None Like DANIEL Dan. 1: 1-21

INTRO:

A.-History:

1-Quotes:--"History," said Lord Chesterfield of England, "is only a confused heap of facts."
--Henry Ford put it more bluntly when he said, "History is more or less bunk."

2-Question: Can a Christian afford to adopt this attitude toward history??

3-OR:--Enlightened by the Scriptures, can he work out a better philosophy of history?

4-I believe that it is possible to sort out the confused heap of facts and find a DIVINE PLAN & PURPOSE running through the ages

5-The devout student of Scripture finds that "History is H I S -- S T O R Y !!"

6-Daniel 1:1-2 stands as an illustration of this view

B.-Background: (To the Book of Daniel)

1-Northern 10 tribes of ISRAEL--Captivity to Assyria
--722 B.C. it fell

2-Southern 2 tribes of JUDAH
--3 deportations to Babylon
--606 B.C.; 597 B.C.; 586 B.C.

3-THREE CAUSES of this captivity to Babylon:
(a) Sabbaths of the land had been missed for 490 yrs. & God would get REST for His land.
(b) Idolatry of God's people had become epidemic. CURED of Idolabry in Babylon.
(c) Rebellion of King Jehoiakim, king of Judah, to the Word of God (2 Chron. 36:6-7, 15-16)

4-"Times of the Gentiles"--Term from Lk. 21:24
--The political designation for the rule of the Gentiles over God's Chosen people, Israel
--Theme of Daniel's prophecies: GENTLE WORLD DOMINION
--Began in 606 B.C.
--Not yet ended
--Runs through the Tribulation

C.-First Deportation: What Went Into Babylon In The:

1-Jehoiakim was king of Judah; A WICKED KING

2-Vessels of the temple
--Looted by Neb's armies
--Took them to Pagan temple of Marduk in Shinar/
--See them again in Dan.5 at Belshazzar's Feast
--Given into Neb's hand by the judgment of the Lord (Adonai); MASTER of all things.

3-"Young men"--1:3
--Royal Seed & princes
--Just a few---The Valuable ones
--Daniel & friends & others
--Perhaps to be trained to lead in the assimilation of the nation later

--JOSEPHUS says these young men were all related to Zedekiah, who would be king 599-586 B.C.
--Daniel born about 625 B.C. +/- in year of the birth of the Babylonian Empire
--He lived thru the fall of Nineveh to the Babylonians in 612 B.C.

4-Only a TOKEN DEPORTATION//////More to follow !!

5-PROP-As we see one of these youths in detail--DANIEL --we learn lessons for today so we can be like Daniel in God's sight.

6-INT--How can we be like this man, of whom it was said in his generation, "among them all was found none like Daniel?" (1:19)

I.-DANIEL'S PERSONAL STATUS:

A.-Daniel's Person:

1-GODLY INFLUENCE
--Reared in the days of King Josiah & his REVIVAL in Judah
** Judah's best king after David
++ Removed idolatry
++ Restored the temple
++ Reinstated the prominence of the Word
++ Slain by Pharoah's armies
--Godly influence upon Daniel in the first 10-15 years of his life
--S A V E D young man from his boyhood
--That demanded a decision of heart & will

2-NOBLY BORN--1:3
--Perhaps of the kingly tribe of Judah from the term "king's seed"

3-PHYSICALLY FIT--1:4
--"Children" rendered "YOUTHS" in R.V.; "young men"
--No blemish in him
--Prophecy of 100 years earlier in Isa. 39:5-7
--Probably made eunuchs in Babylon
** No evidence of marriage in his story in Babylon
** Josephus gave it as his opinion that these men were de-sexed

4-MENTALLY SHARP
--1:4
--Taken to be educated in language, learning & life in Babylon
--University education was a PRIVILEGE of knowledge
--TRAINING is essential to usefulness !!
** How Much ??
** M O R E !!!
** Always stretching & learning & expanding
--Honed & prepared to become Neb's BRAIN TRUST to run the affairs of Babylon

-No premium on ignorance if you want to be useful in the plans of God

5-More known about Daniel than about any other O.T. Prophet--True to God away from home in Babylon

--Daniel was IN Babylon, but he was not OF Babylon.

B.-Daniel's Problems:

1-NEW FOOD--1:5

-Test in the area of DIET

--Meat offered to idols from the king's own table

*-In those days it was customary to throw a small portion of the meat & wine from each meal into the fire of the hearth, thus consecrating the entire meal as an offering to the gods. To partake of any of the food would be to participate in IDOLATRY !

--Contrary to the Law of Moses

--An offense to a godly Jewish man; An ABOMINATION !

--Not willing to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season

--Carried over in Acts 15:20, 29

-WINE ** Antithetical to GODLY JOY & POWER

** Possibly Daniel had taken a Nazarite Vow

** Intoxication was avoided by the godly then and now !!

2-NEW NAMES

--Custom throughout O.T. times of changing names when one entered a new position in life

--FOUR are named here because they show up in the following narratives

--Probably there were others also !

--DANIEL =="God is my Judge"; BELTESHAZZAR== "Whom Bel favors"

--HANANIAH =="Beloved of the LORD"; SHADRACH == "Illumined by Rack" (Sun God of Babylon)

--MISHAEL == "Who is what God is?": MESHACH == "Who is like Shack?" (Venus)

--AZARIAH=="The LORD is My Help"; ABEDNEGO== "The servant of Nego"

--An attempt to brainwash them away from their spiritual ROOTS

--Change from names related to the true God to those related to pagan deities.

II.-DANIEL'S POSITIVE STAND:

A.-The Dangers:

1-ASSIMILATION--Thru new names

--Make Hebrews put memories of home BEHIND THEM

--Wipe out identification with Jehovah & Jerusalem

--Make them feel "AT HOME" in heathen sur-

roundings
--Break down the testimony of their God-honoring names
--P. O. W. is expected to be docile

2-DEFILEMENT--Thru foods associated with idolatrous worship
--Thru loss of standards of right & wrong
--Thru breakdown of separation
--God's people are expected to be DIFFERENT !!

3-It might appear that they had NO ALTERNATIVE; NO CHOICE, since they were commanded by a king who was an Absolute monarch:
--"When in Babylon..."
--"When in Rome, do as the Romans do"
--WHICH ROMANS ?? ** The godly ones?
** The ungodly ??
** Not all are alike !!

4-Dangers Daniel Faced
--Assimilation into paganism
--Defilement through idolatry
--Give up separation in the midst of a moral cesspool of palace life in Babylon
--"GO ALONG" with the wold down a path of leas resistance

5-B U T--To change a person's name does not change his character! What one is will come out clearly

6-And we face similar problems every day ourselves

7-H O W did Daniel meet these dangers??

B.-The Determination:

1-Daniel saw this as a TRIAL of their FAITH
--Moral & spiritual decisions to be made
--Daniel & friends had to face it individually
--PRINCIPLE --Acts 4:29--"We ought to obey God, rather than men."
"Make the world bow to your faith;
Never let your faith bow to the world."

2=Daniel took a POSITIVE STAND
--Against evil in every form
--NO COMPROMISE
--Stood "FOR the Lord"
--Positive determination in his heart
--1:8
--Prov. 4:23-"Keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life."
--ILLUS--Potiphar's wife's attempt to seduce Joseph at about the same age as Daniel, 17-20 years.
** That was soliciatation to do evil
** So was the attempt to ensnare Daniel with idolatrous worship thru his diet

3-Daniel took a stand as a YOUNG MAN
--"Children" of 1:4 means YOUTHS
--17-20 years old; a TEENAGER
--Must sart in one's youth if he is to be faithful & fruitful in maturity
** Some get that early sart, Praise God
** Others are playing "catch-up" all their lives

--The way to go on with God is to learn to be faithful
** in the LITTLE things of life
** in ALL things of life
--Daniel exhibited a steadfast devotion to principle, & yet with courteous common sense
--1:11-13

4-Daniel's attitude--Not sanctimonious
--Not "holier than thou"
--But courteously, positively & winsomely
--A true gentleman
--1:8b--"...he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself."
--Determined to walk with God in transition times as a man of faith & in obedience to known truth about God's will
--SEPARATION and WINSOMENESS are both imperatives !!

5-If Daniel had not STOOD for convictions, we'd have never heard from him again
--Man of determination to do RIGHT
--Man of PULSE ==Vegetables grown from seeds
--Man being prepared by God to receive communications from heaven
--=Not that eating meat itself was wrong
--Rather that Daniel wanted to avoid all evil

6-MODERN PARALLELS--Rom. 12:1-2
--DEDICATION of the body to God
--Not CONFORMATION to the world's ways
--But TRANSFORMATION of the mind by the Word of God

What positive stand have you taken for Christ ??

? --Are you consistently living for Him/??
--If not, you will never be heard from & never amount to anything in your testimony !!

III.-DANIEL'S PUBLIC STRENGTHS:

A.-Results Of His Purposing In His Heart:

1-Favor & love--1:9; Favor of prince of eunuchs
--9:23--Favor of God ("For thou art greatly beloved")
--Prov. 16:7--"When a man's ways please the LORD, He maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him."
--This is as Acts 2:47--"Praising God & having favor with all the people
--God always honors the true witness of His faithful followers

2-Fairer & Fatter--1:15
--Proof of "enriched oatmeal" as their diet
--Bodies better off than others
** You are what you eat !!
** Wholesome..or..J U N K !!
** No room for polutants
++Drugs
++ Tobacco
++Alcohol
--Supervisors of Daniel & friends were convinced
--DIVINE INTERVENTION in their daily affairs
--No man ever lost out by being faithful toGod and His will

3-Progress in Wisdom, Knowledge & Understanding
--1:17
--Ten times superior to Chaldeans
--Serving God does pay off ** For eternity, yes
** For the here & now also
--Divinely taught & prepared
** Gifts of God above others
** Dan. 5:11-12
--Jas. 1:5--"If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally & upbraideth not: and it shall be given him."
--Superiority touching ALL MATTERS
--Discernment to accept what was true and to reject what was false in their instruction in the University of Chaldea
--"NONE LIKE DANIEL" because of God's blessing
--Superior to all others

4-Valedictorian of his graduating class

5-All this grows out of his purposing of heart
--Must be separated unto God if we want to know His will & power in our lives
--FIRST comes purity
--Then follows WISDOM
--Purposes of the will are made in private !!
--Vindication of God's servants is made in public !!

6-Where there is faithfulness in separation from that which is opposed to the mind of God; where His Word is allowed to sin un judgment on all your ways, you will learn that the path of the just "as a shining light which shineth brighter & brighter unto the perfect day."

B.-Reward Of His Purposing In Heart:

1-Not all seen in chapter 1 of this book

2-More follows--Insight into dreams
--Positions of honor
--Agent of Divine revelation
--Man of spiritual insight
--Long life of spiritual usefulness
--REWARDS through all the days of his life

3-Summed up in 1:21
--D.L. Moody's favorite verse, along with
--1 John 2:17--"The world passeth away and the lust

thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever."

