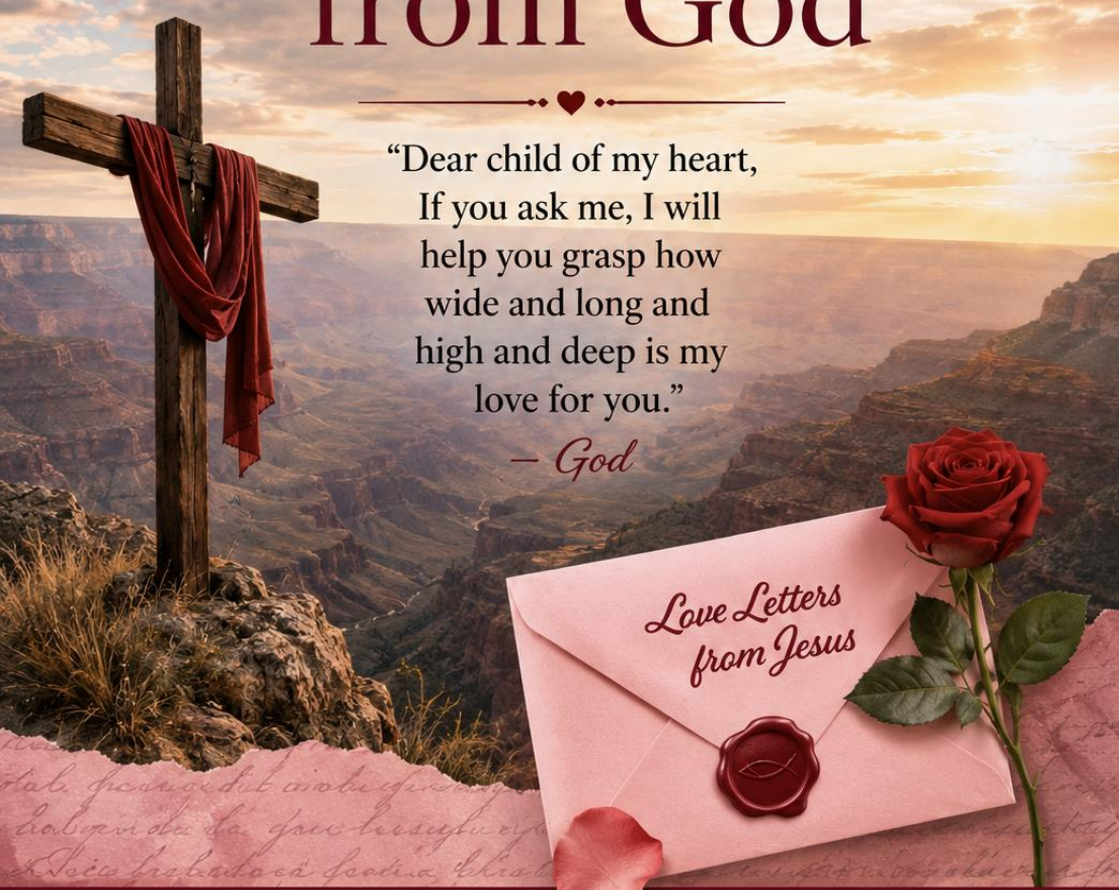


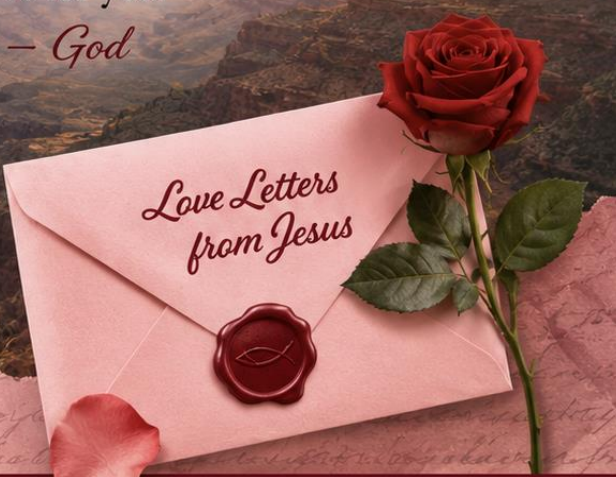


A love letter from God



“Dear child of my heart,
If you ask me, I will
help you grasp how
wide and long and
high and deep is my
love for you.”

— God



*Love Letters
from Jesus*



I love you very much. You are so precious and valuable to Me. I think about you all the time and have wonderful plans for you. The thoughts and plans that I have for you are to give you a future and a hope that is beyond what you could ask for or even think, I have good thoughts for you. (John 3:16,17; Jeremiah 29:11; Psalm 139:1-18; 103:1-18; Ephesians 3:20; Isaiah 55:8,9).

