



# THE INTERPRETATION OF A PROPHETIC DREAM

## Resumé

Nothing fundamental happens by accident. The prophetic dream of the King of Babylon and its interpretation reveal a completely new perspective of the development of human governments from ancient Babylon to the near future than we have known so far.

***František Mladějovský***  
fmladej@gmail.com

# The interpretation of a prophetic dream

The dream of the King of Babylon, which we have already written about, is extremely important in its message. Its greatest significance is that it depicts a very significant moment in history, a testimony of extraordinary importance, when God communicates to a pagan king how human governments will develop until the coming of the kingdom of God. In fact, the dream of the king of Babylon and the interpretation of it that God gave to the king through the prophet Daniel is so important and relevant to the present day that all rulers and governments of the world should be familiar with it. The point is that the statue that the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar saw in a prophetic dream from God represents a long epoch in which the God of heaven allows people to create a world government of their own liking. Little is known about this, and yet understanding what the king's dream and its interpretation mean would make it possible to understand all that is happening today. We already wrote about this several years ago in our study [The Dream of King Nebuchadnezzar](#).

It is certain that at least some of the rulers, past and present, knew and know something of the contents and significance of the great statue of terrible appearance which King Nebuchadnezzar saw in his dream. This is evident from Psalm 2:1-3:

*Why do the nations rage, and the people plot a vain thing?  
The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take  
counsel together, against the Lord and against His*

***Anointed, saying, "Let us break Their bonds in pieces and cast away Their cords from us."***

Notice that the psalmist writes of the kings and rulers of the earth, that is, all the kings and rulers who take counsel on how to rid themselves of the rule of God and His Anointed. This situation did not exist at the time the Psalms were written. It was ancient times and every nation, kingdom and tribe had and worshipped their own gods. They had no need to break away from their rule over them. This opposition to God's rule arose and intensified in the people only millennia later.

Reverence or respect for God, for God's rule, and from the Christian Age onwards, for His Anointed One, persisted in the people and most (especially Christian) rulers (with exceptions) until perhaps the 18th century AD. Their successors and today's rulers and governments have largely ceased to respect and acknowledge God as an authority. Some of them do not even believe in his existence. Yet they have no excuse, for they are the heirs and successors of kings who acknowledged God and His Anointed One and even acted in His name. Just as King Belshazzar had no excuse:

*"And I have heard of you, that you can give interpretations and explain enigmas. Now if you can read the writing and make known to me its interpretation, you shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around your neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom." Then Daniel answered, and said before the king, "Let your gifts be for yourself, and give your rewards to another; yet I will read the writing to the king, and make known to him the interpretation. O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father a kingdom and majesty, glory and honor. And because of the majesty that He gave him, all peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him. Whomever he wished, he executed;*

*whomever he wished, he kept alive; whomever he wished, he set up; and whomever he wished, he put down. But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him. Then he was driven from the sons of men, his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild donkeys. They fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till he knew that the Most High God rules in the kingdom of men, and appoints over it whomever He chooses.*

***“But you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, although you knew all this. And you have lifted yourself up against the Lord of heaven. They have brought the vessels of His house before you, and you and your lords, your wives and your concubines, have drunk wine from them. And you have praised the gods of silver and gold, bronze and iron, wood and stone, which do not see or hear or know; and the God who holds your breath in His hand and owns all your ways, you have not glorified. Then the fingers of the hand were sent from Him, and this writing was written.***

***“And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.”*** (Daniel 5:16-28)

King Belshazzar was punished for his pride and disrespect for God, and his kingdom was taken away from him.

This has all been known for over two and a half thousand years. Yet even today's rulers can save themselves and their people. The prophetic Psalm 2 exhorts and warns in advance:

***Now therefore, be wise, O kings; be instructed, you judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest He be angry, and you perish in the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little.***

*Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him. (Psalm 2:10-12)*

## **The evidence of God's power**

Before moving on to the interpretation of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the great statue, we would like, in addition to the story of King Belshazzar, to recall three other extraordinary events in which God publicly demonstrated His power to King Nebuchadnezzar and King Darius the Mede. God had these events recorded by the prophet Daniel so that the people, and especially the rulers and governments of the world, would remember that God rules in the human kingdom and thus have no excuse.

## **Deliverance from the fiery furnace**

First, right before the eyes of King Nebuchadnezzar and his courtiers and nobles, He rescued three of Daniel's friends from a fiery furnace into which the king had them thrown because they refused to worship the golden statue the king had made.

*“Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, good! But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands? Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this*

*matter. If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.”*

*Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He spoke and commanded that they heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated. And he commanded certain mighty men of valor who were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, and cast them into the burning fiery furnace. Then these men were bound in their coats, their trousers, their turbans, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.*

*Therefore, because the king’s command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, “Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?” They answered and said to the king, “True, O king.” “Look!” he answered, “I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.” Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace and spoke, saying, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here.” Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire. And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king’s counselors gathered together, and*

*they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them. (Daniel 3:15-27)*

The king responded to this demonstration of God's power with humility and reverent fear of God:

*Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, who sent His Angel and delivered His servants who trusted in Him, and they have frustrated the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they should not serve nor worship any god except their own God! Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this." (Daniel 3:28,29)*

## God gives and takes away power according to His will

Another extraordinary event that Daniel wrote down as a testimony for all is found in Daniel 4. King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that was to warn him against too much pride. He had Daniel called to interpret the dream for him. In the interpretation he learned the following:

*"... this is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king: They shall drive you from men, your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make you eat grass like oxen. They shall wet you with the dew of heaven, and*

*seven times shall pass over you, till you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.*

*“And inasmuch as they gave the command to leave the stump and roots of the tree, your kingdom shall be assured to you, after you come to know that Heaven rules. Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity.” (Daniel 4:24-27)*

All this was fulfilled when the king, after a year or so, was filled with pride:

*At the end of the twelve months he was walking about the royal palace of Babylon. The king spoke, saying, “Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for a royal dwelling by my mighty power and for the honor of my majesty?” While the word was still in the king’s mouth, a voice fell from heaven: “King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is spoken: the kingdom has departed from you! And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.” That very hour the word was fulfilled concerning Nebuchadnezzar; he was driven from men and ate grass like oxen; his body was wet with the dew of heaven till his hair had grown like eagles’ feathers and his nails like birds’ claws.*

***And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever:***



***For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?"***

*At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honor and splendor returned to me. My counselors and nobles resorted to me, I was restored to my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added to me. **Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down.***  
(Daniel 4:29-37)

## Daniel in the lion's den

The third story Daniel wrote in his book took place after the conquest of Babylon by the Medo-Persian kings. The whole story is recorded in chapter 6. Let's just briefly recall the cause of the whole event. Daniel excelled over the viziers and satraps, and they were looking for a way to get rid of him:

*Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God." So these governors and satraps thronged before the king, and said thus to him: "King Darius, live forever! All the governors of the kingdom, the administrators and satraps, the counselors and advisors, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a firm decree, that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions." (Daniel 6:5-7)*

For they understood that Daniel would not submit to the king's command. The king was forced to throw Daniel into the lion's den. God sent His angel, who shut the lions' mouths, so that Daniel was not harmed. More important to understanding the main point of this study, however, is the king's reasoning and actions.

*So they answered and said before the king, "That Daniel, who is one of the captives from Judah, does not show due regard for you, O king, or for the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day." And the king, when he heard these words, was greatly displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him. (Daniel 6:13,14)*

The king understood the stratagem of his viziers and satraps, which they had set up against Daniel, but he could do nothing. He couldn't even sleep. When he found out in the morning that God had saved Daniel from the lions, he gladly had him pulled out of the den and in turn threw in those who had devised the deception and forced its fulfillment on the king. And then he made a proclamation:

*Then King Darius wrote: To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you. I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, and steadfast forever; His kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed, and His dominion shall endure to the end. He delivers and rescues, and He works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions. (Daniel 6:25-27)*

## The stories are a testimony to all rulers and governments

You must have wondered what these stories have to say to the present rulers and governments?

1. All three stories testify to the power of God and that those who rely on God, and have a clear conscience, need not fear even powerful people.
2. The second message common to all three stories is the apparent reverence and respect of the supreme rulers of that time for God.

God performed the acts of power described above so that people, especially rulers, would remember for all time that God did allow them to set up a world government, but on the condition that they revere God, respect Him and His reign, just like the most powerful rulers of that time. This is the most important testimony of the three stories that Daniel wrote down to witness to future generations. And they have validity throughout the Babylonian era. **The relationship of human rulers and governments to God is a major key to understanding the dream of the great statue that the Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar had.** That is why we have briefly mentioned the stories.

## The statue represents an epoch of five ages

Now we can go straight to the interpretation of the king's dream.

