

by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure." Daniel 2:31–45 (ESV)



### What does the dream mean?

1. **Head of Gold** - Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon
2. **Chest and Arms of Silver** - Cyrus and Medo-Persian Empire
3. **Belly and Thighs of Bronze** - Alexander the Great and the Greek Empire
4. **Legs and Feet of Iron and Clay** - The Roman Empire

### Who is the stone?

Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, "The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, nor will they say, 'Look, here it is!' or 'There!' for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you." Luke 17:20–21 (ESV)

### All conversions aren't as genuine as they seem.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face and paid homage to Daniel, and commanded that an offering and incense be offered up to him. The king answered and said to Daniel, "Truly, your God is God of gods and Lord of kings, and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery." Then the king gave Daniel high honors and many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. Daniel made a request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego over the affairs of the province of Babylon. But Daniel remained at the king's court. Daniel 2:46–49 (ESV)

1. **God is in control of my history** - Even when I life feels out of control, I can trust God. He is good. He loves me. He knows what he is doing with my life. He has me exactly where he wants me to be to serve him. *Don't fear the future. Instead of fear, focus on faithfulness in the future.*
2. **God is in control of world history** - History is moving towards its climax where all of man's kingdom's will be crushed and God's kingdom will be established forever through Christ, God's son. *Am I part of that kingdom?*

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December 23 - Daniel 3 - In the Furnace with a Friend  
December 24 - Christmas Eve Services - 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm

# CHRISTMAS FROM THE BOOK OF

# Daniel

**Daniel 2**  
**Large and in Charge**

# Faith Church - EFCA

December 16, 2012

Daniel 2

## What are the two primary lessons in the book of Daniel?

1. God is large and in charge.
2. Faithfulness to God matters, especially in small choices.

## When was the book of Daniel written?

600 BC or 150 BC

*"So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), Matthew 24:15 (ESV)*

## God is in charge of my history.

*In the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his spirit was troubled, and his sleep left him. Then the king commanded that the magicians, the enchanters, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans be summoned to tell the king his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king. And the king said to them, "I had a dream, and my spirit is troubled to know the dream." Then the Chaldeans said to the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will show the interpretation." The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, "The word from me is firm: if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you shall be torn limb from limb, and your houses shall be laid in ruins. But if you show the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor. Therefore show me the dream and its interpretation." Daniel 2:1–6 (ESV)*

*The Chaldeans answered the king and said, "There is not a man on earth who can meet the king's demand, for no great and powerful king has asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or Chaldean. The thing that the king asks is difficult, and no one can show it to the king except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh." Daniel 2:10–11 (ESV)*

## God was in control of Nebuchadnezzar's dreams.

## God was in control of Nebuchadnezzar's grumpy attitude.

*Then Israel came to Egypt; Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham. And the Lord made his people very fruitful and made them stronger than their foes. He turned their hearts to hate his people, to deal craftily with his servants. Psalm 105:23–25 (ESV)*

*"I the Lord search the heart and test the mind,..." Jeremiah 17:10 (ESV)*

*The king's heart is a stream of water in the hand of the Lord: he turns it wherever he will. Proverbs 21:1 (ESV)*

*Daniel answered the king and said, "No wise men, enchanters, magicians, or astrologers can show to the king the mystery that the king has asked, but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream and the visions of your head as you lay in bed are these: Daniel 2:27–28 (ESV)*

## God is in charge of world history.

*"You saw, O king, and behold, a great image. This image, mighty and of exceeding brightness, stood before you, and its appearance was frightening. The head of this image was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its middle and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. As you looked, a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold, all together were broken in pieces, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. "This was the dream. Now we will tell the king its interpretation. You, O king, the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, and the might, and the glory, and into whose hand he has given, wherever they dwell, the children of man, the beasts of the field, and the birds of the heavens, making you rule over them all—you are the head of gold. Another kingdom inferior to you shall arise after you, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. And there shall be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron, because iron breaks to pieces and shatters all things. And like iron that crushes, it shall break and crush all these. And as you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom, but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it, just as you saw iron mixed with the soft clay. And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. As you saw the iron mixed with soft clay, so they will mix with one another in marriage, but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay. And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever, just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain*