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

COMMENT: This brings up the truth concerning clean and unclean foods. The Gentiles are well known for their love of unclean and impure foods. We know that the difference between the clean and unclean was understood during the time of Noah even before the flood because Yahweh commanded him to take a pair (male and female) of each species of land animals and birds, but He told him to take seven pairs of clean animals, "And Yahweh said unto Noah, Come thou and all thy house into the ark; for thee have I seen righteous before me in this generation. **Of every clean beast thou shalt take to thee by sevens, the male and his female: and of beasts that are not clean by two, the male and his female.** Of fowls also of the air by sevens, the male and the female; to keep seed alive upon the face of all the earth," Gen. 7:1-3.

Many want to claim that Yahshua made all animals clean for the purpose of eating, but if this is true, then why did Peter resist Yahweh's command when he was commanded to rise, kill, and eat of the unclean animals that he saw in the vision of Acts 10, especially verses 9-17. Did this vision mean that Yahweh had cleansed all animals to eat? If so, why was Peter doubting what the vision meant?

He gave the meaning of the vision in verse 28, "And he said unto them, Ye know how that it is an unlawful thing for a man that is a Jew to keep company, or come unto one of another nation; but **Elohim hath shewed me that I should not call any man common or unclean.**"

Yahweh condemns those who eat swine's flesh in the writings of the Prophet Isaiah, "I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name. I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts; A people that provoketh me to anger continually to my face; that sacrificeth in gardens, and burneth incense upon altars of brick; Which remain among the graves, and lodge in the monuments, **which eat swine's flesh, and broth of abominable things is in their vessels;** Which say, Stand by thyself, come not near to me; for I am holier than thou. These are a smoke in my nose, a fire that burneth all the day," Isa. 65:1-5.

He doesn't stop here because He mentions it again in chapter 66, " For, behold, Yahweh will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will Yahweh plead with all flesh: and the slain of Yahweh shall be many. **They that sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens behind one tree in the midst, eating swine's flesh, and the abomination, and the mouse, shall be consumed together**, saith Yahweh. For I know their works and their thoughts: it shall come, that I will gather all nations and tongues; and they shall come, and see my glory," Isa. 66:15-18.

This is an indictment against those in today's world who seek to utilize Yahweh's word to justify eating unclean foods. Yahweh doesn't change, "For I am Yahweh, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed," Mal. 3:6. Those who justify eating unclean foods are of the spirit of the world, of the spirit of Babylon (confusion), not of the Spirit of Yahweh.

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

18 Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king.

20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.

21 And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

COMMENT: No matter how intelligent men and women seem to be, they can be intelligent and skilled in many, many things, but when it comes to spiritual understanding, understanding of prophecies, dreams, etc., only they can understand those things whom Yahweh has blessed with the spirit to be able to do so. As Paul comments in the book of Corinthians, "And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of Yahweh. For **I determined not to know anything among you, save Yahshua the Messiah, and him crucified**. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of Yahweh. Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet **not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought**: But we speak the wisdom of Yahweh in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which Yahweh ordained before the world

unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Sovereign of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which Yahweh hath prepared for them that love him. **But Yahweh hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of Yahweh.** For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of Yahweh knoweth no man, but the Spirit of Yahweh. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of Yahweh; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of Yahweh. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Spirit teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. **But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of Yahweh: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned,"** 1 Cor. 2:1-14.

No one can understand the things that Yahweh has determined unless he has received the Spirit of Yahweh, the Spirit of the Messiah! Many seek to teach and explain Yahweh's word to others while they, themselves, are only understanding with the spirit of man. This is evident and obvious concerning all of the holy men of old. They had understanding of the Spirit. They worshipped Yahweh. They weren't in confusion, but the world has been in confusion ever since Adam and Eve. This doesn't mean that they knew every little thing. It just means that they knew Yahweh and trusted in Him knowing that He is the controller of destiny.

Also, Paul reveals what the Scriptures say....He focuses on Yahshua the Messiah! This is what Yahshua declared in John 5:39-47. Yahshua told the disciples, "These things have I spoken unto you, being yet present with you. But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, **he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you....**But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, **he shall testify of me:** And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.....Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged. I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. **Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify**

me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that **he shall take of mine, and shall shew it unto you,**" Jn. 14:25-26; 15:26-27; 16:7-15.

In Luke He told them, "And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that **all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.** Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures, And said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved the Messiah to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, **I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high,**" Lk. 24:44-49.

Peter encouraged, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Sovereign and Saviour Yahshua the Messiah. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen," 2 Pet. 3:18.

Paul declares that if any have not the Spirit of the Messiah, they are none of His (Ro. 8:9).

Hopefully, we have already learned a great deal concerning what, and why things are the way they are in this present evil world. The world is under the control of the serpent dragon Satan the Devil. He is a liar and the father of it (Jn. 8:44). It has been under his control and will remain under his control until Yahshua returns to establish the kingdom of heaven.

DANIEL CHAPTER 2

This is a most important chapter of Daniel for us to understand as it has to do with the history of the world governments from the fall of Jerusalem until its re-establishment of the most glorious city of the world.

Da 2:1 And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.

2 Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to shew the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

3 And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.

4 Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriack, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation.

5 The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill.

6 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.

7 They answered again and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation of it.

8 The king answered and said, I know of certainty that ye would gain the time, because ye see the thing is gone from me.

9 But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you: for ye have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can shew me the interpretation thereof.

10 The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can shew the king's matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean.

11 And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can shew it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

12 For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

13 And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain.

14 Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon:

15 He answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, Why is the decree so hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel.

16 Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would shew the king the interpretation.

17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:

18 That they would desire mercies of the Elohim of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

COMMENT: We must keep in mind that Nebuchadnezzar is king of Babylon, the king of confusion. He is sent a dream from Yahweh, the Elohim of the Hebrews. He knows that he has been given a most important dream and message, but the dream escaped him. Therefore, he resorted to the magicians, astrologers, sorcerers, and Chaldeans, in effect, all of the wise men of the kingdom to help him recall the dream and to know its interpretation.

The response of all of the wise men of his kingdom was that no matter who or what their gods were, or whatever powers that they possessed, they were powerless to interpret his dream unless he was able to recount to them the specifics of that dream. This is a very important and vital lesson for the people of Yahweh and all peoples. Those who live in confusion, those who live in Babylon and partake of her idolatrous worship of their many, many false gods, simply don't have the ability, nor power to know or interpret that which Yahweh gives. Yahweh reserves His secrets to Himself and to His own chosen people. He is about to reveal His own excellence and the excellence of those whom He chooses over the idolatrous paganized gods and systems of this world through His Hebrew servant Daniel.

Da 2:19 Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the Elohim of heaven.

20 Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of Elohim for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:

21 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:

22 He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him.

23 I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou Elohim of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we

desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

COMMENT: Daniel is deeply humbled by what His Elohim Yahweh has revealed to him, and praises Him for the deep secrets that He possesses and reveals to His servants. Too many, when they think they have the inside status and special understanding from their elohim, take credit to themselves and seek to exalt themselves above others. Any special understanding that Yahweh gives to any person should humble that person so that Yahweh receives the esteem and honor instead of lifting themselves up.

Da 2:24 Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise men of Babylon: he went and said thus unto him; Destroy not the wise men of Babylon: bring me in before the king, and I will shew unto the king the interpretation.

25 Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation.

26 The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof?

27 Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king;

28 But there is an Elohim in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

29 As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.

30 But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.

COMMENT: Notice that Daniel interceded not only on his own behalf, but on behalf of the others also. He begins to reveal to the king what is going to come to pass from the present unto the latter days giving Yahweh

the credit before the king.

Da 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.

COMMENT: The Aramaic for "image" is *tselem*, which is also the Hebrew equivalent. The Aramaic word is defined as: an idolatrous image. The Hebrew word is defined as: to shade; a phantom, i.e. (figuratively) illusion, resemblance; hence, a representative figure, especially an idol.

Thus, the following explanation is a prophecy concerning the history of idolatry beginning with Babylon and being finalized in the latter days. We will discover the last kingdom as we proceed through these Scriptures.

The image's brightness has to do with a pre-eminence. It is something that dazzles even though it has to do with idolatry. The word "terrible" is translated from the Aramaic word *dechal*, which is defined as: to slink, i.e. (by implication) to fear, or (causatively) be formidable. It is generally translated as: make afraid, dreadful, fear, terrible. The Hebrew equivalent is *zachal*, which is defined as: to crawl; by implication, to fear. It is generally translated as: be afraid, serpent, worm.

We would suggest that you review our article "*Dust Unto Dust*" that we ran in our Apr.-Jun. 2010 *Yahshua's Witness Magazine*, or order our free booklet that was made from that article. Generally speaking, if we go back to Genesis chapter 3, after Adam and Eve took of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil, curses were placed upon the serpent, the woman, and the man. The serpent was told that from that time dust would be his food, while the man was told that he was made of dust and would return to it. (vv. 14-19) Yahweh, in effect, appointed the man (dust) to be the serpent's food (dust).

We must also point out the fact that Satan is the prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2), as well as the god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4) in establishing the fact that this present evil world belongs to him. Remember that he offered Yahshua all of the kingdoms of the world if He would just bow down and worship him (Mt. 4:1-9; Lk. 4:1-7). Once the power of Israel (the holy people) was destroyed, the kingdoms of the world were placed under the power of the serpent. Therefore, let's keep in mind that these kingdoms that are beginning to be delineated here are all the serpent's kingdoms until the establishment of the kingdom of heaven.

Da 2:32 This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass,

33 His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

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.

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.

36 This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.

37 Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the Elohim of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

38 And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold.

39 And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.

40 And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

41 And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay.

42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken.

43 And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

COMMENT: The various sections of this idolatrous image typify the successive kingdoms that would have rule upon the earth. The head of gold

was symbolic of Nebuchadnezzar and his Babylonian kingdom. What we also need to make special note of is that Yahweh has made Nebuchadnezzar a "king of kings", which is the very title that Yahshua is to possess in the kingdom of heaven, " And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND SOVEREIGN OF SOVEREIGNS," Rev. 19:16.

A second kingdom would follow Babylon that would have rule over the earth which is proven in Scripture as well as secular history to have been the kingdom of the Medes and Persians. This was the breast and arms of silver. It was one kingdom ruled by two kings and peoples Darius of the Medes, and Cyrus of the Persians.

The belly and thighs of brass/copper was to be the third kingdom begun by Alexander the Great. It began as one kingdom under Alexander even though it was known as the Greco-Macedonian Kingdom. After his death, his four generals received power who divided it into four kingdoms, but during that period of time after Alexander the focus was on the northern Seleucid Kingdom and the southern Egyptian Kingdom who fought for control over each other and also over Canaan which included, of course, Jerusalem.

The fourth kingdom of iron was Rome. Rome became one of the greatest kingdoms of that area of the world. She expanded to have power over the preponderance of Europe, the Middle East, and northern Africa. Rome's scope of power and influence was/is to continue until the kingdom of heaven replaces it.

The stone that was cut out without hands is, of course, Yahshua the Messiah Who will soon return to the earth to overthrow the kingdoms of this world and take the power of the kingdom to Himself and His followers which will be a kingdom of light, truth, and righteousness.

ANALYZING THE METALS: Since this is an idolatrous image, let's take a look at the metals to see what we can discover.

1. The first metal is gold, which is considered to be the most precious of metals. This metal was incorporated into Yahweh's tabernacle vessels, etc. and later in the temple. It has always also been utilized by the pagan idolatrous religions to represent their chief deity which is the sun. All golden images represented the pagan's sun deities.

Gold is soft, pliable, moldable. It can also be utilized to represent Nebu-

chadnezzar's spirit which we will find is full of failures, but when Yahweh worked with him he was perfectly willing and able to change giving the esteem to Yahweh. This head of gold represented the beginning of Gentile world ruling kingdoms on earth which was established to be the best that man could live under.

2. Silver is also a precious metal, but certainly doesn't have the value of gold. This metal was also incorporated into the tabernacle and temple. In pagan idolatry, silver represented their moon gods and goddesses. This metal was utilized to represent the second Gentile kingdom. The kings of Media and Persia also had spirits similar to that of Nebuchadnezzar where-in they were pliable and moldable.

3. Brass is a brilliantly shiny metal, but it is hard and unbending. The interesting thing about this metal is its Aramaic name which is *nachash*. *Nachash* is also the word for SERPENT! The underlying spirit of all idolatry is that of the serpent. He is represented as a shining star as in Isaiah 14:12. He is transformed into an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14). He hates Yahweh's way and seeks to exalt himself above the throne of Yahweh (Isa. 14:13-14). The Greek kingdom and spirit always sought to exalt itself and its deities, especially Zeus, above all other kingdoms and gods. This Greek spirit is still in the world today, exalting itself above that of the Hebrew Elohim. The Greek spirit seeks to proclaim that the Old Testament was inspired in Hebrew, but the New Testament in Greek. This is a lie that has been foisted upon the world since the days of Constantine the Great.

4. Iron in the Aramaic is *parzel*. It comes from two chief words *par* and *zalal*. *Par* has to do with a bullock (as breaking forth in wild strength). *Zalal* has to do with being loose morally, worthless, and/or prodigal.

Such is the nature of idolatry. All pagans worshipped the golden calf (a bullock). The Pharaoh of Egypt was worshipped as the son of god through the Apis bull. The Assyrians represented winged bulls with men's heads in much of their sculpture. The people of India, especially the Hindus, still worship cattle to this day! But Satan is so subtle that he can cause people to embrace and highly favor the Greek way, also utilizing words that lead people to worship the bullock without them even knowing or understanding it. You see....the word God is linked with the constellation Taurus the Bull from the earliest origins of the English language. The Creator Yahweh was never called god/God in the Hebrew. He was Yahweh Elohim/ Yahweh El...Adonai Yahweh, etc.

Idolatry is a system that encourages immorality, loose morals. There were female and male prostitutes in the temples of idolatry. Many of the women worshippers, even though they were married, were forced to serve in the temples from time to time. Idolatry is a worthless system that produces sin, corruption and death, not life, peace and righteousness. But the overall great preponderance of mankind prefers this way.

The Hebrew word for iron is *barzel*. It is also a combination of two Hebrew words *bar* and *zalal*. *Bar* has to do with a son. *Zalal* once again has to do with being loose morally, worthless, and/or prodigal.

When the Hebrew sons and daughters embraced the tenets of idolatry, turning away from their Great Creator Elohim Yahweh to worship the gods of gold, silver, wood, etc., they became prodigal children. All who are involved in idolatry are prodigal children and must repent and turn to their Creator Elohim.

Iron is also a very hard metal that, like brass, is unbending revealing the nature, the spirit of those who are involved in idolatry. They are blinded and even though the real truth might be revealed to them, they think that they are already worshipping the Elohim of heaven and will not turn away from that system. They do not have a love for the truth, because their way seems right and the way to go. (see 2 Thes. 2 for those who love not the truth.)

5. Potter's clay reveals fragility. But it also adds another idea from Scripture. The Prophet Isaiah was inspired to declare, " But now, O Yahweh, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand," Isa. 64:8.