-Live with eternity in view, and not just a "TODAY" perspective

-PROPHET of God according to

**Ezekiel 14:20--"Though Noah, Daniel and Job, were in it, as I live, saith the Lord GOD, they shall deliver neither son nor daughter; they shall deliver only their own souls by their righteousness:"

**Matt. 24:15--"When ye, therefore, shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place..."

CONCLUSION:

A.-Resume:

1-Chapter 1 is not prophetic, but pictures for our instruction the MORAL CONDITION suited to becoming enlightened as to God's ways and counsels

2-Holiness is a pre=requisite to growth in the truth

3-Rethink it all--Daniel's PERSONAL STATUS
--Daniel's POSITIVE STAND
-Daniel's PUBLIC STRENGTHS

4-How will we see Daniel in this book?
-A Man of PURPOSE in Ch. 1
-A Man of PRAYER in Ch. 9
-A Man of PROPHECY in Ch. 9

B.-Applications:

1-Training--is essential,
but it is not enough !!

2-Privilege is nice, but it won't carry you through trials

3-Decision of the will is required
-Rom. 12:1-2
-Eccles. 12:1--"Remember NOW thy Creators in the days of thy youth...."

4-Product will be a Man of Piety,
a Man of Humility
a Man of DEPENDENCE UPON GOD

5-Then....
...."NONE LIKE DANIEL"

4/13/69--Westbrae
7/24/81--Greenville, CA
5/2/82--Lester Bapt.Ch.
12/29/85--OKBC

#346--"His Way With Thee"
#457--"Yield Not To Temptation"
*456--"Dare To Be A Daniel"
#$38--Have Thine Own Way"

THE A.B.C.'s OF GENTILE PROPHECY Dan. 2:1-35
or
NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S IMAGE DREAM

INTRO:

A.-BACKGROUND DETAIL:
1-Timing in Neb's life--Dan. 2:1
2-"DIVINE RIGHT" of kingship for Neb. to rule
-Seen in Jer. 27:4-8
3-Language changes
--Dan. 1:1-2:3 and then 8:1-12:13 in Hebrew
--Dan. 2:4--7:28 in Aramaic or Syriac
--TOTALLY FITTING
** Gentile language describes God's dealings with Gentile peoples
** Hebrew language describes God's dealings with the Jewish people
--Distinct antiquity of the Book of Daniel is hereby indicated ** Vocabulary fitted to those times
** Long before the critics would allow, because they have a predilection against predictive prophecy

B.-BASIC PROPHECIES:
1-Daniel 2--"The A.B.C.'s of Gentile Prophecy"
--Most complete, yet simple
--Panoramic picture of prophecies of nations
--OVERLAY--Times of the Gentiles
2-Daniel 9--"The Seventy Weeks Prophecy"
--God's program for Israel
--Messiah's coming and being "cut off"
3-PROP: Here we begin to understand God's dealings with the nations of the earth in connection with Israel.
** It should whet our appetite for serious Bible study, and
** It should demonstrate to us the complete accuracy of God's Word
4-INT: How may we understand God's dealings?

I.-THE DREAM LOST: (2:1-16)

A.-The King's Dream: (2:1)

B.-The King's Demand: (2:2-11)
1-To astrologers, sorcerers, Magicians & Chaldeans
--A lot of grafters claiming to have powers they did not have
--TEN MILLION or more Americans passionately follow the ancient art of astrology and plot their lives in harmony with the heavens
--FIVE THOUSAND Americans make their livings out of charting the heavens and bilking the public
--IF astrology "works" as its adherents claim, it is because of SATANIC COUNTERFEIT of God's powers.

2-Dream WITH the interpretation was demanded--B O T H !!
3-Chaldean **charlatans** parry & delay for time
4-**King's** evaluation of them--2:8-9
5-**God's** evaluation of them--Isa. 47:13-14--"Thou art wearied in the multitude of thy counsels. Let now the astrologers, the stargazers, the monthly prognosticators, stand up, and save theee from thse things that shall come upon theee. Behold, they shall be like stubble; the fire shall burn them; they shall not deliver themselves from the power of the flame; there shall not be a coal to warm at, nor fire to sit before it."
6-FALSENESS of their claims shown by their own confession
--Dan. 2:10-11
--Shows they have **no power** with God
--Contrast with John 1:14

C.-The King's Decree: (2:12-16)
1-King was **furious** (2:12)
2-King **decrees destruction**
3-First word Daniel gets of this is **VIOLENT** !!
--Dan. 2:13
--Bloody mission
--**W H Y** so **hasty** ?? (2:15)
4-FAITH OF DANIEL--Went in to King Nebuchadnezzar
--**Requested time** (2:16)
--Heb. 11:33--"...stopped the mouths of lions'

II.-THE DREAM REGAINED: (2:17-30)

A.-Prayer Meeting: (2:17-18)
1-Call for **JOINT PRAYER**
2-Believed in CORPORATE praying....and **experienced in it**
3-**Calls** his friends--Note their **HEBREW names**
--Godly men, though still young men
--They knew **how** to pray
--They addressed the "God of Heaven"
=="El Elyon"
--Meaning: "The possessor of heaven and earth"
** The One who rules earth from heaven

4-Requests prayed--DEFINITE !!
--**Believing**
--Concerning a SECRET matter
--**To avert death** for themselves & others
--I believe they "PRAYED WITH PRAYER", as if their **lives depended** upon it
--Because actually, their lives did depend on God answering their petitions !!

ILLUS
Soldier during Civil war who was caught outside of camp & accused of being a spy. Said he was only getting away from ruffians to pray. An officer told him to kneel & pray before being executed, on the spot. He did. PRAY! When he ended praying, the officer said: "If you had not prayed in private prayer, you would not have done so well on parade" and spared his life

B.-Preview: (2:19)
1-Notice the "**T H E N**" that follows their time of prayer
2-God is **moved** in behalf of His people thru believing, definite prayer
3-"The **secret** was **revealed** unto Daniel in a night vision."

4-Ps. 25:14-"The secret of the LORD is with them that fear Him; and He will shew them His covenant"

5-If you want to know God's secrets...

- -You'll have to be INTIMATE with the Almighty !
- -H O W???, you ask
- -Try public prayer meeting.
- -Learn to pray by praying
- -Acts 12;1-17 as an example

C.-Praise Meeting: (2:20-23)

1-IMMEDIATE outburst of praise

2-Prayer meeting didn't end until it had become a PRAISE MEETING

3-"Blessed be the Name of God"

- -First a praise for God Himself
- -Followed by praise for the benefits God gives
- -Very instructive as to the content of praise which is acceptable to God

4-PERSONALIZATION-Dan. 2:23

- -"ME" and "WE" are the ones whom the True God has revealed His secrets to
- -Not general in thanks & praise
- -Requests had been specific
- -So were the thanks !!

D.-Presentation: (2:24-30)

1-Daniel's boldness (2:24)

2-Arioch's self-seeking (2:25)--"I have found"

3-Nebuchadnezzar's question--(2:26)

4-Daniel's words-Gives God the credit for REVEALING SECRETS

- -Tells the time to which it refers
- -Dan. 2:28-29
- -Disclaims any personal superiority
- -Dan. 2:30

III.-THE DREAM REPEATED: (2:31-35)

A.-The Colossal Image: (2:31-33)

1-Hearing Daniel recount the forgotten dream gives the King confidence concerning the interpretation which Daniel will relate

2-NOTE-It is a "great image"

- -But it is devoid of any life

3-Viewpoint of evaluating human kingdoms

- -Dan. 2 views nations under the figure of a "GREAT IMAGE"-------Human perspective
- -Dan. 7 views nations under the figures of various "RAVENING BEASTS"----Divine perspective
- -Man sees the power and glory
- -God sees their devouring and destroying character

4-**FOUR PARTS** to the IMAGE
- --Head----------Gold-------Babylon
- --Breast & arms--------Silver-----Medo-Persia
- --Thighs & Buttocks----Brass------Greece
- --Legs----------Iron-------Rome
- --Legs merge into feet
  - --Clay & iron mingled
    - --Mingled strength & weakness of a latter stage of Roman Empire

5-Quotes:

J. Dwight Pentecost (Things To Come) "It would seem best to view this Roman Empire as a continuous development from its form at the time of the first coming of Christ until its final form at the second coming of Christ." (P. 320)

G.H.N. Peters (The Theocratic Kingdom) "It may seem a hard saying, but it is one which the facts fully bear out, that hardly one student in ten of mediaeval history really grasps THAT ONE KEY to the whole subject without which mediaeval history is simply an unintelligible chaos. The key is no other than THE CONTINUED EXISTENCE OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE. As long as people are taught that the Empire came to an end in the year 767, a true understanding of the next thousand years becomes utterly impossible. No man can understand either the politics or the literature of that whole period, unless he constantly bears in mind that, in the ideas of the men of those days, the Roman Empire, the Empire of Augustus, Constantine and Justinian, was not a thing of the past, but of the present." (II, 643)

6-So---
- -This image dream and its interpretation have in view a progression of national empires of Gentile people who had **domination** over the **Jews**.
- -But, it will all have its end with....

B.-The Smiting Stone: (2:34-35)

1-Stone cut out "without hands"==a DIVINE operation

2-**Stone smites** the image

3-Destruction is **total**
- -Broken in pieces
- -Nothing but rubble is left
- -**The best** of man's building is destroyed
- -**NOTHING** of man's creation goes into what God utilizes for His eternal Kingdom

4-ILLUS

A number of years ago the late Architect FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT was called in as a consultant on citty planning. He was taken to PITTSBURG to look it over as to how **to rennovate** it **and improve** it.

Wright's advice: "ABANDON IT."

Pittsburg residents did not follow **his advice** to utterly abandon

their city, but they did the next best thing. They utterly destroyed the old buildings in what had laughingly been called "THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE" where two rivers converged. There they have now rebuilt the city in a most extraordinary fashion.

When God moves into a human life, He does not simply remodel !!

God RENEWS that life COMPLETELY !! Indeed, His word to those who try to improve the flesh is: "ABANDON IT". Don't try to repair the flesh. Forsake it. Begin anew !! Utilize the new foundations of the New Birth.

5-Be very clear on this. God is not going to "Bring in the Kingdom" on the foundation of man's efforts.

6-Rather, God will smite and destroy it all with His "SMITING STONE"

CONCLUSION:

A.-Problems We Face:

1-We do not know all the details about this prophecy.

2-We do, however, have a clear outline of what will surely come to pass

3-Many are more eager to grasp knowledge about the future of this earth..

..than to appropriate salvation NOW

B.-Question We Ask:

1-When that 5th kingdom established by the SMITING STONE comes, will you be included ??

2-What an awful thing TO KNOW of Christ's glory and Kingdom, and yet to be EXCLUDED from it, because you had failed to receive its King.

3-Before it is too late--Receive the King

--Bow the knees to serve Him

Westbrae--4/27/69 "What Though Wars May Come" (Overhead)
Lucerne--8/30/69 "Praise Him, Praise Him" # 223
Snyder, COL. 6/14/81 "Dare To Be A Daniel" # 456
Vacaville, CA 7/18/81 "The Bible Stands" (Overhead)
Greenville, CA.7/22/81 "To God Be The Glory" #227
Lester Bapt.Ch. 4/30/82
Lookout Bapt.Ch. 1/15/84
O.K.B.C. 1/5/86

"EUROPE'S PROPHETIC FUTURE" Dan. 2:31-45;
or 7:1-8, 15-28
"RE-ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OLD ROMAN EMPIRE"
or
"EUROPE AND CHRIST'S COMING"

EUROPE: SIGNPOST TO PROPHECY

INTRO:

A.-Struggles for Empire:
1-Since earliest times
2-Men trying to dominate neighbors
3-ROMAN EMPIRE has become the norm of this thinking
--Because of its size in land mass
--Because of its length of continuance
--Because of its power & glory
4-Barnhouse: "When Constantine became 'converted to Christendom--we put it that way for we do not know whether he was really converted to Christianity--the Church of Jesus Christ which had been persecuted & politically powerless was suddenly promoted to the throne of the Caesars. There were multitudes in the Empire who had lived by the pagan religions & these were immediately affected because their gain was disappearing. In swarms they became 'christian' also, and soon the decay had broadened into the highway of the Middle Ages. But these ecclesiastics, as they gained power, turned their dreams backward, NOT TO the humble Man Who had no place where to lay His head, but to the EMPERORS who knew the refinements of luxury." (
5-Charlemagne (or Charles Martel, as others know him) might well have accomplished the "EMPIRE" had not he been stopped by an early death
6-The HENRYS of Germany & Barbarossa were stopped by internal jealousies within their camp
7-Napoleon almost succeeded.
8-The Bible tells us that this struggle for empire will finally succeed. There is to be a greater than Charlemagne; a greater than Napoleon. He will succeed where others have failed. He will bring the nations--and there are to be TEN of them--that cover the territory that Rome once dominated, into ONE POWER, and he shall rule as Emperor, as superman, yes----------AS GOD.

B.-Signs Of The Times:
1-Revived Roman Empire is one of the two outstanding signs
2-Other signs--Increase of travel & knowledge
--Moral & spiritual degeneracy
--Physical upheavals of nature
--Re-birth of the Nation of Israel
--Rise & aggressive power of Russia
--Nature of modern warfare
--Pattern of the world's nations
--Peace movement
--Sell-Out of ecumenical Protestantism
--Overatures for reunion from Romanism
3-The world seems so aptly described by words used by Franklin D. Roosevelt in his first Inaugural Address as he described

the spirit of our times, saying: "We don't know where we're going, but we are on our way."

4-But believers CAN KNOW where they are headed

5-Rees: "We are frequently told that a great deal depends upon the way we interpret Scripture. Outside the Bible we never call in an interpreter unless there is an ambiguity. The rules of interpretation do not apply unless a document is obscure. We are told to RIGHTLY DIVIDE the Word, but not to INTERPRET IT. A great deal of trouble has arisen from our failure to do the former and our attempts to do the latter. We need no interpreter to arrive at the meaning of the words: 'return', 'come again', 'this same Jesus', etc. This is a device of Satan to becloud the simple teaching of Scripture. The Word is a message from God., to simple people He has couched it in simple language.

C.-Message Concerning EUROPE:

1-Outline: I.-PROPHETIC ANTICIPATION--
II.-PRESENT-DAY ACCOMPLISHMENTS--

2-Prop: --See what God has told us in advance will occur,
--Find what God is bringing to pass
--UNDERSTAND what is going on about us
--Have full confidence for the future because the Bible has been right all along!

I.-PROPHETIC ANTICIPATIONS---Prophecies Of Daniel:

A.-The Image Vision: — OVERHEAD IMAGE

1-Dan. 2:31-45--Visualized portrait of the Ages
--MAN'S-EYE-VIEW of the world's kingdoms
--Seen in their wealth, majesty & power
--Form of a COLOSSUS
--Impressive in appearance

2-The dream--2:31-35
--Details given

3-The Interpretation--2:36-45
--Four successive kindoms

4-Image indicates--Deterioration in fineness of the materials
--Increase of strength of materials
--Ultimate division (Western & Eastern Empires)
--Admixture of clay & iron in the end, indicating DETERIORATION — 2:42

5-The interpretation of the dream is certainly one that human ingenuity could not have hit upon. The wise men & flatterers would never have dared tell Nebuchadnezzar of the DOWNFALL of his kingdom, and THE END of Gentile supremacy.

6-Destruction of the image--Swift DEMOLITION
--No gradual growth as the Post-millennialists teach

OVERHEAD — 2 Feet + References

B.-The Beasts Vision:

1-Daniel 7--Repetition for emphasis
--Repetition for clarification
--GOD'S-EYE-VIEW of the nations
--Succession of rapacious wild beasts devouring one another
--Corresponds with metals of the Image of Ch. 2.
--BEASTIAL in character.

2-The Vision--Dan. 7:1-8
--Lion (Babylon)
--Bear (Medo-Persia)
--Leopard (Greece)
7:7 --Ten-horned dreadful & terrible beast (Rome)
3-The Interpretation--Dan. 7:15-28
--Four kings (7:17)
--"UNTIL" (7:22)
--"ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise..."(7:24)
7:20
7:23
7:24

C.-Perspective:

1-Today we stand far enough down the lane of history to have a perspective that enables us to see all the successive empires at one glimpse. We know that the prophecies have been fulfilled to the letter--EXCEPT one final detail. The power of Rome has been divided, as in the image, into two parts. The time of the mingling of the clay and the iron has come. There remains the rising of the ONE KING that is to dominate the others of the ten.

2-THEN it is that the Stone cut out without hands is to fall upon the 10 kingdoms & grind, not only them, but all the Gentile forces to powder. When Christ comes again, He shall bring to an end the "times of the Gentiles."

3-REASSURANCE--Scripture speaks of only 4 World Empires before Christ comes to establish the 5th & final Empire.
--The 4th will be revived, as we shall see in a moment is already occurring.
--NO EVIDENCE of a 5th (Communist one) intervening in world domination.
--Why not??
--Because Christ will destroy the 4th empire at His Second Coming.
--Same anticipation given by Apostle John in Rev. 13:1 and 17:3,12-13

D.-Expectancy:

1-Revived form of the Roman Empire in EUROPE with ten federated states is to be expected
2-Including the land area of Britain, Europe as bounded by the Rhine & Danube Rivers, Turkey, Iraq, Syria, Egypt Israel and North Africa
3-By the middle of the 7 year "Time of Jacob's Trouble", this European Empire will not just be A world power, but THE world power.

II.-PRESENT DAY ACCOMPLISHMENTS---Current View Of Europe:

A.-Prophetic Patterns In Europe: OVERHEAD #

1-Van Loon, the unbelieving Dutch historian said, "Europe is like a clock running down for which none has found the "KEY".
2-THAT KEY is the revival or reinstitution of Roman Empire

3-In 1931 Aristide Briand, Foreign Minister of France, sent a note to the European governments with a plan for European FEDERATION. This immediately became front page news the world over.

4-In 1932 the former Prime Minister of France, Herriot, published a book---"THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE"

5-The publisher's note in the U.S. edition said:

"The agitation for a United States of Europe, to strengthen Europe's position in world affairs, has come to a head during the past year; and under the name of THE BRIAND PROPOSAL, it has now assumed positive and workable character. No plan of more far-reaching consequences has been broached in all modern history. This book, which crystalizes and explains it, is of epoch-making importance and is certainly to be taken as a rallying point for its admirers and its enemies alike."

"M. Herriot admits that Europe has lost its position of world leadership. Its decadence, as he sees it, has been sudden and inevitable, but its recovery is still a reasonable prospect. In order to meet the commercial and cultural threat of America--AND TO A LESSER EXTENT OF RUSSIA AND THE EAST (caps mine)--Europe must develop a unified programme which will put her on the same productive basis as America. Geographically, even racially, the Continent is as sucept-ible of unit as America; but tariff barriers and political rivalries stand in the way.

6-NOTICE--Written in 1932

--Those significant words: "..AND TO A LESSER EXTENT RUSSIA AND THE EAST."

--Remarkably prophetic

7-As Napoleon said; "What does it matter whether two nations are separated by rivers or mountains, or that they speak different idioms? Europe is but one province of the world: when we make war, we make civil war. I should have liked to have made of these peoples one single and uniform national body." (Quoted in TIME, Oct. 6, 1961, P. 28)

8-W.W. 2 intervened & delayed M. Herriot's vision

9-After W.W. 2 and the beginning of recovery in Europe, it was written in 1961:

"There lives today near Paris an ascetic, unobtrusive Frenchman who may ultimately succeed where others from Charlemagne to Napoleon ultimately failed. He commands no armies or popular following, but his work is worth uncounted divisions to the West. He has neither title nor portfolio, but he has privileged access to every chancellery of Western Europe. He has no formal higher education, but the world's most brilliant economists regard him as their peer. He has never joined a political party, but parliamentarians across Europe flock to his summons. His name is JEAN MONNET, and he is the practical apostle of European unity whose new, growing institutions--notably the COMMON MARKET--are remaking the scarred old face of Europe and changing the balance of power throughout the world."

(TIME, Oct. 6, 1961, P. 28)

B.-What Does This Mean??:

Winston Churchill, at the time he retired from the office of PRIME MINISTER in Great Britain, stated that he was going to dedicate the rest of his life, strength & talents to the formation of THE UNITED STATES OF EUROPE

1-STRUCTURE:

--A "Grand Alliance

** It will be

** Including up thru De

** Others nee

** NOT East G Roman Empi

** New Natio EUROPE !!

--United Nations

** Because U.N.

** Because U.N

** Though the hicle of th a TWO-BLOCK WOR

--Militarily ** N.A.T.O. established in 19

** 13 European partners plus USA &Canada

** Military alliance developed as a protective answer to Russia's post-war expansionism in Europe

** Appears to be a preparation for the BEAST'S military power alliance of the "West" during the Tribulation

--Economically

** Previously there were trade barriers & heavy tariffs & strong nationalisms that led to military conflicts & bloodletting every 25 years

** Most significant development, after the re-birth of Israel, in the post-war era has been the "COMMON MARKET"

** Marshall Plan of US aid for redevelopment begun in 1948 as the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

** Currency Exchange in 1951

** European Coal & Steel Community--1952

** European Broadcasting Union--1954

** European Atomic Energy Community--1958

** Conference of European Post & Telecommunications 1959

** Treaty Of Rome brought European Economic Community and its TEN STAR FLAG — Mar. 25, 1957 (a supernational body was created)

** Lowering of tariffs gradually, but 8 years ahead of the initial schedule — Esp. in Agriculture

** Growing interdependence among the E.E.C. 6 Nation

** One man stood in the way of further growth--the "old man", Charles De Gaulle, and he died in 197

Union of labor, capital + enterprise within the Community so as to make war practically impossible.