You are my child. You belong to Me for I not only created you, I also redeemed you when I died on the cross for all the sins of the world (John 1:1-4,14; 3:16,17; Col. 1:12-16; Gal. 3:10-13; 4:4,5; 1 John 2:2).

GOD IS NOT COUNTING YOUR SIN AGAINST YOU

Through My perfect life and death, you have been reconciled to God. No matter who you are or what you have done, God is not counting your sin against you. You are free to come to Him just as you are and be reconciled to Him (2 Corinthians 5:19-21; Romans 12:1).

I will tell you the same thing I told a woman who had committed adultery. “I don’t condemn you! Go and sin no more.” You are free to experience My unconditional love for you and leave your life of sin and pain (John 8:11; Romans 2:4; 5:18; 6:14-16; 8:1).

When you call to Me, I will answer. When you seek Me with all your heart, you will find Me, for I am anxious to be found by you. When you give Me permission, I will make My home with you (Jeremiah 29:12, 13; Matthew 11:28-30; John 14:23; Revelation 3:20).

I love you with an everlasting love! Nothing can change that. When you hurt, I hurt with you, just as a parent suffers when their child is in pain (Jer. 31:3; Romans 8:31-39; Matt. 23:37-39; 25:34-45; Hosea 11:1-8).

All human pain and suffering is ultimately a result of Adam and Eve’s choice to learn about evil. When they sinned, I immediately stepped in to be the Savior of the world (Genesis 2:15-17; 3; Revelation 13:8;

Romans 5:12- 18; Isaiah 53:4-6; John 1:29; 4:42; 2 Timothy 1:9; 1 John 2:2).

HEALING THE BROKENHEARTED AND SETTING PEOPLE FREE

Through My perfect life and death, I was able to free the human race from the kingdom of darkness and qualify everyone for eternal life. As a result, everyone is now free to choose to live with Me now and forever or persistently cling onto sin and evil (Colossians 1:12-14; Romans 5:18; 2 Corinthians 5:14-21; 1 John 5:10,11; John 1:9-13; 3:16-20).

When I was on this earth, My mission was to share good news with the poor, heal the brokenhearted and free people enslaved by sin. Satan has told many lies about Me in order to lead people to reject Me. He seeks to steal, kill, and destroy as many as he can. I came so everyone might experience the abundant life that was originally intended for the human race (Luke 4:18; Rev. 12:7-9; 1 Peter 5:8; John 8:31-36, 44; 10:10).

I invite you to come to Me just as you are. I will accept you with all of your hurt and failure. In fact, the kingdom of heaven belongs to those who are “poor in spirit,” those who recognize their brokenness and need for Me as their Savior (Matthew 11:28-30; 5:3; Rom. 12:1; Ps. 51:17).

When you invite me to be your Savior and Lord, you will be “born again.” The Holy Spirit will lead you into all truth and the truth will set you free. As you replace the lies of Satan with the truth from the Bible, your life will be transformed. You will experience freedom from fear, guilt, and shame (John 1:12,13; 3:5,6; 8:31-36; 16:13; Romans 12:2; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 2 Timothy 1:7; 1 John 1:9; 3:1; 4:18).

You will discover new meaning and purpose in life as you share your story with others and invite them to experience My love and be reconciled to God (Mark 4:20; 5:19,20; Revelation 12:11; 2 Cor. 5:19,20).

YOU ARE INVITED, PLEASE COME

I will never force you to receive the truth or the blessings I am anxious to give you. If you don't want them, I will allow you to pursue the pathway you choose, even though it will bring you much pain and heartache. Even then I will be waiting for you to call out for help. When you do, I will reassure you of My forgiveness and help you experience healing from the brokenness caused by your sinful choices (Prov. 14:12; Matthew 7:13,14; James 1:14,15; Romans 1:18-28; Psalm 107; Hebrews 12:5-11; Revelation 3:19,20; Luke 4:18; Matthew 5:3-12; 1 John 1:9).

If you persistently choose to cling onto sin, you will eventually hate Me and not want to come into My presence. In fact, you will come to the point that you would rather die than live with Me forever. Out of love, I will honor your choice and you will perish in the end (John 3:16-20; Revelation 6:14-16; 20:7-15; 1 Corinthians 15:26; Romans 6:23).

EXPERIENCE THE LOVE, JOY AND PEACE YOUR HEART LONGS FOR

But if you want Me to be your Savior, you will not be disappointed. You will experience love that casts out fear, peace that passes understanding, and joy that no one can take away (1 John 4:17-19; Philippians 4:6,7; John 16:22).

When you are tempted to satisfy your cravings in unhealthy ways, I will enable you to have self-control and remind you that the blessings I give you will truly satisfy (1 John 2:15,16; Galatians 5:23; John 4:14; Philippians 4:4-19).

I will enable you to be patient with others as they are growing and will transform you so that kindness, compassion, and forgiveness flow from within (Galatians 5:22; John 7:37-39; Romans 12:2; Ephesians 4:32).

TRUST ME TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR ENEMIES

When you are mistreated, misunderstood, or taken advantage of, your natural desire will be to seek revenge. Choose instead to allow Me to discipline those who have hurt you. While doing so, I will also seek to reach their hearts (Rom. 12:17-21; Hebrews 12:5-11; Rev. 3:19; Luke 4:18).

In the long run, the best way to relate to your enemies is to love them. They will either humble their hearts and become your friend or try to avoid you out of their own shame. When I was mistreated and nailed to the cross, I prayed, "Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing." After I was resurrected, many confessed their sins, repented, and became My disciples (Matt. 5:3-12; Luke 6:27-38; 23:34; Acts 2:36-42).

Instead of seeking revenge, choose to be gentle with people. Look beyond their faults, understand their needs, and care for them

in healthy ways, while maintaining proper boundaries (Romans 12).

Don't be afraid to speak the truth, but do it always in love. I know all this will take a miracle, for you are helpless to do anything good apart from Me. Your part is to choose to love; the Holy Spirit will work the miracle within you (Ephesians 4:14-16; John 15:4,5,12; Galatians 5:13-25; Phil. 2:12,13).

As you experience My unconditional love, you will grow into maturity and learn to love others as I have loved you. People will be drawn to Me by the light that shines out of your life (John 12:32; 13:34,35; 15:12; Matthew 5:16).

I WILL SOON BRING AN END TO ALL SIN AND DEATH

Soon the day will come when I will return to earth and take to heaven all who want to live with Me forever. All those "who have fallen asleep" trusting in Me will be resurrected with brand new bodies (John

14:1-3; 2 Timothy 4:8; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; 1 Corinthians 15:51-54).

I long for the day when we will be together again in person. After all sin is destroyed and the earth is cleansed by fire, I will create a new heaven and a new earth. All tears will be wiped away and there will be no more pain, crying, sorrow, or death (John 14:1-3; 2 Peter 3:10-13; 1 Corinthians 15:26; Revelation 20:14; 21:1,4).

Until then, trust Me! I will take care of you, for I love you with all My heart (Matthew 6:33; Phil. 4:19; Romans 5:6-10; 8:31,32; 1 Peter 5:7). With Love Always, Your Creator, Savior and Friend, GOD

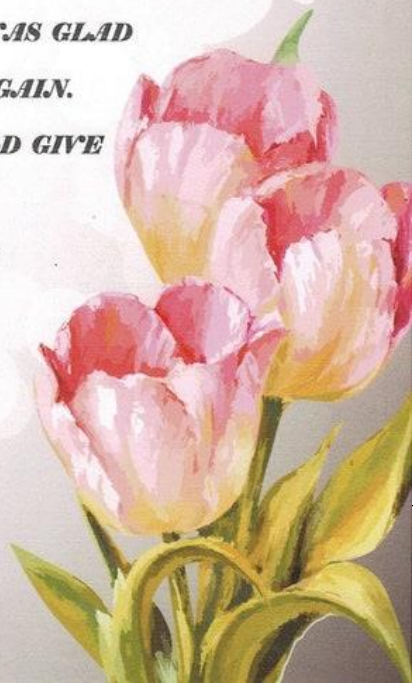
(A letter from Jesus)

HOW MUCH DO I LOVE YOU

I LOVE YOU SO MUCH THAT WHEN THEY PUT ME TO SHAME, I SAID NOTHING. BECAUSE I KNEW THAT MY SHAME WOULD BRING YOU GLORY. AND WHEN THEY BEAT ME AND TORE THE FLESH FROM MY BACK, I COULD HAVE SAID STOP AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN SO. BUT I KNEW THAT MY TORN FLESH WOULD MAKE YOU WELL, SO I SAID NOTHING. I LOVE YOU SO MUCH THAT WHEN THEY NAILED MY HANDS AND MY FEET TO A TREE AND I WAS COVERED WITH MY BLOOD, I DID NOTHING. BECAUSE I KNEW THAT MY BLOOD WOULD WASH YOUR SINS AWAY AND MAKE YOU FREE. AND WHEN I TOOK MY LAST BREATH I WAS GLAD TO KNOW THAT I WOULD SEE YOU AGAIN. AND I KNEW THAT MY DEATH WOULD GIVE YOU LIFE. BECAUSE I LOVE YOU.

JESUS

P.S. I'LL SEE YOU SOON.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

The preceding Love Letter From GOD is part of The Compelling Love of God studies. It is my prayer that God will be able to use the Love Letter and The Compelling Love of God studies to help many others understand and experience His unconditional love for the human race.

I grew up in a Christian home with two loving parents and three older brothers. Attending church each week was a part of life. We enjoyed the fellowship and friendships that developed. My parents willingly sacrificed for all of us to be able to attend Christian schools. The home, school and church experience provided a positive and Biblical foundation for me to build my life upon.

At age fifteen, my Christian life became more personal through positive influences of teachers and classmates. I began to fall in

love with Jesus as I read the story of Jesus in the Bible along with a wonderful commentary called, “The Desire of Ages.” The next year, a thought came into my mind. “I would like to be a minister and help others come to know Jesus as a personal Friend and Savior.” Then another thought came. “If I am going to be a minister, I better take this seriously.”

As I began to focus on how I was doing, I could always find fault with myself. Without a good understanding of the gospel, I began to live with a constant, nagging guilt. Eventually, that guilt led to much insecurity and a feeling of shame. That emotional pain led to seeking “pain relievers.” For me, that took the form of binging on food. It provided temporary pleasure, but it also led to more guilt. I found myself stuck in a cycle of addiction: guilt, shame, pain, pain reliever, guilt.... Since it was an “acceptable” addiction, and something I could hide, no one noticed but me.

The shame and insecurity kept me from seeking out the help that I needed. I almost gave up Christianity, for it wasn't working for me. But I had seen others who had given up and noticed that they weren't happy. I knew that Jesus was "the answer," I just hadn't figured out how to experience peace and victory for myself.

For 14 years I limped along in my struggling, Christian life. Looking back at those years, I recognize that God was removing any confidence in myself that might lead to pride or that might lead me away from trusting in His grace and righteousness alone. God was also faithful to provide the help and encouragement that I needed to nurture me along. This came through family and friends, personal quiet time with Him, answers to prayer and His remarkable leading in my life.

Then in His wonderful providence and timing,

He led me to understand the gospel foundation more clearly than ever before. I began to experience an inner peace and security that has led to a growing maturity in my relationship with God and others. I experienced freedom from the addictive cycle, victory in the Christian life and a new motivation for living and loving God.

In John 8:31,32, Jesus said, “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” Having experienced freedom and joy through Jesus, it is my desire to share this good news with others.

Consequently, I developed a series of Bible Studies that I call “The Compelling Love of God” designed to help one grow into maturity by finding security in Christ. These can be found at www.compellinglove.org

May God bless each of us with the Holy Spirit that He may lead us step by step into all the truth He has for us. “When He, the Spirit of

truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth” (John 16:13).

Clinton Meharry Moses Lake, Washington



*God's love
letter to you*

**Dear child of my heart,
If you ask me, I will
help you grasp how
wide and long and
high and deep is my
love for you.**

FATHER'S LOVE LETTER

An intimate message from God to you.

My Child,

You may not know me, but I know everything about you. Psalm 139:1 I know when you sit down and when you rise up. Psalm 139:2 I am familiar with all your ways. Psalm 139:3 Even the very hairs on your head are numbered. Matthew 10:29-31 For you were made in my image. Genesis 1:27 In me you live and move and have your being. Acts 17:28 For you are my offspring. Acts 17:28 I knew you even before you were conceived. Jeremiah 1:4-5 I chose you when I planned creation. Ephesians 1:11-12 You were not a mistake, for all your days are written in my book. Psalm 139:15-16 I determined the exact time of your birth and where you would live. Acts 17:26 You are fearfully and wonderfully made. Psalm 139:14 I knit you together in your mother's womb. Psalm 139:13 And brought you forth on the day you were born. Psalm 71:6 I have been misrepresented by those who don't know me. John 8:41-44 I am not distant and angry, but am the complete expression of love. 1 John 4:16 And it is my desire to lavish my love on you. 1 John 3:1 Simply because you are my child and I am your Father. 1 John 3:1 I offer you more than your earthly father ever could. Matthew 7:11 For I am the perfect father. Matthew 5:48 Every good gift that you receive comes from my hand. James 1:17 For I am your provider and I meet all your needs. Matthew 6:31-33 My plan for your future has always been filled with hope. Jeremiah 29:11 Because I love you with an everlasting love. Jeremiah 31:3 My thoughts toward you are countless as the sand on the seashore. Psalm 139:17-18 And I rejoice over you with singing. Zephaniah 3:17 I will never stop doing good to you. Jeremiah 32:40 For you are my treasured possession. Exodus 19:5 I desire to establish you with all my heart and all my soul. Jeremiah 32:41 And I want to show you great and marvelous things. Jeremiah 33:3 If you seek me with all your heart, you will find me. Deuteronomy 4:29 Delight in me and I will give you the desires of your heart. Psalm 37:4 For it is I who gave you those desires. Philippians 2:13 I am able to do more for you than you could possibly imagine. Ephesians 3:20 For I am your greatest encourager. 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 I am also the Father who comforts you in all your troubles. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 When you are brokenhearted, I am close to you. Psalm 34:18 As a shepherd carries a lamb, I have carried you close to my heart. Isaiah 40:11 One day I will wipe away every tear from your eyes. Revelation 21:3-4 And I'll take away all the pain you have suffered on this earth. Revelation 21:3-4 I am your Father, and I love you even as I love my son, Jesus. John 17:23 For in Jesus, my love for you is revealed. John 17:26 He is the exact representation of my being. Hebrews 1:3 He came to demonstrate that I am for you, not against you. Romans 8:31 And to tell you that I am not counting your sins. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 Jesus died so that you and I could be reconciled. 2 Corinthians 5:18-19 His death was the ultimate expression of my love for you. 1 John 4:10 I gave up everything I loved that I might gain your love. Romans 8:31-32 If you receive the gift of my son Jesus, you receive me. 1 John 2:23 And nothing will ever separate you from my love again. Romans 8:38-39 Come home and I'll throw the biggest party heaven has ever seen. Luke 15:7 I have always been Father, and will always be Father. Ephesians 3:14-15 My question is... Will you be my child? John 1:12-13 I am waiting for you. Luke 15:11-32

