

What does the Bible say about our past present and future?

The book of Daniel was written about 2600 years ago in 536-530 B.C.

In chapter 1 verse 1 it says; In the third year of the reign of King Jehoiakim of Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to Jerusalem and attacked it.

Verse six describes Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah as some young boys who were taken into captivity.

The Babylonians change their names.

Daniel's Hebrew name in which mean God is My Judge was changed to Belteshazzar which mean Bel (chief god of Babylon) Who lays up treasures in secret.

Hananiah's Hebrew name in which mean Grace, Mercy, Gift of The Lord & The Lord has been gracious was changed to Shadrach which mean Servant of Aku, i.e. the moon god.

Mishael's Hebrew name in which mean "Who is asked for or lent, possibly because he is an accommodator. Who is equal to God? (with a question mark)" was changed to Meshach which mean "The shadow of the prince or Who is this?"

Azariah's Hebrew name which mean "He that hears the Lord or The Lord has helped" was changed to Abednego which mean "Servant of light; shining, Servant of Nego which supposed to have been the god of wisdom or the morning star."

17. God gave these four men knowledge, wisdom, and the ability to understand all kinds of literature. Daniel could also understand all kinds of visions and dreams.

In DANIEL CHAPTER 2 Nebuchadnezzar had some dreams.

The king sent for the magicians, psychics, sorcerers, and astrologers so that they could tell him what he had dreamed and interpret it.

No one could tell the king what he dreamed and therefore will not be able to interpret So the king threatened to kill all of them including Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azaria.

These four boys went and prayed to God for the answer and God gave it to Daniel and here's what Daniel told the king in verse 31.

31 "Your Majesty, you had a vision. You saw a large statue. This statue was very bright. It stood in front of you, and it looked terrifying. The head of this statue was made of fine gold. Its chest and arms were made of silver. Its stomach and hips were

made of bronze. Its legs were made of iron. Its feet were made partly of iron and partly of clay. While you were watching, a stone was cut out, but not by humans. It struck the statue's iron-and-clay feet and smashed them. Then all at once, the iron, clay, bronze, silver, and gold were smashed. They became like husks on a threshing floor in summer. The wind carried them away, and not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the statue became a large mountain which filled the whole world. This is the dream. Now we'll tell you its meaning.

Vs. 36-45 explains the interpretation:

One thing to note is BC years are going backwards toward the birth of Christ so as I explain this, you're going to hear these dates going down and not up.

You are this head of gold.

King Nebuchadnezzar took over Jerusalem in 605 BC. Here on the map you can see where Babylon was located. It is in the territory of what we call now, Iraq and you can see the Territory that was called Babylon in Iraq.

When Babylon took over Jerusalem, they occupied all this territory.

Another kingdom, inferior to yours, will rise to power after you.

After king Nebuchadnezzar took over Jerusalem the Persians took over the Medes around 550 BC.

Then the Medes and Persians took over Babylon around 539 BC. The Persians and Medes were primarily in the territory of Iran and then took the entire Babylonian empire.

The Bible says they were inferior to the Babylonian empire but obviously outsmarted them. If you look at chapter 5 verse 28 it shows right there that the kingdom was given to the Medes and Persians.

The last part of verse 39 it says, a third kingdom of brass, which will rule over all the earth.

This third kingdom that is represented by this brass belly is Greece that was established around 330 BC by Alexander the great.

There will also be a fourth kingdom. It will be as strong as iron. (Iron smashes and shatters everything.) As iron crushes things, this fourth kingdom will smash and crush all the other kingdoms.

This fourth kingdom is represented by the Roman empire and they fought against Greece in 215, 197, 168 and Greece finally fell to the Roman empire in 146 BC.

41. You also saw the feet and toes. They were partly potters' clay and partly iron. This means that there will be a divided kingdom which has some of the firmness of iron. As you saw, iron was mixed with clay.

The divide here described in verse 41 is these two legs because the Roman empire had an eastern and Western division and both of those divisions could not get along with each other which made the kingdom part strong and part weak.

Before talking about the toes and the feet let's note again that the years are still counting backwards during the 1st half of the reign of the Roman empire.

Jesus was born around year AD 1 – 6. BC stood for before Christ and AD means anno Domini which means in the year of the Lord or in the year of our Lord. This was taken from the original phrase anno domini nostri Jesu Christi which is translated into the year of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The world changed the meaning of BC (Before Christ) to BCE which means before common era and they changed AD to CE which means common error in order to disassociate the years from Christ our Lord.

Let's note this on the chart as well, the old testament takes up about 4000 years, you see Jesus on the chart around AD 32. Where we are on this chart is around the section which is a 2000 year period. The Roman empire has fallen, but not really. See a lot of what we do is based on Roman empire. Even the word romance and our currency....

42. The toes were partly iron and partly clay. Part of the kingdom will be strong, and part will be brittle.

43. As you saw, iron was mixed with clay. The two parts of the kingdom will mix by intermarrying, but they will not hold together any more than iron can mix with clay.

44. "At the time of those kings, the God of heaven will establish a kingdom that will never be destroyed. No other people will be permitted to rule it. It will smash all the other kingdoms and put an end to them. But it will be established forever.

45. This is the stone that you saw cut out from a mountain, but not by humans. It smashed the iron, bronze, clay, silver, and gold. The great God has told you what will happen in the future, Your Majesty. The dream is true, and you can trust that this is its meaning."