

1. The statue built in Nebuchadnezzar's honor reveals four great world empires and the promise of something to replace them all.
2. The head of gold signifies the most valuable empire, Babylon. God gave Nebuchadnezzar dominion, power, might, and glory.
3. Persia will conquer Babylon and is marked by the second, less desirable empire in silver.
4. The third empire is substantially degraded and is the Greek empire, built of bronze. This empire was established by Alexander the Great.
5. Represented by iron is the most degraded empire, Rome. This empire will be strong yet lacks unity, making it weak. Iron suggests the tough ruthlessness of the world power of Rome.
6. The final scene in Daniel 2:45 shows that a stone cut by no human hands reduces the entire monument to dust. Afterwards, the rock becomes a mountain that fills the earth. This is the rule of Christ's Kingdom.
7. In a stunning scene, Nebuchadnezzar, a tyrant, bows before Daniel and declares that the God of Daniel is greater than all other gods.
8. Since the four kingdoms of the statue are physical and were literal earthly kingdoms, Jesus' reign is over an earthly kingdom and will have an earthly presence like the others.
9. Three theological truths to remember:
 1. **GOD IS SOVEREIGN** – Over all government, kings, and affairs of this planet.
 2. **GOD IS OMNISCIENT** – He knows all things at all times and chooses to reveal the future to humans.
 3. **GOD IS COMING** – Empires will arise until the end, but the Kingdom of Christ Jesus will reign supreme for eternity.

GREEK & HEBREW WORDS

Dchal (deh-khal'); ^[Aramaic] to fear :— dreadful, fear, terrible

QUOTES

“And when the Book of Daniel was showed him wherein Daniel declared that one of the Greeks should destroy the empire of the Persians, he supposed that himself was the person intended. And as he was then glad, he dismissed the multitude for the present.”

- Josephus - Antiquities

Key Biblical Signs of the End Times

Sign	Reference
Moral Decay	2 Timothy 3:1-5
Geopolitical Instability	Matthew 24:6-7
Natural Disasters & Pestilence	Luke 21:11
Religious Deception	Matthew 24:5, 24
Spiritual Apostasy	2 Timothy 4:3-4
Global Gospel Outreach	Matthew 24:14
Signs in the Heavens	Matthew 24:29

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Trust In God
Your Great Name
Thank You Jesus for the Blood
Blessed Assurance

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Mark identifies Jesus as the stone that will crush all earthly kingdoms and establish an eternal kingdom.

- How does this future certainty impact how you live today?
- What practical difference should or could it make in your priorities? Your anxieties?

He lists seven key biblical signs of the end times (moral decay, wars, natural disasters, false teachers, apostasy, gospel outreach, heavenly signs).

- Which of these do you observe most prominently in our world?
- How should believers respond to these signs without becoming fearful or complacent? Why?

Turning away from biblical truth is mentioned as one of the markers of the last days.

- How can we guard ourselves and our families against spiritual drift while remaining engaged with the culture around us?

We currently live in the era represented by the iron legs and clay feet—powerful but divided and deteriorating.

- How should Christians be living distinctively during this period?
- What does it mean practically to be "in the world but not of the world" while awaiting Christ's return?

Mark concludes with three reminders: God is sovereign, omniscient, and coming.

- Which of these three truths do you most need to hold onto right now, and why?
- How can this truth reshape your current concerns or circumstances in real ways?