Daniel told the king not only the dream, but also its interpretation. The statue that the king saw in his dream is described as follows:

*“As for you, O king, thoughts came to your mind while on your bed, about what would come to pass after this; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will be. But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me because I have more wisdom than anyone living, but for our sakes who make known the interpretation to the king, and that you may know the thoughts of your heart. “You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. This image’s head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.” (Daniel 2:29-33)*

God did not fix the length of the epoch which the statue represents by a specific time, but He did fix its beginning:

*“This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king. You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—**you are this head of gold.**” (Daniel 2:36-38)*

And He described the end of it:

*“**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. Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great***

*God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."*

(Daniel 2:44,45)

**Therefore, we are not to look for a specific date or time, but for the events and characteristics of the age described in the interpretation.** As our Lord Jesus Christ advises us in the parable of the fig tree: *"Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. So you also, when you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place."* (Matthew 24:32-34)

The interpretation of the dream given to Daniel by God contains important clues to understand when the time is ripe, when the time of the harvest will come and when the Babylonian epoch will end. The end of the whole epoch, which we call, after its beginning, the Babylonian epoch, will be determined and made by God, not by man. Only God. In the meantime, humanity has been going through four longer stages (ages) and the last, fifth stage (age), will be much shorter but very turbulent and difficult. The gold, silver, bronze, iron and iron mixed with ceramic clay, of which the statue is made, represent the five unequally long ages through which humanity has largely passed, is still passing, since God announced to humans that he was allowing them to rule over the whole earth.

*"You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; and **wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold. But after you shall arise another kingdom***

***inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others.*** *Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay."* (Daniel 2:37-43)

After the kingdom of Babylon will come another kingdom, worse than the kingdom of Babylon. And so it goes on to the very end. It may be said that the stone will break off and strike the feet of the statue when the characteristics of human governments are such as Daniel indicated in God's interpretation of the dream.

Some interpretations claim that most of the fulfillment of this prophetic dream took place in ancient times, from the Babylonian Empire to the coming of Jesus Christ and on to the fall of the Roman Empire. These interpreters say that the last part of the statue, the feet made of a mixture of iron and clay, represents the whole long period of Christianity in Europe until the very end. Daniel's interpretation of the dream implies that the Babylonian epoch is to last until a higher power (without the intervention of hands) strikes the feet of that statue ("*You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces.*" Daniel 2:34) and the government

of God will take over, described as follows: *“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

Some may say that the coming of Jesus Christ and the Christian age is the fulfillment of the prophetic interpretation quoted above. But this is not possible. God has not yet set up the kingdom that fits the description. Churches do not have the power to crush and end all other kingdoms. There are many indications that Christian civilization is moving toward rebellion against God rather than a God-approved government that will not be destroyed. The Holy Roman Empire, which arose out of the ancient Roman Empire (the Pope crowned Charlemagne as Roman Emperor in 800 and officially in 962 Otto the Great founded the Roman Empire, called the Holy Roman Empire), officially ceased to exist in 1806, after the lost Battle of Austerlitz, after which the Habsburg monarch renounced his title as Emperor of the Roman Empire. The whole of Christian civilization is drifting more and more rapidly away from God, from the values and standards that represent God's natural order, and not a few people are losing their very faith in God and faith in Jesus Christ. It follows from all this that the complete fulfillment of the interpretation of the dream of the great statue has not yet come. Moreover, other prophecies of Daniel announce that in the end, before the reign of the Most High and His Anointed One comes, there will be open rebellion against God (Daniel 7:25; 8:24,25; 11:36,37) and His people will face persecution until the decisive battle known as Armageddon.

We see that the statue represents a period of more than 2,500 years. Recall that the goal of the Babylonian epoch is the

establishment of human world government. **Until America, Australia and the rest of the unknown places were discovered, a world government could not be established. This, too, is one of the arguments that show that the Bronze Kingdom (Age), which is interpreted to have rule over the whole earth, could not have come before the rest of the world was discovered.** The end of the Babylonian epoch has not yet come. The kingdoms that are represented by gold, silver, bronze, iron, and iron mixed with clay cannot be just one particular kingdom in its time, but each represents an age that is specific in some way.