Jeremiah also confirms that Israel is the potter's clay, "The word which came to Jeremiah from Yahweh, saying, Arise, and go down to the potter's house, and there I will cause thee to hear my words. Then I went down to the potter's house, and, behold, he wrought a work on the wheels. And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter: so he made it again another vessel, as seemed good to the potter to make it. Then the word of Yahweh came to me, saying, O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith Yahweh. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel," Jer. 18:1-6.

Jeremiah's book of Lamentations reveals, "How is the gold become dim! how is the most fine gold changed! the stones of the sanctuary are poured

out in the top of every street. **The precious sons of Zion, comparable to fine gold, how are they esteemed as earthen pitchers, the work of the hands of the potter!**" Lam. 4:1-2.

The potter's clay represents the amalgamation of the house of Israel into the Roman Empire! Rome was known as Esau, Edom, Amalek, Seir, and Tyre in Rabbinic literature. Isaac, Esau's and Jacob's father had prophesied that Esau would eventually break Jacob's yoke from off his neck, " And by thy sword shalt thou live, and shalt serve thy brother; and it **shall come to pass when thou shalt have the dominion**, that thou shalt break his yoke from off thy neck," Gen. 27:40.

Under the inspiration of Yahweh, the prophet Balaam prophesied, " And when he looked on Amalek, he took up his parable, and said, Amalek *was* the first of the nations; but his latter end shall be that he perish forever," Num. 24:20. "Was" is interjected in italics because it is not a part of the original Scriptures. Amalek was Esau's grandson by his oldest son Eliphaz (My god is gold). Amalek became the first (*reshiyth*/רֵאשִׁית) of the Gentiles (*goyim*)/nations. We will touch on this a little later.

Israel became divided into two kingdoms after Solomon's reign. The northern kingdom was named Israel, while the southern kingdom was named Judah. Israel went into captivity by the hand of the Assyrians in 723 - 721 BCE. Ezekiel prophesied that that particular captivity would endure for 390 years (Ez. 4:1-5). In 333 BCE, exactly 390 years later, Alexander the Great defeated the Persians at the Battle of Issus which freed the captive Israelites who swept from the Caucasus Mountain area into Georgia and then west into Europe, and eventually the British Isles and America.

The Romans waged war against them, overcoming them and blending them into the Empire. They were the Celts, Gauls, Goths, some Germans, etc. While some of the Gauls, Goths, etc. did invade Rome and take the city, the result was that they settled down in its environs and continued the Roman government's policies.

Yahweh had warned Israel that if they failed to obey Him then they would be cursed to destruction, and the curse of destruction came upon both the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. He had warned them that refusal to obey Him would cause their heaven to become brass, and their earth to become iron (Dt. 28:23). This means that they would be subject to the kingdoms of Greece and Rome. The heaven being brass has to do with the gods of the Greeks becoming their gods, and

they (Israel) would come under the bondage of the government of Rome ruled by Esau and his descendants.

The Greek form of government was democracy, while the Roman form of government was republican. Shouldn't this warn us and inform us as to the system that our own government is under. Our governmental system is patterned after the Greek/Roman systems.

If the statue is standing with the legs apart, then this denotes division and, sure enough, Rome was divided between east and west. The western headquarters is, of course, the Latin kingdom ruled from Rome. The empire eventually became so great that it was difficult to just rule it at Rome. Constantine built the city of Constantinople (also called Roma Nova/New Rome; formerly called Byzantium) and moved the center of the empire east to that city. It was located on the Bosphorus Straits at the entry to the Black Sea. This was called the "Golden Horn" because its situation caused it to be a most favored and busy port and economic center.

6. Miry clay adds another bit of information. Miry in Aramaic is *tiyn* (ܛܝܢ), but one of the corresponding Hebrew words for "miry" is *yaven* (יָבֵן). Is it any coincidence that *yaven* (יָבֵן) is spelled exactly like *Yavan* (יָוָן) who is a descendant of Noah's son Japheth? Is it any coincidence that *Yavan* is known to be the father of the Ionians or Greeks? Is it any coincidence that when Constantine built Constantinople and transferred the center of the empire to that area, that the eastern half of the empire became Greek in nature? Is it any coincidence that *Yavan* and *yaven* both come from the Hebrew root word *yayin* (יַיִן), which is the Hebrew word for wine? Is it any coincidence that the final phase of Babylon revealed in the book of Revelation chapter 17 has a woman named Mystery Babylon the Great, mother of harlots and abominations of the earth, and she is riding a scarlet colored beast having also a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and the filthiness of her abominations? The kings of the earth have committed fornication with her and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine (*yayin*) of her fornication. (Rev. 17:1-5)

The Psalmist David cried out, " I waited patiently for Yahweh; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the **miry** (יָבֵן/*yaven*) clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings," Psa. 40:1-2.

Again he cried out, " Save me, O Elohim; for the waters are come in unto

my soul. I sink in deep **mire** (יִי/yaven), where there is no standing: I am come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me," Psa. 69:1-2.

King David is "anointed", that is, a messiah. He is a type of Yahshua the Messiah and, of course, is one of His forefathers. King David was also a prophet and he is here prophesying of a time when Yahshua would be looked upon as a Greek and Latin savior, surrounded with Greek and Latin practices, and given a name that is a combination of the Latin Jesus, the Greek Iesus, and the Druidic Esus/Yesu (pronounced Hesus).

This was also prophesied in the book of Zechariah chapter 3, "And he shewed me Yahshua the high priest standing before the angel of Yahweh, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. And Yahweh said unto Satan, Yahweh rebuke thee, O Satan; even Yahweh that hath chosen Jerusalem rebuke thee: is not this a brand plucked out of the fire? Now Yahshua was clothed with filthy garments, and stood before the angel. And he answered and spake unto those that stood before him, saying, Take away the filthy garments from him. And unto him he said, Behold, I have caused thine iniquity to pass from thee, and I will clothe thee with change of raiment. And I said, Let them set a fair mitre upon his head. So they set a fair mitre upon his head, and clothed him with garments. And the angel of Yahweh stood by," Zech. 3:1-5.

Yahshua the high priest is a type Yahshua the Heavenly High Priest after the order of Melchizedek (Psa. 110). Satan is at his right hand to "resist" him. Picture this; If Yahshua and Satan are in heaven standing before the throne of the Father Yahweh, and Scripture reveals that Yahshua would be standing at Yahweh's right hand (Psa. 110; Stephen saw Yahshua standing at the right hand of the Father, Acts 7:55-56), then Satan would be standing at the Father's left hand, but he would be at Yahshua's right hand!

"Resist" and Satan are both translated from the exact same Hebrew word! That word is *satan* (שָׂטָן)! **Satan has utilized the tenets** of idolatry to clothe Yahshua with the garments of idolatry! Beginning with Babylon, Persia, and Greece, Satan utilized their idolatrous ways to exalt the pagan idolatrous sun and moon gods and goddesses. According to Psalms 2, and Revelation 17 and 18, he also utilized the earthly kings, rulers, and priest-hoods to cause the world to be steeped in idolatry. But when Yahshua came in the flesh, Satan couldn't deny this vital truth, but he just utilized corrupted men and corrupted men's minds to change the truth into a lie (Ro. 1:25) and caused the earth to worship the creation rather than the

Creator. It is vital to understand these things!

The history of idolatry revealed here therefore, is that Babylon, Medo-Persia, Macedonia-Greece, and Rome are the kingdoms represented here. Rome is first an iron kingdom that eventually becomes part of iron and part of potter's clay because of the amalgamation of the descendants of Israel into the kingdom. The kingdom becomes divided and in the latter days of the toes, the kingdom is iron and miry clay, that is, Latin and Greek.

The gold, silver, iron, iron and potter's clay, iron and miry clay is a revelation of great corruption. The kingdom began with the preciousness of gold, but ends as iron and miry clay.

But the city of Rome became divided into three great cities of the world which became great centers of the paganized Christian religion. The first city, of course, was Rome, Italy which was the headquarters of the Latin Kingdom and the Roman Catholic Church. The second Rome was Constantinople, originally Byzantium, which became *Roma Nova* (New Rome), or the second Rome. It became headquarters of the Greek Orthodox Church. But when Constantinople fell in 1453 CE, the headquarters of the eastern half of the Roman Empire was transferred to Moscow, Russia, which is also known in history as the Third Rome. Moscow became headquarters for the Russian Orthodox Church. However, eventually Amalek, who feared not Elohim (Dt. 25:18) would be the first, the chief in the kingdom. The descendants of Amalek, whose doctrines are atheistic Communism, socialism, and humanism are the present day chief rulers.

Now, let's quickly go to the book of Revelation and see if we can't understand what is actually being said, " And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, and so great. And **the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell**: and great Babylon came in remembrance before Yahweh, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath," Rev. 16:17-19.

The fact of the matter is that this is speaking of the city of Rome that became divided into three great cities Old Rome, New Rome and the Third Rome (Rome, Constantinople, and Moscow). They became the cities of

the nation's or Gentile's (Goyim) religion that had stemmed initially from Babylon. In other words, it was from these three great cities that the perverted Christian religion issued forth, that is; Roman Catholic, Greek Orthodox, and Russian Orthodox. The Protestant religions also came out of the Roman Catholic Church. This makes her the mother of harlots and abominations, because even though they came out of her, they have never changed their idolatrous practices to follow after the commands of the great Creator Yahweh.

One final comment for this section is that the image was revealed as one body whose head is Babylon. The image would be in the form of a man. The head is the control center of the whole body. Therefore, even though the kingdoms of Medo-Persia, Greco-Macedonia, and Rome all followed Babylon, they all follow their control center, which is the Babylonian head. That is why the book of Revelation reveals modern day Babylon in its final stages, even though it is also the last vestiges of the Roman Empire.

Da. 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the Elohim of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that **the stone** was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great Elohim hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

COMMENT: A mountain is likened to a kingdom. Yahshua appeared on the earth during the reign of the fourth kingdom (Rome). He is this stone that is cut out of the mountain without hands. In other words, the works of man's hands has nothing to do with the kingdom that is to be established in Yahshua. This is Yahweh's doing, "I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation. **The stone** which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner. This is Yahweh's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes. This is the day which Yahweh hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it," Psa. 118:21-24.

Both the Aramaic word for "stone" in Daniel 2, and the Hebrew word for "stone" in Psalms 118 are the same. It is the Aramaic/Hebrew word *eben* (אֶבֶן). This simple little Aramaic/Hebrew word can be divided into two

words. The first word consists of the first two letters "ab" (אב) which is the word for FATHER! The second word is "ben" (בן) which is the word for SON!

Yahshua said, "I and my Father are one," Jn. 10:30. He told the disciples, "Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake," Jn. 14:11. He prayed, "That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me," Jn. 17:21.

These are spiritual mysteries that must be understood. But the stone cut out without hands is Yahshua the Messiah. He will return to this earth in these latter days to establish the kingdom of heaven.

Yahshua, who is the Stone, was rejected by His own people, the Jews (Jn. 1:11), but even though it appears that the Gentile world and its leaders (the builders) have embraced Him, they also are in the state of rejection because they have changed Him into a pagan savior and deity.

Whether you want to believe this or not, Yahweh has this last part written in the earth, or should we say, etched into it. If you take a look at a map of Europe and the Mediterranean Sea, you will see that Italy, the original headquarters of Rome, is actually formed like a foot or boot. The island of Sicily appears at the toe of the boot/foot. It gives the picture of a stone, not cut out with human hands, that is ready to smite the toe of the boot/foot. A great earthquake could move that island onto the toe of the boot/foot. Do you think that Yahweh had this etched into the earth and sea for us to see? Do you see how Yahweh can hide things in plain sight?

Da 2:46 Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odours unto him.

47 The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your Elohim is a Elohim of elohim, and a Sovereign of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret.

48 Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon.

49 Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel sat in

the gate of the king.

COMMENT: The Aramaic word for "secrets" and "secret" is *raz* (רז), which, in actuality, means mystery/mysteries. Paul writes, "But we speak the wisdom of Elohim in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which Yahweh ordained before the world unto our glory: Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Sovereign of glory. But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which Yahweh hath prepared for them that love him. But Yahweh hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of Elohim. For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of Elohim knoweth no man, but the Spirit of Elohim. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of Elohim; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of Yahweh. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Spirit teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of Elohim: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned," 1 Cor. 2:7-14.

Nebuchadnezzar was a prince, a king of this world wherein dwelt the spirit of man, but not the spirit of Yahweh. Therefore, he couldn't understand the things that were given to him until the Spirit of Yahweh revealed them to him through the prophet Daniel. Daniel knew where to go to learn of the dream and its meanings in the beginning because he was Hebrew and had been and still was a worshipper of Yahweh. Yahweh was the only Elohim Who had the power to give the dream to Nebuchadnezzar and to reveal exactly what that dream was and what it meant through Daniel, His servant. Nebuchadnezzar came to know and understand this, but the world has a great tendency to forget, to its detriment.

DANIEL CHAPTER 3

As this chapter unfolds, we hope that you are able to grasp the lessons that are revealed herein. Daniel continues to reveal so many important things.

Da 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.

2 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

3 Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

4 Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages,

5 That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:

6 And whoso falleth not down and worshipping shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

COMMENT: These verses reveal the intent of all kings of the earth. They want all in their realm to worship the god/gods that they worship so that there is unity in the kingdom. It doesn't matter to the king and his appointed leaders whether the god (-s) they serve is a false god or not. All must follow the king's orders or die.

Psalms 2 gives us insight into this tendency also, "Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? **The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against Yahweh, and against his anointed,** saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us," Psa. 2:1-3.

Nebuchadnezzar is, of course, breaking all of the commandments because James says that if we offend in one point, then we are guilty of it all (Jas. 2:10). Nebuchadnezzar is chiefly putting another elohim

before Yahweh, the Elohim of elohim. He is making an image for the people to bow down and worship. Surely, he isn't utilizing Yahweh's name for the image. Then there is the Sabbath commandment. Was Nebuchadnezzar a Sabbath keeper? Surely not! So the first four of the ten commandments are already being violated.

The book of Revelation reveals that the kings of the earth have worked along with the Babylonian harlot to cause the whole earth to commit fornication (Rev. 17:1-5; 18:1-3).

The history of Rome itself is that once Constantine Caesar entered into the New Testament assembly, he took over and began to dictate how the people would serve his sun god. He and the leaders following him, as Nebuchadnezzar, commanded the people to embrace his form of worship on pain of torture and death.

The king of England also followed suit. Many people had to flee his wrath because of the persecution he brought upon those who steadfastly refused to worship in his commanded manner. Christianity continues to follow the dictates of Constantine Caesar to this very day!

This ministry has recently received a call from a woman who obtained one of our *Yahshua's Witness Magazines* and has accused us of proclaiming a false message that will cause us to be assigned to hell when Jesus Christ returns. But this is what happens when people blindly follow their leaders, ministers, and traditions without proving what we teach, or what they, themselves, believe.