PLANS

(1) Monetary Union + World Bank

(2) Federation of States

(3) Common Citizenship

--Symbols ** License Plates with EUR plus a number for the officials, & contemplated for all Europe

** Common citizenship expected

** Common currency is being worked toward

2-SIZE: --Dan. 2:41-42--TEN toes of the Image's feet

--Dan. 7:7, 24--TEN horns that are TEN kings

--Rev. 13:1--TEN horns with TEN crowns

--Rev. 17:12--TEN horns which are TEN Kings and in 17:13 they "give their power and strength unto the beast"

--Until Jan. 1, 1973 the European Common Market included 6 nations (W. Germany, France, Italy, Belgium, Netherlands & Luxembourg)

--Beginning Jan. 1, 1973 we saw that number INCREASED TO NINE with the addition of Great Britain, Ireland, ~~Norway~~ and Denmark

Henry Kissinger called 1973 "the Year of Europe"

TIME Cover

--Brings "EUROPE" to a larger population, a larger market, and a larger productive capacity than either the USA or the USSR

--Other nations are seeking "ASSOCIATE STATUS"

** Israel
** Spain
** Sweden
** Austria — Has applied
** Switzerland
** Greece — June 12, 1975 — Applied
** Portugal — Norway
** And more in North Africa and the Near East as well

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT which meets 6 times a year in Strasbourg France

3-STIMULI: (TO PROTECT THEMSELVES)

--From HISTORY — To avoid the blood baths that have swept Europe every 20-40 years for Centuries

--From The USA

** Military dependance when Europe wants its own flexibility & self-determination
** Economic pressures due to competition from USA's productive capacities
** Internationalization of European businesses with large "blocks" of stock being purchased by American companies
** Trade increases in Europe being desired
** Balance of payments DEFICITS leading to Europe holding 59 Billion in paper dollars while the USA has only 9.5 Billion in gold

--From the USSR

** Military Expansionist policies predicted in Ezekiel 38 & 39 & seen in Europe & Mediterannean
** Coming together in self-preservation against the "KING OF THE NORTH"
** France has urged Europe's own Nuclear Strike Force as a deterrent to Russia's sabre-rattling and rocket diplomacy.

4-STRENGTH: — OVERHEAD MAP of E.E.C.

--Where will this all lead??

** Over a century ago the scores of feudal states which occupied what we know as GERMANY were drawn into a ZOLLVEREIN--a customs union--under the leadership of Prussia. It did not take many decades, even at the slow rate of political events movement of those days, to turn the zollverein into a POLITICAL UNION, and Modern Germany was the result

** With the present economic union of Europe progressing so well, TIME (Oct. 6, 1961) quotes a West German Industrialist: "Within a few more years no government will be able to pull out of the (European Economic)

Community. The businessmen won't let them."

** Federated Government ahead--German Economist, Walter Hallstein: "Make no mistake about it. We are not (just) in business, we are in politics. We are building the United States Of Europe." (Quoted by BOICE, "Are We Nearing The Last Holocaust?", Eternity, Dec. 1972, P. 20)

--The Revived Roman Empire is to become a very strong NATION

--In Fact ** Not only A world power

** But actually THE world power under the Beast after Russia is destroyed in the middle of the Tribulation

This FEDERATION could easily become the most powerful union, economically, politically + militarily, on the face of the earth.

--Where does the USA fit into all this??

** Some suggest as a "partner" in NATO and with the European "nation"

** Some suggest USA destroyed by an atomic attack by Russia, though this seems unlikely

** Perhaps as a second-rate outside power reduced in stature because of monetary problems, balance of payments problems, energy shortage, unemployment and recession Budget Deficits

** Western hemisphere is not directly referred to in prophecy, because it was unknown to the ancients

** Just have to leave that aspect UNANSWERED.

5-Summary:--Gen. Wm. K. Harrison--"A remarkable feature of this trend is that it could not possibly have occurred before the present time because there formerly existed no military dangers or economic necessities which could FORCE these sovereign powers to give up any degree of their independence. Since World War 2 the progress in this consolidation in the area of the Roman Empire has been remarkably rapid, but most persons do not realize it because it happens in our own time."

--THUS, a definite TREND toward the fulfillment of prophetic Scripture is in view.

3 PHASES: ① Customs Union — Already
② Economic Union — Now — 1992
③ Political Union — Soon

CONCLUSION:

A.-Bishop Ryle's Words:

1-Marvelous Expositor wrote about 100 years ago: "While the nations of Europe are absorbed in political conflict and worldly business, the sands in the hour-glass are ebbing away. While governments are disputing about secular things and parliaments can hardly condescend to find a place for religion in their discussions, their days are numbered. in the sight of God.

"Yet a few years and the times of the Gentiles will be fulfilled. Their day of visitation will be past and gone. Their misused privileges will be taken away. The judgment of God will fall upon them. They shall be cast aside as vessels in which God has no pleasure. Their dominion will crumble away and their vaunted institutions shall fall to pieces.

"The Jews shall be RESTORED. The Lord Jesus shall

come again in power and great glory. The kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our God and of His Christ, and the times of the Gentiles shall come to an end."

C.-Concerned Words:

1-ARE YOU READY?

2-What will you have to show as the results of your earthly life that has counted for Christ?

B.-TODAY'S WORDS

1-Revived Roman Empire is upon us. It is all set up + "ready to roll"

2-This fact relates to Christ's SECOND ADVENT + that means that the rapture is even nearer!

3-God has fulfilled HIS WORD LITERALLY as prophetic utterances have come to pass as promised! He will certainly continue to do so

4-The believer today who knows the Word of God needs to WATCH EVENTS in the world in light of God's Word

Westbrae--6/24/73--PM--#137--"One Day" (1)
139--"What A Gathering" (4)

©KBC — 1/19/86-PM
#136 — "Some Golden Daybreak" (2)
#133 — "He Is Coming Again" (3)

"INTERPRETING THE IMAGE VISION" Dan. 2:36-49

INTRO:

A.-The Image Of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream:

1-Overhead of IMAGE from Neb's dream

2-This image presents the simple, but comprehensive OUTLINE & FRAMEWORK of a multitude of future events. No political document can compare with it. Its importance cannot be overstated

3-No dream--before or since--has ever revealed so much of WORLD HISTORY

4-Chas. Lee Feinberg: "In his dream, King Neb saw a single, great statue. Have you ever wondered why the dream was given to the king in the form of a colossal statue? The symbols used in the Bible are carefully chosen, & they cannot be interchanged without doing violence to the intent of both the human writer and the Holy Spirit Who inspired him.

The figure of a man was employed here because God wished to make known what would traspire during MAN'S DAY, the ages in which mortal man ruled the earth. Here in one panoramic sweep, the whole history of human civilization is spread before us, from the days of Neb. to the end of time." (A Com. on Daniel, P. 35)

5-God communicated with Neb. in a dream because he was a pagan with no knowledge of the Jewish Scriptures, nor of the ministry of the Holy Spirit to reveal God through those writings to the inquiring mind

6-Israel's captivity in 606 B.C. marks the beginning of "THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES" (Matt. 21:24)

7-Overhead of Times of Gentiles--EXPLAIN IT !!

B.-The Image Dream Reviewed: (Dan. 2:1-35; Previous Message)

1-The Dream Lost (2:1-16)

a-The King's dream-------2:1

b-The King's demand 2:2-11

WOODBRIDGE, P. 5--The baffling experiences (of the king's experts) may be entitled:

"The quandry of the quacks, or
The chagrin of the charlatans, or
The dilemma of the dreamers, or
The confusion of the Chaldeans"

c-The King's decree 2:12-16

2-The Dream Regained (2:17-30)

a-Prayer Meeting ---2:17-18

b-Preview----------2:19

c-Praise Meeting----2:20-23

d-Presentation------2:24-30

e-PERSONALIZATION--"Problems, difficulties & decisions confront us. But the God of Daniel has not changed. His infinite resources of power & grace are still available to His praying people." (Woodbridge, P. 5)

3-The Dream Reviewed: (2:31-35)
a-The Colossal Image--HUMAN view is of a "great image"
--DIVINE view is of "ravening beasts" (see Ch. 7)
--Man sees the GLORY
--God sees the CHARACTER
b-The Smiting Stone----2:35 (more to come)

4-PROP: We will only understand God's dealings with man as we understand what He has revealed in His Word

5-Int--What, then is the interpretation of this strange IMAGE VISION??

I.-THE DREAM INTERPRETED: (2:36--45)

A.-Progression Of Kingdoms:

1-Great & terrible image of a man--A STRANGE STATUE

2-FOUR ELEMENTS:

(a) Head--Babylon--Made of gold
--Dan. 2:37-38
--In power because of the stewardship bestowed by the God of heaven
--ABSOLUTE MONARCHY: TOTALITARIAN AUTHORITY
--Man and beast given unto his control
--"THOU art this head of gold"
--Unmistakably clear interpretation here
--Gentle hint in 2:21 that the king's dream deals with the successive kings & kingdoms.
--The histories of empires are not a matter of accident, but are determined by God. Rule & power are in God's hand to remove or to give
--Rom. 13:1--"Let every soul be subjet unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God; the powers that be are ordained of God."
--Babylon had another 65 years to run as an Empire
--End of this empire will be shown in Dan.5
--Head gives character to a body, so a G E N T I L E HEAD identifies this as an image of Gentile power

(b) Shoulders--Medo-Persia
--Dan. 2:39a
--Succeeded Babylon as a world power
--538 B.C. right down until 334 B.C.
--Made of silver, a lesser value element
--Specifically said to be "inferior" to Babylon
--This inferiority deals with wealth & luxury, but not with extent of territory
--Two arms ** MEDES& PERSIANS
** One more powerful than the other as we see later
--Replacement of Babylon by the Medes is described in Dan. 5:30-31

-Identical sequence in Dan. 7:1-14 in connection with Daniel's own vision
-Also in Dan. 8:20

(c) Waist--Greece
--Dan. 2:39 b
--This also shall bear rule over all the earth
--Two stages in this period symbolizing GREECE
** 334-323 B.C.--ALEXANDER the great
** 323--142 B.C. under Alexander's 4 Generals, the Seleucids
--This division into 4 parts is detailed later in Daniel 7:6 and 8:5-8
--INFERIOR also because ruled by men of arms, not by royal blood exercising authority

(d) Legs--Rome--Dan. 2:40-43
--Not named in this or other parts of Daniel
--But it is the ONLY succeeding world empire
--UNIVERSALLY AGREED among commentators to refer to Rome as the FOURTH EMPIRE
--70 B.C. ---467 A.D.
--IRON==Strength & stability
--Two legs==Eastern & Western sections
--Iron//Clay--Decline due to internal pressures & decay, as well as from external force

3-No more than FOUR KINGDOMS promised
--M.A. Peloubet (1878 Notes) "History shows that there have been four empires and only four." !
--Napoleon tried
--Hitler attempted it
--Communism in the USSR continues to dream of world dominion
-But there is no promise of a FIFTH Kingdom until these four are destroyed by the "Smiting Stone"

4-Nothing in past history that answers to the 10 kings in a confederacy at one time and designated "ROME", or covering the geographical area it once ruled

5-Therefore, we believe that the "toes part" is YET FUTURE!