*Love, Your Dad
Almighty God*



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

A Love Letter from Jesus



Pocket Signs

GOD WANTS FUTURE WITH YOU AND HAS REVEALED THIS!

Daniel 2 outlines a massive, metallic statue that King Nebuchadnezzar saw in a dream. God revealed this vision to Daniel, who explained that the four metals (Gold, Silver, Bronze, and Iron) represent four consecutive world empires: Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. The feet of iron and clay signify our modern divided world.

The Amazing Facts study series highlights several remarkable lessons and prophetic details from this chapter:

- **Perfect Historical Accuracy:** The metals perfectly trace the succession of world powers exactly as they happened in history: **Babylon** (612-539 BC), **Medo-Persia** (539-331 BC), **Greece** (331-168 BC), and **Rome** (168 BC-AD 476).
- **The Divided Kingdoms:** The feet and toes, made of a mixture of iron and clay, represent Europe and the divided

nations after the fall of the Roman Empire. The prophecy explicitly states they will "not cleave one to another," which explains why every attempt to reunite Europe—from Charlemagne to Napoleon and Hitler—has failed.

- **The Unbreakable Kingdom:** The dream culminates with a supernatural stone that strikes the feet of the statue and shatters it, eventually growing into a mountain that fills the whole earth. This represents God's eternal kingdom, which will never be destroyed.
- **The Importance of Prayer:** When the king's wise men couldn't interpret the dream and faced a death decree, Daniel didn't panic. He and his friends prayed to God, and the secret was revealed.
- **God Reveals the Future:** The fact that the rise and fall of world empires was predicted centuries in advance serves as

powerful proof that God's Word can be trusted to the very end.

- You can dive deeper into these lessons by reviewing the full [Amazing Facts Study Guide 1](#) or by watching [The King's Prophetic Dream Seminar](#).
- If you want to continue your study, let me know if you would like to:
- Explore the next lesson on **Daniel chapter 7**
- Learn how the Bible symbols in this chapter are **defined by scripture**
- Find out how this prophecy applies to the **current world events**
- Let me know what you'd like to **focus on next**.

THE FINAL KINGDOM BIBLE REFERENCE GUIDE #1 Matt. 24:3, 4 The disciples ask Jesus Christ about the signs for the last days. Matt. 24:15 Jesus directs our attention to

the book of Daniel to help us further understand where we are in the stream of time.

Daniel 12:4 In the time of the end knowledge would be increased. The book of Daniel was specifically written for the “latter days.” Isa. 46:9, 10 Only God can declare the “end from the beginning” and, therefore, accurately tell the future.

Amos 3:7 God reveals His secrets to His servants, the prophets. Daniel 1:1-21 The book of Daniel begins with Daniel and his three faithful friends demonstrating their faithfulness to the true God. Thus God honored them highly. The theme of the book of Daniel is about true vs. false worship.

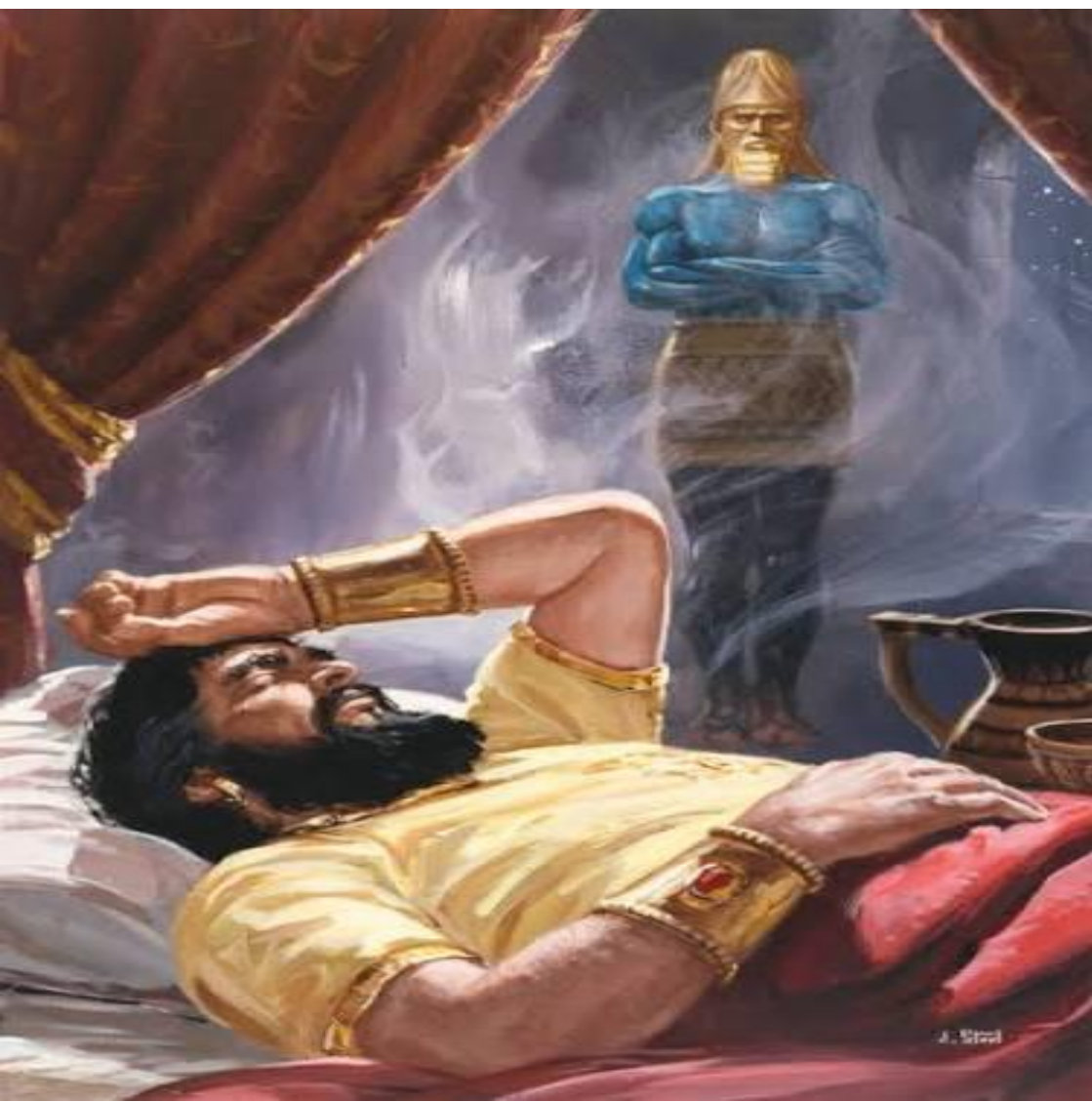
READ ALL OF DANIEL

2 vs. 1 King Nebuchadnezzar has a dream he can't remember. vs. 19 God revealed the dream to His prophet Daniel. vs. 28, 29 The dream shows what would happen in the latter days of earth's history. vs. 31-36 Four

metals: Gold, Silver, Brass, Iron—representing four kingdoms of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. vs. 41, 42 The fourth kingdom (Rome) would divide into many parts like the feet and the toes on the image; some of the divisions would be strong, others weak.

NOTE: This dividing of Rome took place between A.D. 351 and 476. The most recognized and basic divisions of the Roman empire were: Alemanni (Germany); Visigoths (Spain); Franks (France); Suevi (Portugal); Burgundians (Swiss); Anglo Saxon (English) Lombards (Italy); Heruli (destroyed in 493); Vandals (destroyed in 534); Ostrogoths (destroyed in 538). vs. 43 “They shall not cleave one to another.” Here God predicts that throughout history, these 10 kingdoms will never again become one nation. vs. 44, 45 In the days of these kings, God will set up His kingdom. The great Rock that smashes the image, reducing it to powder, represents the coming of Jesus Christ, which

will bring the destruction of all earthly kingdoms and governments and the set up God's eternal kingdom (Matt. 21:42-44). Rev. 21:1-5 A picture of the new heavenly kingdom.



