



September 15, 2019  
“Kings and Kingdoms”  
Daniel 2  
Pastor Gary Hamrick

Kings come and go, kingdoms rise and fall, but the Kingdom of our Lord will be established forever. This is the dream that Nebuchadnezzar had, and Daniel interpreted. This account is a reminder to us that God is Sovereign over everything, including the nations of the earth; he is coming again; and we can entrust our lives and our future to him! Pastor Gary’s message will help us learn more about the history and prophecy concerning world kingdoms.

### Kings and Kingdoms

1. In the Bible there are more than 100 examples of specific dreams that God used to communicate with people, including Nebuchadnezzar’s dream.
2. God revealed something about himself in this dream, and he also revealed things about the present and the future to Nebuchadnezzar.
  - a. For Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar most of the dream had to do with future things.
  - b. For Christians this dream is primarily about history for us at the specific place Believers are on the timeline of world history.
  - c. Since all of the things that God said would happen have happened, we can be confident that all of the things that have yet to take place will, in fact, take place.
3. Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar that the figure he saw was a statue, which had a head made of gold, chest and arms made of silver, the belly and thighs of bronze, legs made of iron, and feet made of iron and clay.
4. The major theme of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream was the rise and fall of kings and

kingdoms, which we would call world empires.

5. Babylonian Empire 612 to 539 B.C.
  - a. **Daniel 2:36-38** - *"This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king. You, [Nebuchadnezzar], are a king of kings. **For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory**; and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all - you are this head of gold."* (Emphasis added)
6. God is sovereign over the nations, and he raises up and he deposes kings, including ungodly, pagan kings like Nebuchadnezzar, whom he uses for his purposes.
  - a. **Romans 13:1** - *"Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God."*
  - b. **Proverbs 21:1** - *"The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes."*
  - c. **1 Chronicles 6:15** - *"... the LORD carried Judah and Jerusalem into captivity by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar."*
  - d. **Jeremiah 25:9** - *"... Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant..."*
7. Pastor Gary said, "This is important for us to [realize] because what was true for Nebuchadnezzar in his day is true for kings and kingdoms in our day. Meaning [that] even in a democracy or in the case of a republic like ours, [in which] people get a chance to vote, God can still move the hearts of men and women to vote in such a way as to accomplish his purposes. Now, here's why this is important to understand. [People will become upset when his or her candidate did or did not get elected.] We need to rest in the fact that God is sovereignly involved in the nations and he raises up kings and he removes them. It's all in the hand of God. ... When you look at the way God used pagan kings like Nebuchadnezzar and Cyrus, who followed [Nebuchadnezzar], and how both [of them] were favorably disposed toward the Jews and [they] did things that helped them and benefited them, quite honestly... I would rather have, as far as it relates to us, a president who doesn't necessarily claim to know the Lord, but [have him or her] to be favorably disposed toward Christians and who espouses Christian values and biblical truths in our land than any president who might say that he is a Christian, but the social policies are anti-God, anti-family, [and] anti-life. ... God is going to direct and God is going to be involved and God is sovereign in ways that we can rest [and] trust him and put our confidence in the one who is seated on a throne in heaven, [and not] whoever occupies the White House."

8. Medo-Persian Empire 539 to 331 B.C.
  - a. **Daniel 2:39** - *“But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours...”*
  - b. It’s interesting to note that the statue had two arms, which represents the time when there was a co-regency of the Medes and Persians.
  
9. Greek Empire 331 to 168 B.C.
  - a. **Daniel 2:39** - *“... then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth.”*
  - b. Daniel prophesied about Alexander the Great approximately 200 years before he was born!
  
10. Roman Empire 168 B.C. to 476 A.D.
  - a. **Daniel 2:40** - *“And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.”*
  - b. Again, it’s interesting to note that the statue had two legs, and history tells us that in 286 A.D. the Roman Empire was divided into the Holy Roman Empire (western region - the capital city was Rome) and the Byzantine Empire (east region - the capital city was Constantinople)
  - c. Historically speaking, the Roman Empire was the last of the world-dominating empires, even though men like Genghis Khan, Napoleon, Joseph Stalin, and Hitler have tried.
  
11. The Empire of the Future
  - a. **Daniel 2:41-43** - *“Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so **the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile**. As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.”* (Emphasis added)
  - b. Pastor Gary said, “There is a fifth dominating empire that will be known as a 10 Nation Confederation. ... I don’t know how this ten-block confederation will [form]. Perhaps it will be that in the future our [world] will be divided into ten geographical regions, and each region would then end up dominating the world. It could be that there will be a conglomeration of nations that will form some kind of federation similar to the European Union, [which includes] 28 nations. ... Maybe it is a reference to the United Nations Security Council that will end up giving some kind of universal control. Right now there are 15 member [nations] in the U.N. Security Council, and the United States is among the five permanent member nations... Out of one of [these] will arise the anti-Christ.

- i. **Revelation 17:12-14**- *“The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. These are of one mind, and **they will give their power and authority to the beast [anti-Christ].** These will make war with the Lamb, and **the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings; and those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.**” (Emphasis added)*
- c. Pastor Gary said, “If you know Christ, by the time this happens you will either be in heaven because you’ve died and gone to heaven, or you will be in heaven because you’ve been raptured with the Church, and therefore, you are kept in heaven. And then you return with the Lord when he returns. When he comes, he’s going to establish his kingdom on earth, and he will overthrow these kingdoms that have been dominating the world, which is the last part of this [dream]. [Nebuchadnezzar saw] a stone... coming out of heaven, [that] was not hewn by human hands. And [the stone] crushed the toes and the feet and the statue came crumbling down. Listen, that rock is none other than Jesus Christ. [This] is a vision in the Old Testament of the return of Christ to [rule] the world once and for all.
- d. **Daniel 2:44-45** - *“And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold - the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.”*
- e. **Luke 1:33** - *“And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and **of His kingdom there will be no end.**” (Emphasis added)*
- f. **Daniel 2:35** - *“Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”*
- g. **Habakkuk 2:14** - *“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.”*

12. Nebuchadnezzar gave praise to God!

- a. **Daniel 2:47** - *“Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret.”*

13. **Isaiah 9:6-7** - *“... And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of*

*the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”*

### Discussion Questions

1. Read [Daniel 2:31-45](#) to provide a foundation for your Bible study time.
2. Provide an overview of the world empires Pastor Gary described. (See #5, and #8 through #10).
3. Read and discuss the Scriptures Pastor Gary shared concerning the way he raises up and deposes kings and kingdoms. (See #6 above)
4. Allow the people in your group to share examples of world powers, leaders, politicians, and others the Lord has used to accomplish his purposes.
5. Spend time talking about Pastor Gary’s remarks regarding a biblical perspective of how Christians should understand the highly charged political climate we’re experiencing today. (See #7 above)
6. Read and discuss Pastor Gary’s remarks about the coming future empire that we know as the 10 Nation Confederation. (See #11 above)
7. Allow the people in your group to share about the ways Pastor Gary’s message has helped them see the sovereignty of God and the coming victorious rule and reign of Christ and his saints? (See #12 and #13)
8. Close your meeting by allowing the Holy Spirit to direct your time of prayer.

\* Unless noted, all Scriptures quoted are from the New King James Version (NKJV)