6-No church in the O.T. at all (Eph 3:1-6)

B.-Progressive Division:
1-One head
2-Two breasts, arms, legs
3-Ten toes
4-Governmental sovereignty is progressively "SPREAD OUT" & diluted as image declin

C.-Progressive Deterioration:
1-Worth of metals declines
-Babylon; Known for RICHES
-Greece; Famous for BRONZE armor
-Romans; IRON will, strength & yoke, as well as the crown worn by the emperor
2-Position from head to base; Head was FIRST: Feet were LAST

3-Specific gravity--Decline from gold to iron
--Image was TOP HEAVY

4-Inferiority of successive empires (2:39)

5-Quality of authority of the ruler

--Babylon; ABSOLUTE MONARCHY
** "Thou art this head of gold" (2:38)
** "The God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power and strength & glory." (2:37)
** Rawlinson says Neb. was "the greatest Monarch the east ever produced. He possessed enormous command of human labor. Nine tenths of Babylon and 19/20ths of all the other ruins in the land are composed of bricks stamped with his name. The wealth and magnificence of his court seem to have been on a par with the number and size of the buildings built."

--Medo-Persia--Law of the Medes & Persians which altereth not.....and could not be reciended

--Greece--Power of military dictatorship based on military power & prowess, but not transferable since Alexander died without a son

--Rome--Elected Caesars by the will and choice of the populace.

6-C.L.Feinberg:
"Notice that at the time Daniel explained this prophecy, only the first of these four kingdoms had arrived on the world stage; the other three empires did not yet exist. Daniel could never have guessed his way so successfully down the centuries of history. The Lord alone knows the course of the days to come, and, as He revealed in this prophecy, the story of human history is not one of progress but of gradual degeneration." (P. 37)

D.-Progressive Improvement Of Hardness Of Metals:

1-Strength & hardness --Silver harder than gold
--Brass harder than silver
--Iron harder than brass

2-May speak of an ENLARGEMENT OF EXTENT of each succeeding empire over the one which preceded it

E.-TEN PARTICULARS CONCERNING THE SMITING STONE:

1-The DOMINION:

--2:35--"...and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, & filled the whole earth."

--The Stone represents a NEW KINGDOM which succeeds the kingdom it destroys

--Scofield margin note: (P. 901) "A mountain is one of the biblical symbols of a kingdom"

--Hymn: "Jesus shall reign
Where'er the sun
Doth his successive
Journies run."

2-The **DESCRIPTION**

--The Stone is "cut out" or "quarried"
** Not a natural boulder
** Not a stone dislodged from a mountainside
** It is a BUILDING STONE

--God has **plans** for this STONE which He provides

--Purposes of this Stone's coming
** To **remove** the statue or image
** To **occupy** the earth previously ruled by Gentile powers

3-The **DERIVATION**

--Cut out without hands
** No human activity is involved
** Source is from the nation of **Israel**
** Gen. 49:24--"But his bow abode in strength, & the arms of his hands were made strong by the hands of the mighty God of Jacob; (from thence is the Shepherd, the Stone of Israel.)"

4-The **DIVINITY**

--**WHO** is referred to here ??

--Ps. 118:22--"The Stone which the builders refused is become the headstone of the corner"

--**QUOTED** in Acts 4:10-12 by Pert as fullfilled in Christ

--Isa 8:13-14--"Sanctify the LORD of hosts Himself; & let Him be your fear, and let Him be your dread. And He shall be forea sanctuary; but for a stone of stumbling & for a rock of offense to both the houses of Israel, for a gin and a snare to the inhabitants of Jerusalem."

--Isa. 28:16--"Therefore thus saith the Lord God, Behold I lay in Zion for a foundation stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste (==shall have no need for terror in fleeing)"

--Matt. 16:18--"...and upon this ROCK I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

--Matt. 21:44--"And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

--**PETER** also adds----1 Pet. 2:3-4, 6-8

--Note by SCOFIELD on Pages 1039-1040

--What the God of heaven intends is to set up **a theocracy** with His Son as the KING over an earthly kingdom to last a thousand years

5-The **DIFFERENCE**

--Statue made of materials that were processed by the nands of men ***GOLD ***SILVER ***BRASS ***IRON

--Stone owes its **origin** to **God Himself**. NO HUMAN MANUFACTURE !!

--Kingdoms of men due to cooperation among men, whether willingly or by coercion

--Kingdom of God us due to Divine sovereignty

6-The **DESTRUCTIVENESS**
- -Mission of this cut out stone is D E M O L I T I O N !!
- -"**Smote** the image"----(2:34 & 35)
- -Downfall of all that pictures Gentile glory, power & dominion
- -World will not end by a **building up** of that which man devises
- -Collapse & removal of all that man produced by the destructiveness of the SMITING STONE

7-The **DEVELOPMENT**
- -The Stone "became a great mountain, & filled the earth." (2:35)
- -Speedy **expansion of power**
- -Kingdom of God built upon the rubble of man's best efforts
- -Universal in outreach
- -The Stone does not fill the earth by degrees and thus crowd out the 10 kingdoms symbolized by the 10 toes, but demolishes the image at one blow, and THEN G R O W S !!

8-The **DATE**
- -2:28--"...in the latter days" related to Israel
- -2:29--"...what should come to pass hereafter"
- -**NOT YET** ACCOMPLISHED !!
- -Then **W H E N** ?? ?
- -Roman Empire had at least 10 states in its confederacy
  - ** **Never 10** at any one time
  - ** Constituent states shifted from time to time
  - ** Successively there were 10 states
  - ** **No end** to the Roman Empire of history by a SMITING STONE
  - **Therefore, this is YET F U T U R E !!
- -2:44a
- -Indicates that these 10 kingdoms symbolized by the ten toes (2:42) do not come into existence **until** the time of the SMITING STONE
- -Therefore ** This cannot be shown to be a historical occurence in the past
  - ** It has **never been** to this time
  - ** If not historical, it must still be P R O P H E T I C !!
- -And the smiting of the image is not in its head (in Neb's time), but in its **feet**---at the time of the degeneration of the nations

9-The **DURATION**
- -2:44 ** "A kingdown which shall never be destroyed"
  - ** "the kingdom shall not be left to other people"
  - ** "and it shall stand forever"
- -Obviously a divine kingdom of permanence & **without** an **successor**
- -ETERNAL in its duration

10-The DEATHBLOW

--2:45 ** "certain"
** "sure"

--We pray: "THY KINGDOM COME"

--Despair not, "the dream is certain and the interpretation thereof is sure"

--Theories of men, when measured against the revelation of God, must fall

--Deathblow to POSTMILLENNIALISM
** The kingdom of God will not be brought in
++ Gradually
++ By the development of righteousness in the world by the Church and Christians
** Overhead in RED
** Example-------Hymn # 479--"We've A Story To Tell"

--Deathblow to AMILLENNIALISM
** Men may deny an earthly Messianic Kingdom
** Men may declare that Israel's promises have been swallowed up by the Church
** Overhead in GREEN
** Examples--Romanism's view propounded by St. Augustine in The City of God
--Reformed Theology's view that the Church inherits Israel's promises, while the Jews retain all of the curses for failure to obey God

--The answer ** PREMILLENNIALISM
** Overhead in Blue
** Probably not a perfect system of understanding.....BUT
++ It grows out of a literal, grammatical, historical, contextual system of interpretation
++ And it actually deals in an understandable way with the 3/5ths of Scripture which was prophetic when it was written.

11-THE QUESTION:

--"WHY a record of these four kingdoms only, and an ommission of so many others thru history??"
** Charlemagne
** Attila the Hun
** Napoleon
** Germany under Hitler
** Russia under Stalin

12--THE ANSWER:
--Bible prophecy has little or nothing to say about the relations of the nations one to another
--ONLY in their relations as they contact ISRAEL and the HOLY LAND does God foreannounce history
--Deut. 32:8--"When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the bounds of the people according to the number

of the children of Israe."

THUS,,,,,the key to prophecy
** Even about the Gentiles....
** Is THE JEW !!
** Mrs. G. Wingate, The Jew In Daniel's

Image: "What qualifies a world power for figuring in this image? Not antiquity or size, or China or Russia might be there: nor the mere ruling or capturing of Jacob's descendants (that is, any of the twelve tribes), otherwise the image would have begun when Assyria captured & deported the Israelites, and practically accounted for the whole Ten Tribes.

Again, the qualification does not turn...upon the contemporary existence of any Jewish buildings, however sacred. It would seem that any Gentile power that figures in the image must have ruled over Jews as a homogenous people, who have an official recognition, however faulty, of Jehovah as their God. Further, they must be subject people in their own land, having their own laws and customs." (P. 4)

--This portion (Daniel 2) is history PRE-WRITTEN

--There are **no accidents** on earth.
All history is a constant fulfilling of **prophecy** and God's will

II.-THE INTERPRETER REWARDED: (2:46-49)

A.-Rewarded With **Confession** (2:46-47)

1-Attitude toward Daniel — worshipped Daniel
2-Witness to the Trinity of God — God of Gods — θ; Lord of Kings — X; Revealer of secrets — π

B.-Rewarded With **Riches** & **Power**: (2:48)

Great men
Great gifts
Great position

C.-Rewarded With Positions : (2:48-49)

1-For Daniel — CHIEF
2-For Daniel's 3 friends — Also in authority

D.-Rewarded With **Hope**:

1-For those living in exile **25 centuries ago** — God still meets His people
2-For us **today**, also !

CONCLUSION:

A.-The **General Understanding**:

1-Progression of Kingdoms from the image vision
2-Details of meaning are revealed
3-Particulars concerning **the ONE** Who is the "SMITING STONE"

B.-The **Personal Understanding**:

1-Deuteronomy 32:4--"the Rock"
32:15--"the Rock"
32:18--"the Rock"
32:30-31--"Their Rock//Our Rock"

2-Yearning--Deut. 32:29--"Oh, thatthey were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end!"