## The age of the golden head

*“You are this head of gold,”* said Daniel to the king, interpreting his dream of the great statue. Therefore, interpretations of the king's dream and of Daniel's interpretation of it claim that it is about successive kingdoms in ancient times beginning with the Babylonian Empire, followed by the Medo-Persian Empire, followed by the Empire of Alexander the Great, which is eventually succeeded by the Roman Empire. None of these interpretations provides a satisfactory explanation of how the Bronze Age kingdom could have ruled the whole earth when the continents of America and Australia had not yet been discovered and colonized, and why the development of humanity since the end of the Roman Empire has lasted over fifteen centuries, which can also be divided into separate ages. Where are they hidden in Daniel's interpretation of the dream?

We will only understand this when we realize what God's statement *“You are this head of gold”* means. It is also important to understand the meaning of the metals from which the statue is made. And this can only be done when we realize the connection



between King Nebuchadnezzar's dream, its interpretation, and the three demonstrations of God's power that Daniel recorded in his book.

Gold, silver, bronze and iron. One of their characteristics is a different degree of hardness. Gold is the softest, the easiest of these metals to work with. Silver is a bit harder than gold. Bronze is an alloy of two soft metals, copper and tin, but their alloy is much harder than gold and silver. The hardest of all the metals used is iron. So the answer to the question is that the metals that make up the statue get harder and harder. Does that mean that human governments are getting harder? But against whom?

Harsh and, in a way, cruel were all the governments of antiquity and the Middle Ages. This is also true of contemporary human governments. This is always manifested especially in wars. It is impossible to say unequivocally which government was harder or softer than other human governments. However, we can clearly observe and prove the increasingly hard and defiant attitude of human governments toward God and His Anointed, which will eventually result in an effort to break out of submission to God's government. See Psalm 2, already mentioned above. In ancient times, kings and potentates could not even conspire against His Anointed, for Jesus Christ had not yet become Lord of lords, King of kings (1Timothy 6:14,15; Revelation 17:14; 19:16). The rulers of ancient empires had the most humble attitude toward God, as evidenced by the three remarkable stories recorded by Daniel that we have already recounted.

These three extraordinary stories show, in addition to the power of God, the relationship of the kings Nebuchadnezzar and Darius to God. Both kings accepted the manifestation of God's power with humility and showed reverence and respect. And they ordered the

same as mandatory for all the inhabitants of their empires. In ancient times, the relationship of people, including rulers, to God or gods was much more humble than it is today. There was no rebelliousness in them. Ancient rulers were more concerned with appeasing God (the gods). The ability to accept God's message and to respect God's authority was common in people then, because people had not yet lost the awareness that they were part of a much larger world with many heavenly beings. They still naturally perceived that they were the work of a Creator whom they were to respect.

**The golden head of the statue represents an ancient age** in which rulers had such a relationship with God and the gods. They were governed by God's natural order, which was in their hearts from the beginning. Their application of justice was based on this natural order and law of God. As time passes, this natural order of God in people does become distorted and faded, but never in the past was there a deliberate attack on God's natural order as there is today. This, too, is one of the indicators of the age in which we live.

## The age of the silver chest and arms

The Silver Age begins with the collapse of the Roman Empire and the advent of the Christian Age. It may surprise a Christian that the Christian age should be worse than the ancient age. After all, nations were turning en masse to Christianity, i.e., to God and Christ. This is certainly true. But at the same time, Islam was spreading rapidly. The immediate experience of God's power was already much more distant and slowly fading from the memory of humanity. The respect and humility of the rulers towards God gradually waned also due to the not always good behaviour of the

spiritual authorities. The knowledge and message of Daniel's stories was also fading away due to the fault of the Church. Gradually the hidden evil of which Paul writes in his second letter to the Thessalonians (2:7) took root. You will learn more about the origin of this evil in the chapter "Who provokes enmity towards the Creator?" Sincere, unfeigned respect for God and His Anointed One gradually turned into an agreement between the church and the temporal power, which was more a power trade than an expression of respect and reverence for God's rule (perhaps the most prominent examples in our knowledge are the great monarchs Charlemagne and Charles IV). Yet, in the Silver Age, most Christians lived by faith and trust in God and Christ. A change in people's thinking, subtle at first, began with the Renaissance. It was not yet a rebellion, but a change of thought in the attitude toward God. This attitude began to spread first among the nobility and gradually among the rest of the people.

The Silver Age ended with the crisis of the Church, with the discovery of new knowledge in the developing scientific disciplines, and with a growing sense of independence from the Church and from God. With the discovery of America, Australia and other parts of the world, it was only a matter of time before human governments also gained the ability to control the whole earth.