It is also interesting to note the dimensions given of the image. It is 60 cubits tall and 6 cubits wide. If the image is a flat plate or sheet of gold, then it would be 60 x 6, which would be 360 square cubits. But if it is three dimensional then it would be 60 x 6 x 6, or 2160 cubic cubits. However, remember that the number of the beast in the book of Revelation is 666. Sixes are prominent numbers in relation to man. Man was created on the sixth day (Gen. 1: 26-31). Interestingly, we also consist primarily of carbon. The atomic number for carbon is six (6)!

Yahweh gave the seventh day for rest, blessings, holiness, etc. (Gen. 2:1-3) He commanded Israel to observe the Seventh day rest (Sabbath) as a memorial and a sign between Him and them, that He was their Elohim and they were His people (Ex. 20:8-11; 31:15-17). Seven, therefore, is the number for rest, blessings, spiritual perfection and completion, as well as a sign. Six falls short of the number seven.

We are all born into this world as children of Adam and Eve who were created on the sixth day. We are born with the spirit (breath) and understanding of man (Adam), but not the Holy Spirit. The spirit of man gives us the understanding of a man (1 Cor. 2:11), but not the knowledge of Yahweh (same verse).

Idolatry is nothing more than that which is raised up by the serpent through men who do not have the Spirit of Yahweh. Men who lack the Spirit of Yahweh are stamped with the number six and have disdain for the Seventh day Sabbath. They prefer Sunday, the first day of the week, which is the day of the pagan sun god. That's why it's called Sunday.

Da. 3:7 Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of musick, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

COMMENT: This is what the kings, leaders, and rulers of the earth desire in people. They desire obedience to their commands without questions to the contrary. While the kings and their governments are established to bring about leadership, stability, safety, and protection for the subjects, which is a good thing, the situation is that their religion is a religion that is opposite and contrary to that of Yahweh. Sadly, only a few ever question or even choose to make a stand for the truth. Most just blindly follow error.

Da 3:8 Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.

9 They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for

ever.

10 Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image:

11 And whoso falleth not down and worshipping, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

12 There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

COMMENT: Do you see what I mean? For some reason Daniel isn't included in the mix here, but we know that he went along with Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, but this was just after he had shown the dream and its interpretation to the king, so he evidently wasn't considered at this time. His fiery trial would come about in chapter six.

Only three men out of the whole realm refused to bow to the king's image. There are always those around who will quickly accuse, especially if the supposed offenders are in high places of authority because they desire to replace them.

Da 3:13 Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king.

14 Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?

15 Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that Elohim that shall deliver you out of my hands?

16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

17 If it be so, our Elohim whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

COMMENT: Nebuchadnezzar is angry because of the insubordination of anyone who is under the authority of his hand in the realm. But Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are men of rare character because they refuse to worship a false god, and that false god's image even to the point of the loss of their lives. They state that they know that their Elohim can deliver them out of the king's hand, but if he chooses not to, then they are ready to die rather than follow that which is utterly false and vain.

There are ministers in this world who really know a lot more of the truth than they let on, but they are willing to teach falsehoods and corruptions because the pay is good. They will obey Caesar because to make a stand for truth will bring vengeance. It is too easy to give in and teach whatever seems appropriate and acceptable for the day in man's eyes, but not Yahweh's.

Da 3:19 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

20 And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

21 Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

22 Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the

furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

COMMENT: Nebuchadnezzar was the most powerful man on the earth at that time. His anger must have been fierce and frightening. He was so angry that he commanded that the furnace would be heated seven times beyond its capacity. It was so violently hot that the mighty men who threw them into the midst of the furnace died from being exposed to the dangerous overheating. Seven is an interesting number in itself. We have a free booklet entitled *The Witness of the Number Seven* if anyone desires it.

Da 3:24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

25 He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of Elohim.

COMMENT: Nebuchadnezzar had been so angry at Shadrach's, Meshach's, and Abednego's insubordination that he unwisely had the furnace increased to seven times its capacity. He cared not that the mighty men who cast them into the furnace perished. His anger and fury were just too much for caution. But now he sees an amazing thing! He sees the men that were cast into the furnace walking around in it and there is also another, a fourth, person walking around with them, and this fourth one's form was like the Son of Elohim!

This was none other than the One Who eventually was born of the virgin Miriam (Lk. 1:26-56; 2:1-17), Who emptied Himself of the riches, power, honor, esteem, majesty, etc. (Phil. 2:5-8) to be born as a man, as **the Son of Elohim**, Who is also the salvation of Yahweh, or Yahweh the Savior.

Da 3:26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high Elohim, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.

27 And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counselors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

COMMENT: This hearkens back to the time when Moses saw the bush that was on fire yet it wasn't consumed, "Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of Elohim, even to Horeb. And the angel of Yahweh appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt," Ex. 3:1-3.

Da 3:28 Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the Elohim 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 elohim, except their own Elohim.

COMMENT: Nebuchadnezzar has his eyes opened to see that Yahweh has sent His angel so that his own word would not hold up in the heavenly courts, nor on the earth when he goes contrary to the Elohim of the Hebrews. But this is the same angel that appeared to Moses at the incident of the burning bush. This angel, as said by Nebuchadnezzar, had the appearance of the Son of Elohim. Again, the One Who began to work with Moses is the same One who here delivered Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego out of the hands of the king and his fiery furnace. He is the same angel who delivered and redeemed Jacob (Gen. 48:16). He is the "Angel of Yahweh," or "Malak Yahweh."

John the Baptist was inspired to proclaim, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire," Mt. 3:11-12.

The Prophet Malachi proclaims, "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith Yahweh of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall. And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith Yahweh of hosts," Mal. 4:1-3.

The Apostle Peter says, "But the day of Yahweh 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. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and piety, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of Elohim, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness," 2 Pet. 3:10-13.

Only those who are blessed to be in Yahshua the Messiah will be able to escape these flames of fire that will reduce all of the wicked, and the works of wickedness to mere ashes.

Da 3:29 Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the Elohim of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other elohim that can deliver after this sort.

30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in

the province of Babylon.

COMMENT: We should all take note of king Nebuchadnezzar's decree because it is spoken from the power, authority, and head of Babylon. Even though Yahweh's people may face many fiery trials, their faith will see them through and they will be blessed as Peter writes, "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of the Messiah's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of the Messiah, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of Yahweh resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified," 1 Pet. 4:12-14. May you be blessed to walk in His faith!

DANIEL CHAPTER 4

As this chapter unfolds, we hope that you are able to grasp the lessons that are revealed herein. Daniel continues to reveal so many important things.

Da 4:1 Nebuchadnezzar the king, unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

2 I thought it good to shew the signs and wonders that the high Elahh hath wrought toward me.

3 How great are his signs! and how mighty are his wonders! his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation.

4 I Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace:

5 I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts upon my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.

6 Therefore made I a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known unto me the interpretation of the dream.

7 Then came in the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers: and I told the dream before them; but they did not

make known unto me the interpretation thereof.

COMMENT: Again, Nebuchadnezzar has been given a dream that is from Yahweh, which none can decipher no matter how skilled and learned they are in the knowledge of this world, or in idolatrous paganism.

Da 4:8 But at the last Daniel came in before me, whose name was Belteshazzar, according to the name of my Elahi, and in whom is the spirit of the holy Elahin: and before him I told the dream, saying,

9 O Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy Elahin is in thee, and no secret troubleth thee, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and the interpretation thereof.

10 Thus were the visions of mine head in my bed; I saw, and behold a tree in the midst of the earth, and the height thereof was great.

11 The tree grew, and was strong, and the height thereof reached unto heaven, and the sight thereof to the end of all the earth:

12 The leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all: the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it.