3-Which is it with you ??
- -THE Rock.....or
- -OUR Rock ??
- -Relationships are NOT inherited,
  NOT gained by osmosis,
  BUT by personalization.
- -What is your relationship to the ROCK, The SMITING STONE?

Westbrae--5/4/69 # 57 Beneath The Cross
Lucerne--8/30/69 # 315 Rock Of Ages
Snyder, CO--6/14/81 #319 Builded On The Rock
Vacaville,CA--7/18/81 #413 A Shelter In The Time Of Storm
Greenville, CA--7/22/81
Lester Bapt. Ch--4/30/82
Lookout Bapt. Ch--1/15/84
O.K.B.C.--1/12/86

"FALSE WORSHIP AND TRUE DELIVERANCE" Daniel 3:1-30
or
"TO COMPROMISE, OR NOT TO COMPROMISE"

INTRO: **A.-"To Compromise, Or Not To Compromise:**
1-**THAT**=is the question
2-Present problem in everyday life for us all
--**BIG** issues
--**Little** issues
--From **every** conceivable direction
3-Each of us needs help in this field

B.-Biblical Authority On Subject:
1-Case of Daniel 3
2-Is it **applicable** & **authoritative** ???
3-1 Cor. 10:11-15 gives **principle** (READ)
4-God has given the O.T. "**FOR** us," even if it was never given "**TO** us"

C.-Development Of Message:
OUTLINE
1-The Historical Record (Dan. 3:1-30)
2-The Practical References
3-The Special Reminders
4-**PROP**:--That we may learn **how to handle our temptation to compromise**
--That we may learn of the **Lord's presence** in our problems

I.-THE HISTORICAL RECORD:

A.-The Pride Of The Ruler (3:1-3):
1-**The Image** set up
-Its **PERSON**--Probably Bel-Merodach, ~~secretary~~ divinity of **Babylon**
-Its **PROPORTIONS**--60 by 6 cubits;=90' by 9'
--Very large--Probably on a PEDISTAL
--Note the **6**, and **666** of Rev. 13 & 1 Sam. 17:4-7 (GOLIATH)
--Its **PLACE**--5 miles S.E. of city of Babylon on Plain of Dura
--Out in the open so as not to be overshadowed by buildings of Babylon, & to give an adequate assembly space
--Its **PROSPECT**--Human in appearance
--**Gold overlay** upon clay or wood image
--Its **PURPOSES**-**Unify** the nation in 1 religion of idol worship
-**Publicize** the power of Neb. & his kingdom as invincible conquerers.
2-The People gathered--**ALL** the rulers
--Representatives of the people
3-The Image dedicated--**Fulfillment** of Nebuchadnezzar's pride

B.-The Pronouncement To The People (3:3-7):
1-**Herald** cried aloud
2-**Command** given to **BOW**

3-Religious orchestra--6 instruments named
--Psychology of POMP & CIRCUMSTANCE
--To stir up the people's emotions
--To aid the idolatrous worship

4-Pressure to "BOW DOWN"
--Well-nigh overwhelming
--In public view of everyone
--Involved WORSHIP of the idol, & of Neb. as head of the state
--This was not just obedience to the law of the land which was at stake
--CHOICE had to be made according to HIGHER LAWS
--PENALTY was clear ** Fiery furnace was in plain view
** "Insurance" that all would conform

5-BLOODLESS religion proposed; No sacrifice for SIN
6-The multitude-----"Fell down and worshipped"

C.-The Persecution Of The Faithful (3:8-23):
1-The ENVY of the Chaldeans (3:8-12)
--THREE did not bow ** "Accused the Jews"
** "There are certain Jews"
** Daniel appears to have been absent
--Very quick to forget deliverance of 2:24 -23 Yrs. before this
--WOODBRIDGE--"No one noticed that they were STANDING FOR GOD until everyone else bowed down". --Same case in our day----Go on STANDING as we have been !!
--Accusations ** "These certain Jews"---Anti-semitism
** "Have not regarded thee"----UNTRUE
** "Served not thy Gods"-------True
** "Nor worship the golden image"----True
** NOTEWORTHY that the only area of accusation they could find against these 3 after 23 yrs. of service in public life was in the area of their WORSHIP

NB

FANTASTIC TESTIMONY !

2-The FURY of the King (3:13-15):
--"Rage & fury"
--Not used to being disobeyed, for his rule was ABSOLUTE
--"Is it true"? = "Did you disobey on purpose?"
--Fact that he even asked indicates a respect grown up for years of faithful service renders
--Gives them a second opportunity to bow

3-The HEROISM of the heroes (3:16-18):
--"We are not careful to answer" to get out of it in our answer."
--They stood on their faithfulne
--Phs. 4:6-7
--NOBLE ANSWER ** 3:17-18
** Believed God w
** Did not know i not
** But they inte they knew
** DETERMINED men
** Why not compromise to live?
** Religious connotations !!!

These four were:
I.- SELECT men - 1:4
II.- SEPARATED men - 1:8, 12
III.- SUPPORTING men - Ch. 2
IV.- SECURE men in their service + worship of the true God — Ch. 3

are !

** Saw clearly that **WORSHIP** was linked with **SERVICE** (3:18)

--Three **complicating factors**
- They stood alone
- They stood **against a World power**
- They stood **against a friend**

** The slogan "EVERYBODY'S DOING IT" is no slogan for a believer !!

4-**The Local Catastrophe** (3:17-22):
--Nebuchadnezzar's reaction to Jews steadfastness
** "Then was Neb. **full of fury**"
** "Form of his visage was changed"
** "Commanded...heat the furnace 7 times more.."
--3 Jews were **bound**
--Mighty men were to thrust them into the furnace
--Executioners **executed** instead
--Extreme heat took its toll
- **No human means of ESCAPE.**

D.-The Preservation Of The Faithful (3:23-27):
1-**POWER** of God displayed
--Chains melted
--Men freed
- --**Not singed** or **smelling** of smoke
- --But **MIRACULOUS** PRESERVATION
--No wonder the critics **hate** the book of Daniel

2-**PRESENCE** of Christ felt
* --**FOUR** were there in the furnace
--Not just the **3 Jews**
* --**NEVER ALONE** in our trials
? --**Who** ?????
--"**Fourth** is like the **Son of God**"
X --Pre-incarnate Christ was "**WITH THEM**"
--**NOTE**---The Hebrews had **no desire to leave** the furnace, for therein they had the companionship of the God

3x5 **ILLUS**

Once a little band of Christians were forced to meet in secret to worship their Lord and Savior. A **spy betrayed** them to the secret police, and an officer with several men surprised them one night at their place of prayer. Looking about him in anger & contempt, the officer ordered one of his men to **count all** who were present & to record their names. When he had done so he reported to the officer that there were **30 men & women** there.

At that an old man stepped forward & said, "Officer, there is one whom you have missed. There is **one more here**"

The officer looked at him in scorn & said, "What do you mean? We have counted them carefully. There are **just 30** here."

"**NO**," the old man insisted, "THERE IS **ANOTHER** HERE WHOM YOU HAVE MISSED."

"Very well," said the officer, we will count them again

--**WHEN ONE STANDS** FOR GOD, eventually even one's opponents are brought to respect him.

NB

NB

Not used to being DISOBEYED

CAST IN

This is to be in a VERY HARD PLACE

Trust had to be in the Lord, not circumstances.

"Too hot to handle"!

2-Decree of Religious Toleration (3:29)
3-The 3 Promoted--Positions restored
--Higher responsibilities given them
--Had these Hebrews been "TIME SERVERS" instead of truly dedicated men, they would not have been exalted.

These were "saved the same" again!

II.-THE PRACTICAL REFERENCES:

A.-To Tribulation Saints:

1-Anti-Christ will be in power
2-Abomination of Desolation will be set up---AN IDOL
3-Worship will be demanded
4-Mark of Beast will be instituted
5-Deliverance then will require--MORAL COURAGE
--Spiritual decision
--DIVINE INTERVENTION
6-Many will die
7-Rev. 20:4--"And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the Word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands;..."
8-144,000 sealed to go thru Tribulation alive

B.-To Today's Saints:

1-Precious promise of the O. T.
2-Isa. 43:1-2-------(READ)
3-Encouragement--"I will be
--CHRIST was
--In "deep w
--In overflo
--In fiery t
--He is "YOU
4-N. T. Parallel
5-Heb. 13:5-6---------(REA
--The Lord's
--The Lord's
--The Lord's
6-Are you COUNTING ON CHRI

"But now thus saith the LORD that created thee, O Israel, fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned, neither shall the flame kindle upon thee."

"
Heb. 13:5-6
Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

III.-THE SPECIAL REMINDERS:

A.-Worship & Service Go

1-Worship without ser
2-Service without wor
3-These are "TWINS"
4-LOPSIDED if we have
5-Let's not be spirit
on one or the other
6-Determine To exemplify

Our
was
Jesus Christ was

Don't wait for an EXILE EXPERIENCE in your life before you learn:
Jesus Christ is all I need!

B.-God Does Deliver:

1-He delivers FROM--
--Mt. 6:13

2-He delivers us IN and OUT FROM: He really does
--Allows problems to come
--Designs refining in us
--Not to overwhelm us
--But to DEVELOP US
--Rom. 8:37--"Nay, IN all these things we are more than conquerers through Him that loved us."
--Rom. 8:28--"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."

3-ABLE--"To deliver"----------Dan. 3:17
--"To Keep"----------2 Tim. 1:12
--"To save to the uttermost"---Heb.7:25

4-Why these trials anyway ???
5-Why not "SMOOTH SAILING" ??
6-1 Peter 1:6-7--"Wherein ye greatly rejoice, though now for a season, if need be, ye are in heaviness thru manifold temptations: that the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise& honor & glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:"
7-God allows the ones He loves the most to come into the HARDEST of trials.

C.-KEY CONCEPT:

1-Back to Daniel 3 & we'll see it there
2-Dan. 3:28
3-"YIELDED THEIR BODIES"
4-Submitted to Divine control in human affairs
5-Vehicle of their life was in God's hands
6-N. T. Parallel---------Rom. 12:1-2
7-Takes a decision of the will based upon an attitude of the heart
8-Have you YIELDED YOUR BODY ??? What is YOUR answer?

D.-Manifold Effects:

1-Many want the RESULTS in their lives
2-But are not all willing to pay the price of YIELDING
3-What were the effects of these 3 refusing to compromise??