## The age of the bronze belly and thighs

The Napoleonic Wars and the rise of the British Empire are now fully part of the Bronze Age. The suffering of the European nations in the Thirty Years' War and the subsequent famines must have had an impact on the thinking of the peoples of Europe. Doubts about the Church dogmas and about the infallibility of the Church intensified.

Especially the intelligentsia began to question Church doctrine loudly. Most importantly for the Bronze Age, however, for the first time rule over the entire earth could be established as the last unknown continents, peoples and cultures were discovered. Along with new scientific discoveries and inventions, the ability to dominate and control far more territory than ever before grew.

Of the third kingdom, represented by the bronze belly and thighs, it is written: "***a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth***". Several European powers gained control over practically the entire world in three centuries. They dominated every continent, by force of arms or by force of economy. Mostly by a combination of both. Among those powers (mostly still monarchies), Great Britain in particular stood out. It was said, with slight exaggeration, that the sun never set on the British Empire in its greatest glory. The Bronze Age saw the emergence, perhaps for the first time in history, of a class of owners of finance capital, which gradually came to dominate entire governments, rulers and economies of nations through the wealth derived from interest on loans. The Church, which for centuries had forbidden lending at interest between Christians (just as the Mosaic Law forbade the Jews to lend at interest among themselves), in the Renaissance, under pressure from changes in the scope of trading and the function of money, permitted loans at interest, thus opening the way for money merchants to gain power over entire nations. As trade increased at all levels, so did the importance of money. No longer could enough coins be minted, so states and banks began to print paper money to keep up with the volume of trade that was taking place not only among the rich, but at all levels. Emerging industries in particular needed a lot of capital. Scientific and technological progress, together with the growing financial capital, which occurred mainly in Europe and North America, put a lot of power in the hands of a

small group of bankers and industrialists, mostly in Western countries. As a result, even countries like China, Japan, as well as the Middle Eastern and Islamic countries, simply all countries and all governments that wanted to trade and keep up with scientific and industrial developments, had to accept the rules of trade and thus of financial capital of the most advanced and powerful countries in the world. This is the first real rule over the whole earth. Regardless of which of the great powers had the upper hand at the time.

The revolutions of the 17th and 18th centuries signalled major changes in the power structure and in the mindset of people. The first republics were established. Their leaders no longer had to have the blessing of the Church. They did not answer to God, but to their voters. To people. The consequence was the loss of the Church's position in society. And most importantly, people were losing their responsibility and respect for God. It was not yet a conscious rebellion or rejection of God in most people, but it opened the way for the moral, ethical and spiritual decline of Christian civilization.

## The age of iron legs

The Bronze Age ended with World War I, which led to the definitive end of feudalism. As a result of this war, three powerful monarchies (the Habsburgs, the Hohenzollerns and the Romanovs) in three great empires disappeared. Austria-Hungary collapsed, Tsarist Russia was replaced by the world's first atheist state, and the German Empire was replaced, after a brief democracy, by a Nazi dictatorship. The world changed completely. In particular, the relationship of many people to God and to Christ changed, in all social classes, including rulers and governments. Almost by leaps and bounds. The greatest and cruelest war in the history of Christian

nations to date caused a great cooling of the relationship to God in general and especially to the Church, which lost its dominant position. Its power had been closely linked to feudal power. The new generations of powerful people and politicians had a much colder attitude towards the Church. Their respect for God and His Anointed One was also weakening. The atheistic doctrine was spreading everywhere, denying the existence of a Creator and passing off everything that exists as the work of chance. Under the influence of the experience with Churches, with their past and with the fratricidal war of Christians against Christians, many people ceased to believe not only in the Churches, but also in the existence of God and the hope based on faith in Jesus Christ.

Today's young people usually do not think of God at all, they do not perceive Him as any real authority and often see the message of hope for forgiveness of sins and eternal life through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as a Christmas story. Of course, this does not apply to all young people, or only to them. But on the whole, Christian nations have become very alienated from God, and the hope embraced by their ancestors has been rejected by many. Speaking in the symbolism of metals (of which the great statue seen in the dream of the King of Babylon is made), the relationship of people, and especially of rulers and governments, to God and His Anointed One is hardening more and more rapidly. The careful reader will have noticed that the Golden and Silver Ages each lasted about twice as long as the Bronze Age. The Bronze Age lasted only a few centuries, and the Iron Age has lasted barely 120 years. What causes such a great acceleration in development?