DANIEL 2 IMAGE

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

GOLD = BABYLON

The head of gold represented Babylon, which was the ruling world power from 612 to 539 BC.

SILVER = MEDO-PERSIA

The chest of silver represented Medo-Persia, the ruling world empire from 539 to 331 BC.

BRONZE = GREECE

The thighs of bronze represented Greece, the dominant world ruler from 331 to 168 BC.

IRON = ROME

The legs of iron represented Rome, which enjoyed world supremacy from 168 BC to AD 476.

IRON AND CLAY = DIVIDED EMPIRE

The feet that were partly iron and partly clay represented a divided empire that would not cleave together. No single power has ruled the world since AD 476, and it will remain divided until Christ's return.

STONE = CHRIST'S ETERNAL KINGDOM, HIS WORD, AND HIS LAW



Daniel 2 Image Nebuchadnezzar's Dream
Gold = Babylon The head of gold represented Babylon, which was the ruling world power from 612 to 539 BC. Silver = Medo-Persia The chest of silver represented Medo-Persia, the ruling world empire from 539 to 331 BC. Bronze = Greece The thighs of bronze represented Greece, the dominant world ruler from 331 to 168 BC. Iron = Rome The legs of iron represented Rome, which enjoyed world supremacy from 168 BC to AD 476. Iron and Clay = Divided Empire The feet that were partly iron and partly clay represented a divided empire that would not cleave together. No single power has ruled the world since AD 476, and it will remain divided until Christ's return. Stone = Christ's Eternal Kingdom, His Word, and His Law © Amazing Facts International Know the future! bible prophecy truth.com

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of The Latter Days

BABYLON
606-538 BC

"This Image's head was of fine gold...
"Thou art this head of gold."
(Daniel 2:32, 33).

PERSIA
538-331 BC

"...His breast and his arms of silver...
after thee shall arise another Kingdom
Interior to thee..." (Daniel 2:32, 39).

GREECE
331-63 BC

"...His belly and his thighs of brass...
another third Kingdom of brass,
which shall bear rule over all the
earth." (Daniel 2:32, 39).

ROME
27 BC-
1453 AD

"His legs of Iron...And the
fourth Kingdom shall be strong
as Iron: for as much as Iron
breaketh in pieces and
subdueth all things:."
" (Daniel 2:33, 40).

DIVIDED
ROMAN EMPIRE
WRE 27 BC-476 AD
ERE 67 AD-1453 AD

" His feet part of Iron and part of
clay... partly strong and partly broken...
they shall not cleave one to another."
(Daniel 2:33, 41-43).

CHRIST'S
KINGDOM

"...A stone...smote the Image upon
his feet...(and) became a mountain,
and filled the whole earth... the God of heaven (shall) set up a Kingdom,
which shall never be destroyed..." (Daniel 2:34, 35, 44).

DANIEL 2

GOLD

SILVER

BRASS

IRON

IRON AND
CLAY

STONE
CUT OUT
WITHOUT MAN'S
HANDS

STONE FILLS
WHOLE EARTH



BABYLON

MEDOPERSIA

GREECE

ROME

DIVIDED
KINGDOMS
1260 YEARS

INVESTIGATIVE
JUDGMENT

CHRIST'S
KINGDOM



KINGDOM
1840000
1840000

Lessons from Daniel 2



Ekkehardt Mueller

Are you interested in the future? Daniel 2 is one of the best-known chapters in Scripture that deal with future developments. It contains an astonishing prophecy, reaching from the time of Daniel to the end of this world.

I. DISCUSSION OF THE CHAPTER

A. The king's dream cannot be interpreted

1. Verse 1—During his reign as king of the Babylonian Empire, Nebuchadnezzar receives a special revelation from God.
2. Verse 2—Daniel and his friends are not invited with the wise men to interpret the dream.
3. Verses 3-12—How does the king contrast with the wise men?

The king:

- _____

He does not tell them the dream.

- _____
- _____

He is distrustful and afraid of a false interpretation.

- _____
- _____

On one hand he pressures them; on the other he offers honor and gifts.

- _____
- _____

His distrust increases.

- _____
- _____

He succumbs to wrath and issues a death decree.

- _____

The wise men:

- _____

They demand to know the dream.

- _____
- _____

They exhibit only human wisdom and a seemingly arbitrary interpretation.

- _____
- _____

They make a second demand to be told the dream, exposing their insecurity and trickery.

- _____
- _____

They refuse to meet the king's request on the grounds that it is humanly impossible to fulfill.

- _____
- _____

4. Verse 13—Although they are not present, Daniel and his friends are affected by the king's decree.

5. Verses 14, 15—Daniel gets more information.

6. Verse 16—Why does the king grant Daniel's request for additional time when he had denied the wise men's request in verse 8?