-Effect on Nebuchadnezzar
** Acknowledged Jehovah's superiority
** Not yet saved,
** But he's on his way — Salv. in Ch. 4

-Effect on the 3 Hebrews:
** Reinstated to positions
** Promoted to new eminence
** PRECIOUS FELLOWSHIP WITH CHRIST

-Effect on the Exiles
** Time of captivity for many
** People were "Without a song" — Ps. 137 "How shall we sing...?"
** Encouraged thru their godly example

Resume'
I-The TEST of faith - 3:1-12
II-The DEMONSTRATION of faith - 3:13-18
III-The VINDICATION of faith - 3:19-30

CONCLUSION:

A.-Lessons for Unbelievers:

1-Possible to see God's POWER
2-As Nebuchadnezzar did.....
3-Yet possible to resist God's CLAIM
4-As Nebuchadnezzar did.....
5-WHY WAIT ???

6-Why miss God's BEST for you ???
7-Rom. 8:32--"He that spared not His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?"
8-Won't YOU trust Jesus as YOUR Savior today? — Most important decision of all in life !

B.-Lessons For Believers:

1-Resisting temptations----is "worth it all"
2-Decisions determine deportment
3-God is a DELIVERER--From sin
--From problems
--In all of life.
4-When faced with: "TO COMPROMISE, OR NOT TO COMPROMISE"

ROUSH quote below

Remember:--Isa. 43:2--"When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee"

and --Heb. 13:5b-6--"...for He saith: I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me."

The God who takes you into the furnace of refining will be with you there!

∴ Don't compromise!

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See folder for Outline + Visual trans-Parencies

Sequoia - 9/7/69
Lookout Baptist Ch., WV - 1/22/84
OKBC - 1/26/86

"The joyful discovery that the trials & afflictions of life cannot shake our submission to God makes us face the future with boldness and to exclaim, 'OF WHOM SHALL I BE AFRAID?' Brethren, I am convinced that we need to learn, thru affliction, how deep the work of God has really been in our lives, that we might face the future with a holy confidence in the sufficiency of Christ that will amke the world see the reality of His indwelling.

Roush, "Delivered Unto Death"

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S TREE VISION----------Daniel 4 LEARN FROM NEBUCHADNEZZAR

THE MAD MONARCH

INTRO: **A.-Elihu's Pithy Words:**

1-Job 33:14--"For God speaketh once, yea twice, yet man perceiveth it not."

2-God had **so spoken** to NEB.

--Once in Vision of image in Ch. 2

--Second time in experience w/ 3 Hebrews in Ch. 3

3-In grace God **speaks again** to NEB - Grace upon grace

4-Dan. 4 in the TREE VISION-----a **most humiliating** fashion for an absolute monarch

5-**But**, God wants Neb's attention !

God's LONGSUFFERING

B.-Nebuchadnezzar Is "AT REST":

1-4:4 = At ease

2-"At rest"--Power of the world in his grasp

--Absolute monarch

--Rich & **free from cares**

--Yet, **spiritually empty**

--Eph. 2:1--"And you hath He quickened, who were dead in trespasses & sins"

--"AT REST" in his **house**, & in his **sins**

3-**so**.....God breaks in !

4-4:5

5-Neb. is **AFRAID**

--Fear is the constant companion of the unregenerate man

--**Joy** and **peace** come thru salvation

--Often God uses **TROUBLE** to **arouse** folks out of their "rest" in their sins

6-ILLUS--Louis Talbot writes: "I often think of what it **took to arouse my own father**. For years my mother prayed for his conversion--and what a testimony she gave before him & her children!! But my father was proud, aristocratic, wealthy, not sensing his need of a Savior. He was the head of a large liquor concern; he had no time for Christ.

"However, the day came when he **lost everything** --money and health. My mother kept on praying, & God answered her prayers. In her heartache & trial she rejoiced in God, for my father was **born again**. He came to know what **real treasure** was But **it took TROUBLE** to arouse him."

C.-Nebuchadnezzar's Autobiography:

Something of a PUBLIC DECREE or STATE PAPER

1-**Written by Neb.** under the inspiration of the Spirit

2-Included by Daniel in God's Word

3-**OUTLINE**--I.-THE VISION (4:4-27)

II.-THE FULFILLMENT (4:28-37; 4:1-3)

III.-THE LESSONS PROP

We need to LEARN FROM NEBUCHADNEZZAR some of life's most important lessons.

I.-THE VISION (4:4-27):

A.-The Tree Vision (4:4-5, 10-16):

1-Centers on **a TREE**

2-Symbol of **a great KING** in Scripture

3-"In the midst of the earth" (4:10)

4-Growing & developing in it scope

5-Haven for many.....UNTIL
6-"HEW DOWN THE TREE", with only a stump left
7-A matter of Divine decree, which indicates "things don't JUST HAPPEN"
8-Intent of the dream--------4:17--"the most High ruleth"
9-BENJAMIN FRANKLIN--"If a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it probable that an empire can rise without His aid?" (Spoken in Philadelphia at Constitutional Convention.

B.-The Qualified Interpreter (4:6-9, 17-18):

1-Neb. calls in the "wise men" — Same song "1st verse, Second "verse.
--Magicians = Fortune tellers
--Astrologers = Foretellers by the stars
--Chaldeans = Philosophers
--Soothsayers = Communicators with the dead
2-These FAKES "did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof"
3-THEN Daniel "at the last...came in"
--Why not call Daniel first ?
--Not because Nebuchadnezzar had forgotten the incidents of Chapter 2
--Calvin suggests that Neb. only turned to Daniel out of extreme necessity because others have no answers inasmuch as only Daniel has contact with the HOLY GOD
4-4:9 is quite an admission -"I know that the Spirit of the Holy gods is in you"
5-Daniel is the only QUALIFIED INTERPRETER, because the Spirit of the Holy God is in him
6-Neb. believes Daniel to be able---4:18 — Now 76 yrs. old after 60 years in Babylon

C.-The Interpretation (4:19-26):

1-Daniel is astonished for 1 hour----------SPEECHLESS !! APPALLED
2-WHY ?--"his thoughts troubled him"
--Daniel knew the meaning of the dream
--Daniel wished Neb. no ill-----in fact, he liked him
--Wished the King's enemies were the recipients of this message of doom
3-The Tree--"It is thou, O King"
--WHY???
--Personalization in 4:14-16 (Personal pronouns) "Let him" "Let his"
--Dominion is world-wide
--Tree is growing & becoming strong
--Yet, the tree is to be CUT DOWN
4-Madness Foretold--King is to be like a beast for 7 times (7 yrs)
--A decree of El Elyon
--To be driven from men
--Live like a BEAST in the fields
--Deposing from royal power & from men's society was to be his lot to bring him to God, if he would not repent without it
5-Restoration foretold
--4:25c--"til thou know"
--4:26--"thy kingdom shall be sure unto thee"
--Cutting off would be TEMPORARY, & then a restoration

D.-The Exhortation (4:27):

1-Daniel didn't just stop with the dream's meaning

2-Daniel counselled the King to FORSAKE his wicked ways
3-4:27
Neb 4-Needed more than the FACTS
5-Needed also to FORSAKE sin and exercise FAITH
6-There is no unequivocal promise that if Neb. repents, then he'll avert the threatened judgment
Historical Precidents 7-HOWEVER--Nineveh repented, & was spared
--Hezekiah prayed, & was spared death
8-Daniel pleads with Nebuchadnezzar to "break off thy sins" because he cares for the King
9-Wise counsel--God can pardon
--IF sin is broken off by the sinner
10-NOT as translated by Jerome on the bias of his R.C. theology, translating "REDEEM thy sins by almsgiving", which is a works salvation approach.

II.-THE FULFILLMENT (4:28-37; 4:1-3):

A.-Nebuchadnezzar's Probation (4:28-29):

1-Judgment was not immediate
2-Time for reflection & repentance was given
3-4:28-29
4-A WHOLE YEAR--Of opportunity to repent
--Of Divine mercy
--BUT, without any evidence of repentance
--An abusing of God's grace
5-God's patience is not eternal
6-Gen. 6:3a--"And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man..."
7-Rom. 2:4

"Or despisest thou the riches of His goodness + forebearance + long-suffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance."

B.-Nebuchadnezzar's Pride & Debasing (4:30-33):

1-Walking upon the roof of his royal palace
2-Surveying Babylon, which he had built
--Neb. was more of a BUILDER than a WARRIOR
--This is amply confirmed by archaeology
--Hanging Gardens of Babylon, for instance

NEB had a wife who longed for some thing to remind her of the MOUNTAINS in which she was reared, for Babylon was in FLAT COUNTRY
To please her Neb. built artificial mounds of earth + planted them w/ TREES. These HOME MADE MOUNTAINS became one of the wonders of the ancient world—
THE HANGING GARDENS of Babylon
So it was that Neb. looked over the great city + said in the PRIDE of his heart,
"4:30"

PRIDE is downfall

--"WHILE"
--Probation was up--"The kingdom is departed from thee"

7-Disease called **LYCANTHROPY** or **BOANTHROPY**
--Patient imagines himself as a beast
--Beastial in **actions** (eats grass)
--Beastial in **appearance** (4:33b, c)
--WHAT A SPECTACLE !!

Judgment was LITERAL!

8-Debasing came: "The **same hour** was the thing fulfilled upon Neb." — "Put out to pasture"

9-Sin of rejecting the true witness of Daniel brought a **7 year penalty**

10-Need to learn that the "heavens **DO rule**" over the affairs of men, indeed

GOD is on the Throne after all!

C.-Nebuchadnezzar's Proselytism (4:34-37):

1-**Time of testing** & trial lasted **7 years**
2-4:34--"Lifted up mine eyes"
--When he repented
--Not possible for a BEAST, that looks downward
--But man is ἄνθρωπος = "**up looker**"
--Did not harden his heart, as Pharoah did
--But **responded to** Divine **discipline**
--Isa. 45:22--"**Look** unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the eart: for I am God, and there is none else."
--Spurgeon's salvation verse
3-"**Blessed...praised...honored** Him" (4:34)
--**Personal decision of faith** is obvious
--Supremacy of **God is acknowledged**
--4:34b-36
--Neb. **WORSHIPS** this God whom he identifies as King of Heaven (4:37)
--Neb. is a **PROSELYTE** to the true faith of the God of Daniel
4-**Hard lesson** over many years of Neb's life,---BUT **WORTH IT** to be saved !!

D.-Nebuchadnezzar's Proclamation (4:1-3):

These verses are "after the fact"

1-This is a SPLENDID CONFESSION!!
2-Sent--to all people
--To all nations
--To all languages
--To all parts of the earth
--4:1

Testimony to ALL peoples, nations + men

3-"**PEACE** be multiplied unto you"
--Only a **believer** has PEACE
--**Only God** can give you PEACE
--Isa. 57:19-21--"I create the fruit of the lips; Peace, peace to him that is far off, and to him that is near, saith the LORD; and I will heal him. But the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked"
4-Neb. makes this an **OFFICIAL** STATE **PROCLAMATION**
5-Document issued **562 B.C.** in the year he recovered from his insanity
6-**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**--4:2-3 — Given by a man of experience
--Given **just 1 year** before **he died**

7-In that year, God brought PEACE to his soul
8-Before that--Neb. had power
--Neb. had wealth
--Neb. built buildings
--Neb. had prestige
--BUT NOW he has PEACE!!!
9-Now he KNOWS God as His own God & Savior
10-Do you???

