

## 5) The World's Future Revealed in a Dream

Our poor world certainly seems to be in a mess and does not appear to be getting better. There are various ways and reasons people think this world will end, whether from global warming, natural disasters, pandemics, or wars. None of those sound hopeful do they? Fortunately, the Bible tells us how this world ends and it's a hope filled answer. Let's look at some Bible prophecy to find out what it says ...

Daniel 2:1-11,16,21-23,28-36,38,39. A young Daniel was a prisoner-of-war. He along with some other Israelites had been taken captive to the kingdom of King Nebuchadnezzar, Babylon. God gave this pagan king a dream that portrayed in broad "brush strokes", through symbols and imagery the king could relate to and understand (an image), the present and future history of this world. But the king couldn't remember the dream and his "wise men" (counselors) could not tell his its meaning. The king sentenced all of them to death. Thought captives, Daniel and his three friends were counted among this group as they were being trained to be among the king's "wise men". They prayed to God and God gave Daniel both the king's dream and it's meaning to share with the King. Daniel took no personal credit, instead giving all the glory to God. The purpose of the dream is two fold: 1) to reveal what will happen in the last days of earth's history. 2) to convert this pagan king to Christ. Daniel tells and explains the dream. The image is in essence, a timeline of history, focused on God's people, and each part of the image represents the succession of different kingdoms that will arise. The head of gold = the kingdom the king represented/was head over – Babylon. It would be succeeded by a combined kingdom – a confederacy of the Medes & the Persians or Medo-Persia - represented by the silver chest with 2 arms. Next would come the kingdom of Greece symbolized by the brass belly & thighs.

Daniel 5:28,30-31. Scripture will interpret itself if we let it, and if we search for it we can find it. Here we see Babylon's end and the beginning of the Medo-Persian empire.

Isaiah 44:27–45:1. Even before he was born, Cyrus, king of the Medo-Persian empire was mentioned as God's chosen instrument to conquer Babylon, the oppressor of His people. God even told us how Cyrus would invade seemingly impregnable Babylon.

Daniel 8:20,21. God tells us that the Grecian kingdom would conquer the Medo-Persian empire. History confirms it.

Daniel 2:40-45. History also tells us that Rome conquered the Grecian empire, just as God said it would. Rome was not to be conquered by another single kingdom, rather as it implode upon itself politically, economically, and socially, invading marauders would split it up into 10 smaller kingdoms, that what would eventually become modern Europe. The Bible said people would try to unite Europe into one empire again through inter-marriage but it would fail. Indeed, people like Charlemagne, Napoleon, Kaiser Wilhelm, Hitler, even the EU, have tried to unite Europe and they have all failed. But God does not fail, and

neither does His holy word, the Bible. It says that during the times of “these kings”, the times of modern Europe, the days in which we are living in, God will wipe away all the empires of mankind and set up His eternal kingdom.

My friend, God’s word and His prophecies are certain. History confirms that all the prophecy that has transpired has happened as God said it would. We can be certain that the rest of it will too!

Psalm 2:8,9. And who can be a part of God’s eternal kingdom? Those who have given their heart and lives to Jesus; those who humbly ask for and receive forgiveness and salvation in Jesus Christ. Friend, knowing that only God’s kingdom is eternal, and that all others will be vanish, whose kingdom will you choose to be a part of?

Titus 2:11-13. God’s grace makes salvation available to all, but it will only benefit those who ask for and receive it. If you haven’t already, will you ask Jesus Christ to come into your heart, your life? If you will confess your sins to Him, He will forgive and cleanse (1 Jn 1:9), and He will make you a part of His family, and His eternal kingdom!