• _____

The king is still disturbed by the dream and may be glad for another interpretation of the dream.

• _____

• _____

Daniel was not with the other wise men when the king first asked for an interpretation. Possibly, the king considered it fair to allow Daniel to try.

• _____

• _____

The wise men demanded to know the details of the dream. Daniel requests only time and not the details.

- _____
- _____

God is involved behind the scenes.

- _____

B. The prayer and its fulfillment

1. Verses 17-23—What do we learn about Daniel's devotional life, especially his prayer life (see also Dan 6 and 9)?

- _____

Daniel approaches God for help. He trusts God. Therefore, there is no need for him to lament and complain.

- _____
- _____

He has a season of prayer with his friends.

- _____
- _____

He does not forget to express his gratitude.
He praises God.

- _____
- _____

Daniel is intensely, and on a daily basis,
involved in prayer.

- _____
- _____

He even risks his life for his desire to seek
God regularly in prayer.

- _____

What does Daniel know about God?

- _____

God is omnipotent and omniscient.

- _____
- _____

God is the Lord of history.

- _____
- _____

God is associated with light (e.g., John 8:12)
Daniel considers himself to be a servant and steward. He remains humble.

- _____

C. Daniel before the king

1. Verses 24-30—What about Daniel's character and philosophy of life can be derived from verses 24-30?

- _____

Daniel does not care only about himself. He attempts to help the wise men and his friends too. He supports the statement of the wise men in verses 10 and 11.

- _____
- _____

He points to the true God and is a witness of God while being involved with the ruler of the Babylonian world empire (see also v. 37).

- _____
- _____

This takes faith and courage.

- _____
- _____

Daniel does not boast but regards himself a tool in God's hand.

• _____

Daniel became a “man of God” because of his prayer life and his determination not to compromise but remain faithful to God’s will. This commitment allowed him to have great experiences with God.

2. Verses 29–Nebuchadnezzar’s dream is about the future.

D. The dream

1. Verses 31-35—These verses contain a record of the dream. Even without the details, one notices that earthly things are transient and do not last.

E. The interpretation of the dream

1. Verses. 36-45—What is the time frame of the dream?

• _____

It starts with Nebuchadnezzar’s kingdom.

- _____
- _____

It ends with the kingdom of God.

- _____

The dream describes world history from the Babylonian time till the end of the world. The image consisting of different metals represents earthly kingdoms/empires.

Gold	Babylon (606-539 BC)
Silver	Medo-Persia (539-331 BC)
Bronze	Greece (331-168 BC)
Iron	Rome (168 BC-AD 476)
Iron-clay	Empires of Western Europe (AD 476-end of the world)

Some people have identified the following iron-clay nations:

Alemanni	Germany
Anglo-Saxons	Great Britain
Burgundians	Switzerland
Franks	France
Herulians	destroyed
Lombards	Italy
Ostrogoths	destroyed
Sueves	Portugal
Vandals	destroyed
Visigoths	Spain

The last part of the dream, which deals with the stone, is described in great detail. What statements are made about the iron-clay mixture?

- _____

It is a divided kingdom, and no longer a world empire.

- _____

- _____

It still contains some of the hardness of iron. To some extent Rome continues to live on in the subsequent nations.

- _____

- _____

All attempts to unify these nations fail. European politics of intermarriage between the royal houses did not work. Attempts to unify Europe under Charles the Great (eighth century), Charles V (sixteenth century), Louis XIV (seventeenth and eighteenth century), Napoleon (nineteenth century), Emperor Wilhelm II (twentieth century), and Hitler (twentieth century) were not successful. Today the European Union struggles to survive.

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The climax of the prophecy is the stone. In the Old and New Testaments the stone is an

image for God/Jesus (2 Sam 22:2; 1 Pet 2:4-8; Matt 21:42, 44). Our destiny depends on how we relate to Jesus Christ. He will return soon and establish His indestructible and eternal kingdom (Rev 11:15).

F. Reactions of the king and Daniel

1. Verses 46-49—Because of Daniel's faithfulness and trust in the Lord, Nebuchadnezzar paid attention to the true God. Daniel again cares for his friends.

II. APPLICATION

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We do not fully understand world history. We do not see what happens behind the scenes. We are tempted to regard history as a purely human enterprise in which God is not involved.

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Yet history has a goal and is moving toward Christ's Second Coming and the establishment of His kingdom.

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God is involved in human history. Even though humans make their free decisions, God still pursues His plans.

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As God guides human history, He is willing to guide my personal history and life and bring it to a good conclusion.

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Conclusion

Because God is the Lord of history we commit our lives to Him. We trust Him, and are looking forward to a marvelous future.

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