13 I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven;

14 He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the beasts get away from under it, and the fowls from his branches:

15 Nevertheless leave the stump of his roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth:

16 Let his heart be changed from man's, and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him.

17 This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

18 This dream I king Nebuchadnezzar have seen. Now thou, O Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation thereof, forasmuch as all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto me the interpretation: but thou art able; for the spirit of the holy Elahin is in thee.

19 Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonished for one hour, and his thoughts troubled him. The king spake, and said, Belteshazzar, let not the dream, or the interpretation thereof, trouble thee. Belteshazzar answered and said, My master, the dream be to them that hate thee, and the interpretation thereof to thine enemies.

20 The tree that thou sawest, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth;

21 Whose leaves were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and upon whose branches the fowls of the heaven had their habitation:

22 It is thou, O king, that art grown and become strong: for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth.

COMMENT: It is the Spirit of the holy Elohim that is able to interpret the dream of which Daniel has been given his portion. He is astonished at the revelation of this dream and, in actuality, doesn't desire to reveal the dream to Nebuchadnezzar. But he must do so at the king's request.

We must keep in mind that Nebuchadnezzar is the king of Babylon (confusion). He has been given a great kingdom and dominion over the earth. But he only has the spirit of man, and not the spirit of Yahweh. Nebuchadnezzar would be a type of the first Adam to whom was given dominion over the earth, and who was placed in the Gar-

den of Eden to dress and keep it.

Adam and his bride Eve took of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil which introduced into them its nature rather than the nature of Elohim. They were made in the image of Elohim, but their minds, their hearts, their spirits became corrupted through the forbidden fruit.

Adam and Eve became confused even to the point of covering their nakedness with fig leaves. Fig leaves would be highly irritating and wouldn't endure for long at all as the leaves quickly wilt, turn brown, become desiccated, and very brittle.

But they knew that they had done wrong and needed to be covered. The fig leaf coverings were a type of the false religions that men would dream up to cover their sins, their shortcomings so they could eventually enter into the heavenly realm and eternal life. Man deceives himself through his own false religions.

We are shown a view of what is going to happen in the very near future. Yahshua is presented with a scroll that is sealed with seven seals (Rev. 5). No man has the power to strip the seals but the Lamb Who is the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Rev. 5:4-5).

Then He opens the sixth seal, "And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and **the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs**, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And **the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb**: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

Why are they so distraught? Because the kings and leaders of the earth have worked in conjunction with the Babylonian harlot to cause themselves and the inhabitants of the earth to commit fornication (Rev. 17;1-5; 18:1-3). They, being the descendants of Adam and Eve, have caused all to be covered with the unacceptable covering of FIG LEAVES!

Notice that they say to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb." Mountains are parables, types of kingdoms. Remember the stone that becomes a great mountain in chapter two, which fills the earth? This is speaking of the kingdom of heaven that will be established through Yahshua's appearance.

Rocks are a type of Elohim, "He is **the Rock**, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: an Elohim of truth and without iniquity, just and right is he....; How should one chase a thousand, and two put ten thousand to flight, except their Rock had sold them, and Yahweh had shut them up? For **their rock is not as our Rock**, even our enemies themselves being judges," Dt. 32:4, 30-31.

Mithras was the sun god of Persia and eventually Rome. He was equivalent to the Bel of Babylon. He was worshipped in caves and dens. He was the savior god of the nations, kingdoms (mountains). When men see Yahweh on His throne and Yahshua, the Lamb beside Him, they will know that the gig is up! Atheism, and evolution will vanish like a puff of smoke because He that has been hidden from their eyes and denied will be seen. But, as Adam and Eve, they will seek to run and hide, yes, physically, but also spiritually. They will seek to trust in their false gods to deliver them, and the power of the great end-time Babylonian kingdom.

Aren't they already talking of ETs (Extra Terrestrials)? Yahweh and Yahshua are the true ETs because they are not of this world. But the kingdoms of this earth and her leaders are seeking to prepare to make war against any Extra Terrestrials that might appear.

Nebuchadnezzar, as a great king over the earth, is a type of Adam. Both are given dominion that comes to confusion and corruption.

Da. 4:23 And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him;

24 This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my master the king:

25 That they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

26 And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; thy kingdom shall be sure unto thee, after that thou shalt have known that the heavens do rule.

27 Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquility.

COMMENT: Nebuchadnezzar is given advice that will continue the length of his kingdom and his tranquility, just as Adam was given the advice on how to lengthen his own tranquility.

Chapter four is an interim chapter to the vision that is given to Daniel in chapter seven. Nebuchadnezzar is given a beast's heart and is assigned to dwell with the beasts of the field, the beasts of the earth for seven times. There are four beasts revealed in chapter seven which introduces a beastly nature of the kingdoms of the gentiles. It is the same kingdoms, but chapter two is given to reveal the history of the reign of idolatry, while chapter seven is given to reveal the beastly natures of the kingdoms.

The stump is banded with brass/copper and iron. The final two world ruling kingdoms were to be brass/copper and iron as we discovered in chapter two. We are living in the time that the whole

world is shut up to true understanding because of the nature of the brass/copper and iron.

We must keep in mind that this dream is given to teach that it is Yahweh Who is the Most High that rules in or over the kingdom of men and gives it to whomsoever He will.

Da. 4:28 All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar.

29 At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon.

30 The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?

31 While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.

32 And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

33 The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.

COMMENT: Nebuchadnezzar has already forgotten the dream and its consequences attributing to himself the greatness of the kingdom of Babylon that he had obtained. This is a key to understanding the mistakes of all rulers, kings, and leaders. They tend to attribute their position, greatness, power, wealth, etc. to themselves, and not the Most High Elohim, Yahweh. Their subjects and followers are forced to agree with them.

It is also interesting to note the statement, "...till his hairs were grown like eagle's feathers, and his nails like bird's claws." The in-

heritors of the Babylonian kingdom that is, the European kingdoms, which includes Russia, all utilize eagles, generally two headed eagles, on their banners, and, of course, so does America. But we must remember that the headquarters of the nations has always been located in the mid-east and Europe.

Da. 4:34 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?

COMMENT: Yahweh originally utilized seven days, six days of recreation, and a seventh day for rest to represent the seven thousand year plan that He has initiated, as Peter writes, "But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with Yahweh as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day," 2 Pet. 3:8.

A time can represent a year, as most scholars believe that the seven times were seven years that Nebuchadnezzar was in his madness. Since Nebuchadnezzar is standing in the place of our forefather Adam, this dream is announcing that the Gentile nations and peoples would possess minds of beasts and madness for that seven thousand years. The fact of the matter is that the overall general populace of non-Hebrews (Gentiles) are not resurrected until the seventh millennium is over with. This is revealed in the book of Revelation, "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison, And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from Yahweh out of heaven, and devoured them. And the devil that deceived them

was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever. And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before Yahweh; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. **And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.** And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire," Rev. 20:7-15.

What is really being said here? We already know that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of Elohim. The works of sin earn the penalty of death, therefore, we all stand before the judgment seat of Yahweh being judged guilty of death unless we have been blessed to be called and chosen to come under the atoning blood of Yahshua the Messiah.

But notice that after the seven times, Nebuchadnezzar's understanding returned to him. Isaiah also makes some very interesting statements concerning this, "And in this mountain shall Yahweh of hosts make unto all people a feast of fat things, a feast of wines on the lees, of fat things full of marrow, of wines on the lees well refined. And **he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the vail that is spread over all nations.** He will swallow up death in victory; and Adonai Yahweh will wipe away tears from off all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth: for Yahweh hath spoken it," Isa. 25:6-8.

