

Signs in the Nations pt2.

Welcome to Harvest Community Church

Series: Signs, Times and Seasons

Text: Matthew 24:7

Europe

In the book of Daniel, God reveals to the Prophet Daniel and to King Nebuchadnezzar a vision that contained the history of the remaining days of the world. While God has always communicated through dreams and visions, He gave this one to one of the most wicked kings in history and one of the most righteous men in history.

In trying to learn the interpretation of a dream that left him unsettled, King Nebuchadnezzar made a request of the astrologers, sorcerers, magicians and the Chaldeans. (The Chaldeans were from Southern Babylon but were known to be highly educated and studied.) He was pulling out all the stops, he was consulting the stars, the educated, and the occult. The king wanted them to not only tell him the meaning of his dream but the dream itself. **Daniel 2:1-13** Notice that God would not work through those practicing things that He strictly forbids. **Deut. 18:10, Isaiah 47:9, Jeremiah 27:9** Even in modern times people have used witchcraft to predict the future and discover information; Adolf Hitler was known to conduct seances, Nancy Regan consulted a medium.

Notice that God had strategically placed Daniel, Hananiah (Shadrach), Mishael (Meshach) and Azariah (Abed-Nego) in Babylon in service to the king to reveal God's plan for the history of the world. **Daniel 2:16-23** We need to realize that God will make known to us the things He desires to reveal. He will place inside of us a desire and an urgency to know what He wants to reveal.

When it comes to the history of mankind, God has not kept His plans secret. **Amos 3:7** All true prophets and seers will only go to one place to get the information they need, God Himself. **Daniel 2:27-36** Daniel revealed that the dream was about the kingdoms of the world and that they represented four kingdoms that would follow one after the other and rule over the nation of Israel. We know that this vision was concerning the end of days because it spoke of the days to come or the last days. **Daniel 2:28**

After Daniel shares the dream, he reveals the meaning of the dream. **Daniel 2:37- 45**

- The head of gold represented the current kingdom of Babylon. The chief deity of the Babylonians was Marduk, known as the god of gold. Babylon lasted less than 100 years, 605-539 B.C.
- The second world empire with the chest and arms of silver represented Medes – Persians (Iran). These two kingdoms conquered the Babylonians in 539- 331 B.C., and lasted 208 years
- The third kingdom was the Greeks, represented by the thighs of brass; 331-168 B.C., lasting 185 yrs.

- The fourth kingdom was the **Roman** Empire represented by the legs of iron; 168 B.C. – 476 A.D lasting over 1,000 yrs.

The Romans had an iron grip as it ruled most of the known world. The Roman Empire came into being fifty years before Jesus birth. It was they who put Jesus on the cross.

- The feet of iron and clay represent a **revived** Roman Empire. – A.D. 476- The second coming of Christ. The European Union.

History has **proven** Daniel's interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. We have books of documented world history to prove it. (Just take a moment to contemplate that.)

Rome itself was divided in two just a few hundred years after Christ. The western part found its capital still in Rome and the eastern found its capital in Istanbul until it was conquered and renamed **Constantinople** after the emperor Constantine.

Notice each succeeding empire was composed of a **lesser** valued material. The feet are a mixture of clay and iron. **Daniel 2:42-43** In the last days of Gentile rule, **our day**, there will be little unity and adhering between the nations but a lot of mingling. With global communication and the relative ease of travel, the mingling is a normal part of our lives. **Daniel 12:4**

Much of what was revealed to Daniel has **already** happened. There is still another division in the Roman Empire that is to come symbolized by the ten toes. He foretells a time when the Roman Empire will consist of ten kingdoms and ten leaders. He tells us that this kingdom will exist when God comes to set up His **own** kingdom. **Daniel 2:44-45**

Daniel had a later vision that included additional information about the future kingdom that is still to come. In chapter seven, Daniel describes the coming Roman Empire and then out of the remnants of that empire, the future rise of a **one** world government and a one world ruler the **anti-Christ**. **Daniel 7:7-8**

I want you to see that in the middle of God revealing history to Daniel, He stops to remind him that it is **His** - story, He is in control. **Daniel 7:9-14** Then Daniel wants to know the truth about the **fourth** beast. **Daniel 7:19-28** God makes sure to reveal to Daniel not only information concerning the fourth (fifth kingdom in the first vision) kingdom ruled by antichrist, but that no matter how desperately Satan tries to change the laws, times and seasons, God will prevail. **Daniel 7:25**

We know this ten-kingdom prophecy of Daniel remains in the future because of two things:

- 1) The 10-leader form of the Roman Empire has not existed and
- 2) Such a kingdom has not been **crushed**. The Roman Empire of Jesus day did not suddenly end, it gradually declined over many centuries.

The future confederation of the Roman Empire that Daniel prophesied will be a **union** of ten world leaders that will encompass the same territory as the historic Roman Empire. Today we see that coalition taking shape right in front of us.

For many years now there has been an effort to unify the world through a one world governing body. It started with the forming of the League of Nations following WWI, in January of 1920. After WWII the **United** Nations was formed on October 24, 1945. Most recently the European Union was formed as a kind of “United States of Europe” on November 1, 1993.

Today the European Union consists of 27 member states and surpasses North America as the worlds largest economic zone. The United Kingdom voted to leave in June 2016, today they are still dealing with how to **Brexit**.

As of right now, we are watching a new “Empire” in the making. The EU has its own constitution, money, laws, courts and is now in the talks of developing its own standing **army** that will be made up of the armed forces from the member states. We are seeing how each member state desires unity but remain **autonomous**, iron and clay. It is an unstable mix of a desire for political and economic clout but a mixture of cultures, religion and languages so diverse they do not mix.

There are three thing we need to watch for in understanding how Europe represents a key sign of the end of days:

- 1) A **consolidation** of world power - Today, the concentration of power in the European Union signals the beginning of a New World Order. Remember, people like President George H. Bush actually brought this idea to the attention of the world. This is not a conspiracy theory it is a stated goal of the United Nations and the focus of Biblical Prophecy that we have already seen played out in history.
- 2) The coming of a one world **leader** - According to Daniels prophecy, a supreme leader will rise from among the ten-leader confederacy of Europe. **Daniel 7:24-25**
This leader will arise to take control of the European coalition and become a final world dictator. Remember right now in America we do not have rulers, we have representatives. These are not technically our leaders they are to do our bidding.
In His book, “The Book of Signs”, David Jeremiah quotes the first president of the European Parliament. Paul-Henri Spaak ~ “*We do not need another committee. We have to many already. What we want is a man of sufficient stature to hold the allegiance of all people and to lift us out of the economic morass into which we are sinking. Send us such a man and be he god or devil, we will receive him.*”
- 3) The condition for the **treaty** with Israel - Daniel’s prophecy tells us of a treaty that will be signed between the Jewish people and the leader of the realigned Roman Empire. This revived Roman Empire did not just encompass the European continent but much of the Middle East. Many believe this revived empire will contain many Muslim member states. He will make a seven-year peace plan that will usher in the Seven Year Tribulation period. This treaty will be broken after 3/12 years. It is possible that this treaty will be made after the attacks on Israel that are described in Ezekiel Chapters 38-39.

The signs of Daniel’s prophecies are all around us, they are in the **news**. **Rom. 13:11**