

The Book of Daniel & God's Kingdom

(The Church)

ANCIENT EMPIRES OF MESOPOTAMIA
AND THE MEDITERRANEAN

DANIEL'S PROPHECY & INTERPRETATION

GOLD

Babylonian
(625 B.C. - 539 B.C.)

"This image's head was of fine gold...
The God of heaven has given you a
kingdom...you [Nebuchadnezzar of
Babylon] are this head of gold"

(Daniel 2:32, 37, 38; cf. 1:1).

SILVER

Medo-Persian
(539 B.C. - 331 B.C.)

"Its chest and arms of silver...
after you [Nebuchadnezzar]
shall arise another kingdom
inferior to yours"

(Daniel 2:32, 39; cf. 8:20).

BRONZE

Greek
(331 B.C. - 63 B.C.)

"Its belly and thighs of bronze...
then another, a third kingdom of
bronze, which shall rule over all
the earth"

(Daniel 2:32, 39; cf. 8:21).

IRON & CLAY

Roman
(146 B.C. - A.D. 476)

"Its legs of iron, its feet partly of
iron and partly of clay...and the
fourth kingdom shall be as strong
as iron, ...that kingdom will break
in pieces and crush all the others"

(Daniel 2:33, 40, 42, 43).

Kingdom of God Established (approx. A.D. 33)

"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"

(Daniel 2:44).

The New Testament reveals that Jesus and John the Baptist preached the establishment of God's kingdom by saying it was "at hand" (Matthew 3:2; 4:17, 23). Since the church and the kingdom are one and the same (Matthew 16:18-19; Mark 9:1; Acts 1:3; 2:38, 47; 8:12; Colossians 1:13), and the church was established in the first century during the days of the Roman empire, it follows that the kingdom of God was established in the first century following the earthly ministry of Jesus. The church/kingdom is comprised of people from all nations (Isaiah 2:1-2) and thus consumes "all these kingdoms" (Daniel 2:44) and is spoken of in the New Testament as having been in existence during the first century A.D. (Colossians 1:13; 2 Thessalonians 1:5; Revelation 1:9). This kingdom still exists today, and all penitent sinners can choose to become a part of it by being immersed into Christ. Jesus, as the head of His church and the King of all kings (Colossians 1:18; 1 Timothy 6:15), is now reigning over His kingdom—His people (Acts 2:36; Luke 17:21).