Yahweh has purposely blinded the nations! He has spread a vail over the nations so that they can't see nor truly know Him! But in this resurrection at the end of the seventh millennium and the beginning of the new heavens and new earth, Yahweh will remove that vail. Un-

derstanding will be restored, or given at that time. The overall preponderance of mankind have never known Yahweh. The overall preponderance of mankind have never heard of His name, nor the name of His Son. They have never even had access to the Scriptures.

It says that the books will be opened. What books? The books of the Scriptures! People have already paid for their sinful life in the flesh through death. They will now have an opportunity to come to see, know and understand Yahweh, and His word the Holy Scriptures. They will then be judged by the works that they produce, or fail to produce at that time. The successful will be given life. Those who continue to love the works of wickedness will suffer the judgment of hellfire, which is the second death from which there will be no resurrection.

Yahweh is merciful and forgiving. He will open people's minds to understand His truths and have an opportunity to inherit the new heavens and new earth wherein dwells righteousness. HalleluYah!!!!

Da. 4:36 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.

COMMENT: Evidently, Nebuchadnezzar will be established as a king over the Gentiles in that future glorious existence. People do need to understand that Yahweh is an Elohim and King. He presides over the kingdom of/from heaven. All kingdoms have kings, rulers, governors, subjects, territory, and laws. May Yahweh's kingdom come! HalleluYah!!!!

DANIEL CHAPTER 5

This chapter, like the rest, is full of surprising information. May Yahweh bless you to be able to understand these things.

Da 5:1 Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand .

COMMENT: Babylon was being besieged by Darius the Mede so Belshazzar was probably having this feast as a manner of encouragement to the leaders of his army, and was also showing contempt toward the Median army that had them shut up in the city.

The *Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown Commentary* states: "The heathen XENOPHON'S description of Belshazzar accords with Daniel's; he calls him "impious," and illustrates his cruelty by mentioning that he killed one of his nobles, merely because, in hunting, the noble struck down the game before him; and unmanned a courtier, Gadates, at a banquet, because one of the king's concubines praised him as handsome. Daniel shows none of the sympathy for him which he had for Nebuchadnezzar. XENOPHON confirms Daniel as to Belshazzar's end. WINER explains the "shazzar" in the name as meaning "fire.""

Da 5:2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein.

3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of Elohim which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them.

4 They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.

COMMENT: This is a direct affront to Yahweh Himself. This is on the eve of the destruction of Babylon, but Belshazzar and the leaders of the kingdom are drinking themselves silly even as their disaster is at the door. But this is what the leaders of the world do. While the populace languishes and suffers in poverty and want, the leaders take

the best of everything and are gorging themselves to the very end.

This, however, is in similarity to the woman called Mystery Babylon in the book of Revelation. The kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and they have caused the inhabitants of the earth to be drunk with the wine of her fornication. She is shown to be sitting on a scarlet colored beast having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication (Rev. 17:2-4).

Da 5:5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

6 Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.

COMMENT: He who was lifted up with pride, haughtiness, and a blasphemous spirit is suddenly so troubled at the sight that he sees that he evidently loses control of his bladder and urinates on himself. He might have even defecated on himself also. But that is what idolatry is to Yahweh, it is likened to urine, and especially dung. A dreadful fear takes hold on him so that his knees are knocking together. The *Adam Clarke's Commentary* says: Here is a very natural description of fear and terror. 1. The face grows pale; 2. The mind becomes greatly agitated; 3. Pains seize on the lower part of the back and kidneys; 4. A universal tremor takes place, so that the knees smite against each other; 5. And lastly, either a syncope takes place, or the cry of distress is uttered. The *Matthew Poole Commentary* also says: His cheerful countenance was turned to paleness, fear and horror had quite blasted the majesty of his face, like an eclipse of the sun. So soon can the terrors of [Elohim] shake the loftiest cedars; it is like an earthquake in the bowels. Thus can [Yahweh] terrify the tyrants of the earth, that he who hath the heart of a lion shall utterly melt away. Thus can [Yahweh] spoil the mad mirth of drunken atheists in a moment; when they are in their cups, oh how valiant are they!

Da 5:7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chalde-

ans, and the soothsayers. And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.

COMMENT: They never learn. They always go first to the ones who present themselves as being in the know, as being knowledgeable, but their knowledge only deals with the knowledge of the spirit of man, and the spirit of this world, but when it comes from Yahweh, as already acknowledged, none can reveal the matter except he who has the spirit of Yahweh. He finds this out soon enough.

But the word "scarlet" should have been translated as "purple." The woman in Rev. 17 is dressed in purple and scarlet. These colors match the color of the entrances to the tabernacle built by Moses in the wilderness, and that would have been incorporated into the openings to the temple built by Solomon. The colors were blue, purple, and scarlet, with fine twined linen. The openings typified Yahshua the Messiah who declared that he is the door (Jn. 10). The blue typified him as his pre-existent nature of Elohim. The scarlet represented him as his living as a flesh and blood man. The purple is a mixture of the blue and scarlet, which typifies him as the "Mediator" between heaven and earth, between Elohim and men. The fine twined linen would have been white, typifying his righteousness. The kings of the earth have always chosen the color purple for royalty because they were declared to be God's (I leave this word as it is because that is who they claim to represent.) representative on the earth and therefore the mediator.

The Caesars declared themselves to be Pontifex Maximus, that is, the great bridge builder. Maximus has to do with being great while Pons is Latin for a bridge. Thus they declared themselves to be the ones who were the bridge between heaven and earth and were eventually worshipped as the sons of god and therefore, god. The Roman Catholic Pope is called the "Pontiff" which means that his office is the link or bridge between heaven and earth in today's world. But there are others who take this title of mediator upon themselves, which we will reveal at the proper place and time.

By this time Nebuchadnezzar was dead and buried, but his son Evil-merodach was still living but was on a campaign elsewhere in the kingdom. Belshazzar would have been the second in the kingdom, thus he offered the position of third in the kingdom, after himself, of course.

Da 5:8 Then came in all the king's wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof.

9 Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonished.

COMMENT: Why couldn't they read this writing? Don't almost all messages from Yahweh come in the Hebrew? Didn't we learn in the first chapter that the Babylonians despised the Hebrew names, and evidently the Hebrew language just as those who love the Greek New Testament are more inclined to lovingly embrace the Greek language and despise the Hebrew language, or at least count it as not as important? His lords were perplexed at this change in Belshazzar's attitude. He who was proud, arrogant, boastful, and blasphemous, is now humbled and confused.

Da 5:10 Now the queen, by reason of the words of the king and his lords, came into the banquet house: and the queen spake and said, O king, live for ever: let not thy thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy countenance be changed:

11 There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the Holy Elohim; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers;

12 Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation.

13 Then was Daniel brought in before the king. And the king spake and said unto Daniel, Art thou that Daniel, which art of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry?

14 I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee.

15 And now the wise men, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known unto me the interpretation thereof: but they could not shew the interpretation of the thing:

16 And I have heard of thee, that thou canst make interpretations, and dissolve doubts: now if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about thy neck, and shalt be the third ruler in the kingdom.

17 Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation.

COMMENT: When it says his mother, it is either his own mother, or it also can be his grandmother since grandmothers and grandfathers were also known as one's mother or father. This could have been the wife of Nebuchadnezzar.

Belshazzar had heard of Daniel, but he was one of the princes of this world being of the spirit of man and not Yahweh. The pattern has continued to repeat itself down through time, as the Apostle Paul writes, "Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet **not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought:** But we speak the wisdom of Yahweh in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which Yahweh ordained before the world unto our glory: **Which none of the princes of this world knew:** for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Sovereign of glory," 1 Cor. 2:6-8.

Da 5:17 Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation.

18 O thou king, the most high Eloah gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour:

19 And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down.

20 But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:

21 And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high Eloah ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will.

COMMENT: Daniel doesn't care for the gifts, and rewards. This is the difference between him and Balaam. Balaam had his heart set on receiving riches for cursing Israel even though he knew that it displeased Yahweh. Daniel is a true prophet whose mind is set on the truth and service to the true Elohim.

Nebuchadnezzar was driven from his estate and from men because his heart was hardened and lifted up. Those following him in his kingdom, and in the world today still show a hardness of heart in pride against Yahweh, His Son, and His Word

Da 5:22 And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this;

23 But hast lifted up thyself against the Sovereign of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron,

wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the Eloah in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:

COMMENT: Belshazzar has refused to honor and serve the very Creator Elohim Who gives him life, breath, and power. This attitude is certainly continued down the very end time because the kings and merchants of the earth have continued to work with the Babylonian harlot to cause the earth to commit fornication (Rev. 17:1-5; 18:1-3).

Da 5:24 Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written.

25 And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

26 This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; Eloah hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

27 TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

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

COMMENT: Mene has to do with something that is numbered. The Hebrew word *moneh*, from whence comes our word for "money." Money is numbered. We number a dollar to be 100 pennies, 20 nickels, 10 dimes, four quarters, two half dollars.

Tekel is related from the Hebrew word *shaqal* which also means to weigh, but is also related to the word "*sheqel/shekel*."

Upharsin simply has the waw/vav for the conjunction "and". Peres has to do with dividing.

There seems to be a deeper message here if we can work out the difficulties of weights and measures. Many of the authorities list a "mina" which is related to "mene" as 100 sheqels. But in Ezekiel 45:12 it is recorded, "And the shekel shall be twenty gerahs: twenty shekels, five and twenty shekels, fifteen shekels, shall be your

maneh." However, the Septuagint reads, "And the shekel shall be twenty gerahs: twenty shekels, five and twenty shekels, fifty shekels, shall be your maneh."

The question would be, Why would the graduation go from one sheqel, to twenty sheqels, to twenty five sheqels, and then drop to fifteen shekels. It appears that it would continue to graduate upward from twenty five sheqels to fifty sheqels. Is it possible that five - ten sheqels, or fifty sheqels is meant here? This is to be the measure of the new temple. In actuality, the standard weights of the temple were destroyed by the Chaldeans.

However, if what we have alluded to here is correct, then Yahweh was giving a message not only for that time, but also for the future.

The following measures were provided by a minister in the Worldwide Church of God, but it is very interesting to say the least, and I feel that it will open some doors of understanding to us if we will allow.

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN would be first converted into the Hebrew MINA, MINA, SHEQEL, PERES.

A MINA would be equivalent to 50 sheqels, which would give us
 $MINA = 50 + MINA = 50 + SHEQEL + PERES$ (a divided MINA)
 $25. 50 + 50 + 1 + 25 = 126 SHEQELS.$ A SHEQEL = 20 GERAHS, so $20 \times 126 = 2520.$

Multiply a prophetic year, which is 360 days, times seven years. The product is 2520 years.

The northern kingdom of Israel went into captivity around 723 - 721 BCE. Subtract 723 from 2520 and the result is 1797. Add 1 for the year 0, and we get 1798. Subtract 721 from 2520 and the result is 1799. Add 1 for the year 0, and the result is 1800. Yahweh had promised the forefathers (Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob) to bless their descendants who are also His people Israel. We have long understood that many of our forefathers as well as ourselves are probably descendants of the House of Israel. This is the time when America began to come into prominence and formed as a nation.

Babylon ascended to her greatness around 606-602 BCE. 2520 years later is 1914-1918. We know that Babylon was succeeded by Persia, Greece, and Rome. Rome was the inheritor of the power of Babylon. But Rome was divided between east and west and was ruled over by the Caesars. 1914-1918 is the time of World War I, which was called the Great War, and the war to end all wars. The western Caesar, Kaiser Wilhelm was ruling from Berlin, Germany, while the eastern Caesar, the Russian Czar was ruling from Moscow, Russia. Both kingdoms fell at that time. Russia to the Red Communists, and Germany to the Allied western troops. Thus, it could be said, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird," Rev. 18:2.

This is exactly what happened. Russia fell to the Red Communists headed at first by Lenin and then Stalin after his death, while Germany eventually came under the dictatorship of Adolf Hitler. The communists, of course, are atheists, and evolutionists. The communists murdered so many of the Russian people, especially those who had university, or college experience. Many of their engineers, scientists, and people of higher learning were simply liquidated. (See *Gulag Archipelago* by Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.)

Then look at the rise of Adolf Hitler. He was a mad man turned loose. His message was one of national socialism. He was the main culprit who instigated World War II with so much loss of lives, property, etc. While the allies achieved victory over Hitler, the communists are another story. They have infiltrated country after country. They sow murder, torture, deceit, terror, etc. everywhere they have gone. America was moved to stand up to them in the Korean War, and also in Vietnam, but Korea ended in a stalemate, while Vietnam ended as a lost cause.

But the spirit of communism, socialism, and humanism is that of devils. It is foul, unclean, and hateful.

Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar in 587-585 BCE. 2520 years later is the 1933-1935 era with the rise

of the Nazis in Germany under Adolf Hitler. Nebuchadnezzar waged war against the rebellious Jews who had turned away from Yahweh. Is it possible that 2520 years later, Yahweh raised up another tormentor of the rebellious Jews in the person of Adolf Hitler? Yahshua does reveal that there is a Synagogue of Satan who say they are Jews and are not, but do lie (Rev. 3:9). We know that both Yahshua and John excoriated the Jews of their day, specifically the Pharisees, Sadducees, and scribes for being a generation of vipers (Mt. 3:7; Lk. 3:7-9; Mt. 12:34; 23:33).

In actuality, communism came from Marx and Engels, both supposedly Jews.

Babylon was given a 70 year period to exist (Jer. 25:11-12). Her dates of ascension are between 606-602. 2520 years later would be 1914-1918. Her dates of decline would be 536-532. The eastern half of the Roman Empire, successor to Babylon, fell and was taken over by the communists in 1914-1918. Seventy years later they were in decline 1984-1988. The Berlin wall was removed in 1989, Soviet Russia was declared to be totally defunct in 1991.

The symbol of Communist Russia is the hammer and sickle. Yahweh associates Babylon with the hammer and sickle in Jer. 50:16 & 22.

We know that there is much more prophecy to be fulfilled, but these dates are quite interesting and informative.

Da 5:29 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.

COMMENT: Yahweh's people are always exonerated and lifted up at the end of things. The wicked are always deposed. Had the Babylonians, especially the kings, truly desired to know their destiny,

they would have paid respect and attention to Yahweh's word. They possibly could have changed history in a most positive way if they had listened to Yahweh, but their refusal to honor Yahweh resulted in the prophecies against them being fulfilled. Such is the same for today's world. Even America began with a certain amount of respect for the Scriptures, even though they were perverted somewhat, but in these days less and less attention is given to Yahweh's word, and the people and leaders will rush headlong to destruction.

Belshazzar paid dearly for his open rebellion against the One Who gave him life and breath. Judgment came upon him swiftly after he performed his blasphemous acts. What about the blasphemous acts that will be perpetrated in these last days? The world's leaders have been committing blasphemy for countless hundreds of years now, and leading their people into their same acts of blasphemy. The Babylonian harlot of Revelation 17 sits on a beast that is full of the names of blasphemy. We know that Jesus Christ is a false messiah. Is it possible that one declaring that he is Jesus Christ will stand up to cause an even greater falling away to apostasy? Yahshua did say that there would be false messiahs and false prophets who would deceive the people. *JH*

This study will be continued in Booklet #2.



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