In the Bronze Age, Great Britain was the largest empire. The Iron Age, represented by the iron legs on the statue from the King of Babylon's dream, is characterised by a clash of two iron powers. The Iron Age stood on them. I will not name them because in certain

periods of the Iron Age their identity changed, even if only briefly. But after the Second World War, the world stood for more than 40 years on the stability of relations between the West and the East. Between the great powers of both camps. Those are the two iron legs. Purely symbolic.

Without accountability and respect for God and Christ, Christian civilization is sinking into ever greater moral and ethical decay. The moral and ethical decline of society and rulers caused the internal decay of the ancient Roman Empire. The same thing has been happening visibly in Christian civilization since the Bronze Age. That is why ancient Rome adopted Christian beliefs and values. To give the people and themselves a new hope, a reason to continue to exist. And the glory of Rome really did not fade. It just changed the foundation on which it stood for centuries to come. In the Bronze Age, under the influence of the Renaissance and the development of science, that foundation begins to crumble. The Age of Iron Legs is the logical outcome of a changing relationship with God and His Anointed One. Where is it going?

## The age of feet with toes of iron and clay

We have come from the past, both ancient and recent, to the present and we are moving into the future. The age symbolized by the feet made of a mixture of iron and clay is yet to come. We are already experiencing the first signs of its coming, but the main part of the last and shortest age of the whole Babylonian epoch is yet to come. In it we are yet to experience the coming of the kingdom of God, and to see the Son of Man coming in His glory. In Daniel's interpretation of the dream of the king of Babylon, this is what is written about the last age of this epoch:

*“Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay. 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. Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure.”*

(Daniel 2:41-45)

1. The toes of the feet, partly iron, partly clay, signify strength (also hardness) and fragility. We do not know whether the toes (ten toes, ten horns, ten kings, is that the world community?) are either made of iron and clay alone, or if they are made of a mixture of both materials.
2. People will mix, but they will not stick with one another, as iron does not mix with clay. The mixing of peoples, races and cultures has been going on since ancient times, but here we are talking about a mixing that is not actually taking place, as we can see in countries with a large influx of migrants who are isolating themselves from the



domestic societies and creating zones with their own laws and customs. The assimilation of foreigners into society will fail.

3. *“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.”* This cannot possibly be the Holy Roman Empire, for it already ceased to exist in 1806, as mentioned earlier. What then does it mean that in the days of those kings God will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed? **First of all, it means that we are not yet in that time.** The churches of today do not in any way fit the description that follows: *“It shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold.”* The churches have no power corresponding to Daniel's interpretation. The kingdom of God, which God Himself will establish, will have that power.
4. There is the prophecy of Isaiah: *“Now it shall come to pass in the latter days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow to it.”* (Isaiah 2:2) and Micah 4:1-3: *Now it shall come to pass in the latter days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it. Many nations shall come and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of*

*Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.” For out of Zion the law shall go forth, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between many peoples, and rebuke strong nations afar off; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.*

Notice especially the beginning of both texts: “**Now it shall come to pass in the latter days**, that the mountain of the Lord’s house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills.” This means that the kingdom of God, which will not pass away, will be in existence **in the last days** of the fifth and final age of the Babylonian epoch. That is, the age we are now rapidly entering. In which all the prophecies of John’s Revelation will be fulfilled.

## Who provokes enmity towards the Creator?

Why is there such a hostile attitude toward God and His Anointed? How could the consciousness of the existence of the Creator and the responsibility for one’s actions in the face of His judgment disappear from the minds of so many? The Apostle Paul indicated that this is a long-term process: *For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken*

*out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. (2 Thessalonians 2:7-8)*

More was hinted at by the Lord Jesus in the parable of the wheat and the tares:

*“The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field; but while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat and went his way.” (Matthew 13:24,25)*

The disciples asked him what this meant. Jesus answered them:

*“He who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, the good seeds are the sons of the kingdom, but the tares are the sons of the wicked one. The enemy who sowed them is the devil.” (Matthew 13:37-39)*

The whole parable is worth a separate study, but here we just want to show that the actions of today's rulers, politicians, are not accidental. Paul writes in his letter that in his day the evil was still hidden, but in the end the Lawless One would come out. Daniel and John write about him in their prophecies. But before that, rebels will rule (Daniel 8:23), i.e., politicians of today's type.

This evil is spread in various ways by the sons of the Evil One, preparing the world for the coming of the Lawless One. With the establishment and spread of democratic electoral systems in most Christian nations, politicians elected by the people, who answer not to God but to the people, increasingly become servants of the real powers that be. They are mainly the most powerful representatives of finance capital and their helpers in other sectors. It is a sophisticated network in which more and more politicians are

involved. They then promote laws and ideologies contrary to common sense, helping to subvert God's natural order in people, which is why Christian nations are sinking into ever greater moral and ethical decay. As lawlessness grows, as Jesus foretold, the love of many grows cold. Today's politicians don't have to act justly and stand up for orphans, widows and the weak, as it was the mission of feudal lords as rulers (though they often didn't act like that). Above all, they must serve specific powerful people. In doing so, they encourage rebellion against God and His Anointed One.

The prophet Malachi (3:13-15) describes a condition we commonly observe today:

*“Your words have been harsh against Me,” says the Lord, “Yet you say, ‘What have we spoken against You?’ You have said, ‘It is useless to serve God; What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, and that we have walked as mourners before the Lord of hosts? So now we call the proud blessed, for those who do wickedness are raised up; they even tempt God and go free.’ ”*

Why does God allow this? First, because He has given men His word that they can create a world government of their own design. Second, Jesus' parable of the wheat and the tares implies that God wants to let everything ripen. The good and the bad. So that the wheat doesn't get pulled up with the weeds:

*So the servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have tares?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The servants said to him, ‘Do you want us then to go and gather them up?’ But he said, ‘No, lest while you gather up the tares you also uproot the wheat with them. Let both grow together*

*until the harvest, and at the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, "First gather together the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them, but gather the wheat into my barn."*  
(Matthew 13:27-30)

Humans are divided by events according to whether they side with good or evil. At the right moment, God will remind humanity of hope and warn it of the consequences of its behaviour.

## Conclusion

Dear reader, if you have read this far, then I believe you have something to think about. The importance of this work may increase with time and events yet to come. Daniel's prophecies and John's Revelation provide a great deal of important and essential information to understand the present and things to come. Of course, some are yet to be revealed when their time comes.

Daniel writes at the end of his book that many people will run back and forth confused, but knowledge will increase. This interpretation, based on God's interpretation given by God to Daniel, explains the origin and beginning of our epoch (Babylonian according to its origin) and is a pointer (perhaps even a key) to recognizing the approaching fifth age.

The recognition of the individual ages of the whole Babylonian epoch according to the hardness of the attitude of human governments towards God, His natural order, and, from the Christian age, also towards His Anointed One, **represented by the hardness of the metals of which the statue is made (we do not rule out that the individual metals represent more than just hardness)**, gives us the ability to understand that today's strange ideologies,

which are strongly pushed by politicians, aim to subvert the natural moral standards and values that have determined what is socially acceptable and decent for ages. This is not a matter of chance or insanity, but of intent, which is revealed in the second Psalm we have quoted here. The behavior of current governments, politicians and rulers is described in another prophetic text of Daniel: *“And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the **transgressors** have reached their fullness, a king shall arise, having fierce features, who understands sinister schemes.”* Yes, transgressors (rebels) and after them a brazen deceitful king. The rebels rule today, but their time is not yet over.

The whole work is an expression of an effort to reach receptive people with a real, Christian spiritual message that is not limited by any religious doctrine. We are servants of Christ and our mission is to light the way for all people. The Babylonian epoch is a path that humankind must go through with all its consequences because it is part of the great controversy between God and His adversary. It is so long because it is as complex as a lawsuit in which one side must follow its own laws and the other side tries to convince those involved that the justice of the first side does not apply. We are the ones involved who have to decide which side to take. We are not alone. The angels have to do it before us (maybe it has already happened), and before them even higher beings, the seraphs, had to do it. To those who are completely unfamiliar with the Bible, this is probably incomprehensible. This is because the awareness of higher beings and a higher authority in the heavens is now almost erased from the consciousness of many people, or influenced by information about UFOs and similar news spread in the media.

The Bible, although a timeless and very valuable source of information, is systematically downplayed in its meaning and content. Why do you think that is? It is our mission and purpose to

remind people of the message of life that the Bible brings. We want to point out that the Bible provides sufficient and reliable information about the ancient past as well as information for understanding the present and near future.

**Scripture taken from the New King James Version.**

**Copyright © 1982 Thomas Nelson, Inc. Used with permission. All rights reserved.**