III.-THE LESSONS:

A.-Pride Of Man:

1-Always, the pride of man gets one into trouble
2-Evidence of the unregenerate, unsubmissive heart
3-Need a proper view
--Rom. 12:3--"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."
--1 Sam. 2:30b--"..for them that honor me I will honor, and they that despise me shall be lightly esteemed."
4-HUMILITY is desired
--Mt. 5:3--"Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
--1 Peter 5:6--"Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."
5-ILLUS.--When a Roman General marched in triumph into the city of Rome---which was the highest distinction possible in his day---he had 2 slaves with him in his chariot. "One held over his head the gold wreath that belonged to the god Jupiter. The other, lest the victor become arrogant, whispered in his ear: 'REMEMBER THOU ART A MAN'".
Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 4 forgot this truth & was reduced to the condition of a beast of the field.
Herod also forgot this truth. It is recorded in Acts 12 that he allowed the people to speak of him as a god, and he was immediately judged for his impiety.
The Antichrist will also forget this truth, & will magnify himself in his own eyes. God will also deal with him in due time
6-Indeed--"Those that walk in pride, He is able to abase" (Dan. 4:37 d)

B.-Procrastination:

1-Men gradually come to the knowledge of the truth
--Dan. 2:47
--Dan. 3:28
--Dan. 4:34-35
2-BUT they often fail to make an immediate decision on the basis of the truth that they do know
3-God will deal with them to make them "WILLING"
4-Why wait?----The invitation is for NOW !!

5-Ps. 2:10-12--"Be wise now therefore, O ye kings; be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. KISS THE SON, lest He be angry, & ye perish from the way, when His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they athat put their trust in him.

6-PROCRASTINATION can be fatal

7-Ask yourself if there is any valid reason why you should persist in the neglect of God's way of salvation, and why you should longer leave your soul in jepardy.

8-Won't you learn from Nebuchadnezzar's procrastination ??

C.-Proclamation Is Expected:

1-Whenever one has "GOOD NEWS", it is for telling !!

2-Neb. felt that way, & made a State Proclamation
- --Wanted all his dominion to know
- --Wanted all generations to know
- --Created a lasting testimony to God's grace in his life
- --Acknowledgement of his faith----OPENLY !!

3-ILLUS--Gadarene Demoniac healed by Jesus
- --Mark 5:19--"Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but said unto him, Go home to thy friends, and TELL THEM how great things the Lord hath done for thee, & hath had compassion on thee."
- --Luke 8:39--"But Jesus sent him away, saying, Return to thine own house, and SHOW how great things God hath done unto thee."

4-What have you--
- --To SHOW of God's works ??
- --To TELL of God's grace ??

There is no more potent spectacle in all the world than of a true X-n in the midst of a crisis.

CONCLUSION:

A.-Resume':

1-A FLOURISHING King----------4:4
2-A FOOLISH King----------4:30
3-A FORSAKEN King----------4:33
4-A FAITH-DISPLAYING King--------4:37

WE HAVE GOD'S ANSWERS!

B.-Application:

1-Where do you fit in that progression ??
2-Neb. is a "MIRROR" of all men
3-Are you--
- --FLOURISHING in this world
- --FOOLISH as regards God in your life
- --FORSAKEN because of your sin
- --FAITH-DISPLAYING ??

4-Only right with God as you "LOOK UP" to Jesus in believing faith

5-Let's learn from Nebuchadnezzar !!

C.- Scripture - Read Rom. 11:33-36

(1) He Hideth My Soul — (258) 255

Westbrae--5/25/69--"He's A Wonderful Savior To Me"---259

Lookout Baptist Ch, WV - 1/29/84

OKBC - 2/9/86

(3) "I Know Whom I Have Believed"-----264 (224)

(4) Look To The Lamb Of God — 73 (216)

(2) The Haven of Rest (270) 284

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The Finger Of God Points

INTRO: A.-Let's Get Oriented:

1-**Location** of Empire of Babylon
--In fertile crescent
--On East of Palestine
--Separate from Assyria, Media & Persia

2-**Layout** Of City Of Babylon
--15 miles square on each side (Almost) 56 miles around city
--Surrounded by a **moat**
--Euphrates River running thru it
--Tunnels & Bridges crossing Euphrates
--**TWO WALLS** Outer
** 87 feet thick
** 350 feet high
** 250 towers on it
** 6 chariots abreast on its top
480' high
--25 Avenues N & S, 25 Avenues E. & west
--City cut into **676 squares** 3/5 mile per side
--Two-leaved **solid brass gates** at the ends of each of the 50 Avenues

3-**Contents** Of Babylon
--**TOWER OF BEL** (Built for Marduk-Bel, Patron deity
** 8 towers each 75 feet high
** Built one on top of the next
** Topped by a chapel reaching 660 feet high
** Built like a Ziggurat
--**HANGING GARDENS** **Part of Nebuchadnezzar's palace
**1 of "7 Wonders of the World"
**Built to make Neb's wife (Amyitis) who came from the mountains of Media, feel "at home" on the plains of Babylon
** 400 feet square & rising in terraces to 350 feet
** Covered with earth, trees, flowers, and shrubs.
--**POPULATION** of over **1 million**
--**Food** storage over 20 years supply
--**Land** inside the walls that **could be tilled** to replenish the food supply
--Virtually an **IMPREGNABLE FORTRESS**

4-**Subject of Prophecy**, this Babylon
--Isa. 13:1--A "**BURDEN**"=="A prounouncement of **doom**"
--Isa. 13:19a--Place of glory & beauty
--Isa. 13:17--19 ** **Destruction** prophesied
** Prophecy in **713** B.C.
** Names the **MEDES** as conquerors who will subdue Babylon
** Destruction came in 538 BC, **175** years later----------
---**AS FORETOLD.**

While Babylon was at its magnificent zenith of power, & Media was a backwater place

5- CONTRAST
• Dan. 4 - Nebuchadnezzar in a PASTURE
• Dan. 5 - Belshazzar in the BALANCE

B.-Seige Of Babylon: 538 B.C.

1-Medo-Persia has **revolted** against Babylon
2-Medo=Persia has **laid seige** to Babylon for **3 months**
3-Babylon is an **impregnable fortress**
* 4-**NOW**--Medes & Persians have **a plan**
--Two **deserters** have come over to their side
5-However, that would **not have been enough**, if it were not according to God's will and time
6-Let's look at that **FATEFUL NIGHT** of the FEAST OF BELSHAZZAR
Night of the transfer of power from 1st Kingdom (Babylon) to 2nd Kingdom (Medo Persia)

C.-This Message:

1-The Record Of Sin (5:1-4)
2-The Writing Of The Sign (5:5-16)

PROP
God points His finger at **SIN** and He will **judge** wicked men + wicked behavior.

I.-THE RECORD OF SIN ---(5:1-4):

A.-Idolatrous Feast: — Years have passed since chapters 1-4

1-5:1-4
2-**WHY this feast??**
(a) --**Commemoration** of destruction of Jerusalem 68 years before?
(b) --**Honoring** of "the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, & of stone" ??
(c) --**Defiance** of, & contempt for opposing armies outside their gates ??
--One, two, or perhaps **all three** of these

No anxiety over the enemy at the gates for the city was well fortified

3-**WHAT this feast was**
--Ample evidence of the **moral decline** in Babylon
--1000 leaders along with wives & concubines invited
--Licentiousness, drunkenness & idolatry
* --**What an ORGY !!**
4-To this is **now added BLASPHEMY !!** — Sin piled upon sin !!
--**Holy vessels** from Temple in Jerusalem
--Captured by Nebuchadnezzar's armies
--Carried to Babylon & put in the treasure house of Nebuchadnezzar's god (Dan. 1:2)
--**NOW brought** to this drunken feast
--Debased as vessels of revelry & drunkenness
--Used **to praise heathen gods** (5:4)
5-**This seals Babylon's DOOM** ! — GOD would tolerate NO MORE !

Took God's people into CAPTIVITY !

B.-Iniquity Filled:

1-God ordained Babylon **to punish** Judah's evil
* 2-But God **does not overlook** Babylon's **iniquity**
3-Temple vessels are **SACRED to God**; Not for "common use"
4-**God is longsuffering**, but His patience has an end
5-ILLUS--**Gen. 15:13-16**
--**INIQUITY OF THE AMORITES**
--**When** cup of iniquity was full, **JUDGMENT CAME** !
--**SO**, Babylon's cup of iniquity is now full, overflowing, and sufficient cause for judgment
6-**Orgy** of blasphemy brings Divine intervention
7-**'In the same hour'** — Divine judgment is SWIFT
— There is a limit as to how long God will wait for repentance

C.-Infidel's Folly:

1-**Widespread opposition** to Book of Daniel by Critics
- --Because **prophetic** of the future, which is not believ- by Bible-Deniers
- --Because of much detail about **Gentile nations** that were not confirmed in secular history

2-One of the **big complaints** was **against BELSHAZZAR**
- --Because he was **not confirmed** by secular history
- --Because of the **peculiar offer** to interpreters of the writing on the wall, that they would have **THIRD** place in the kingdom
- --Because secular history places a man named **Nabonidus** as the third of the universal monarchs of the Babylonian Empire, not Belshazzar
- --Therefore **Bible deniers** have insisted that **no such person** as Belshazzar **ever existed**, and Daniel 5 was considered "**RELIGIOUS FICTION**"

EXTERNAL PROOF WANTED → AND FOUND

3-That Belshazzar's name **IS FOUND in Scripture** ought to be enough to prove that he was a real person, but critics do not see it that way. They want evidence from **another** source

4-**THEN** in **1854** Sir Rawlinson discovered & translated a number of tablets & an inscribed cylinder of clay, & the closing words there are a **prayer by Nabonidus for his son.** The point of interest lies in the fact that his **son is named** on the cylinder-----none other than this "**BELSHAZZAR**" himself.

5-**How does this fit** in the question of "**THIRD ruler**" ?

6-**Answer** is seen in a **chart of descent:**

NABOPOLASSAR (625-605 B.C.)

NEBUCHADNEZZAR (605-561 BC)

EVIL-MERODACH (561-559 B.C.) — Unnamed Daughter------NABONIDUS (555-538 BC)

BELSHAZZAR (553-538 B.C.)

7-**Nabonidus** was a General, and often away on conquests & administration in other lands. His son, **Belshazzar**, reigned as his **CO-REGENT**, and so **THIRD RULER** IN THE LAND was **all that could be offered** to anyone

8-Jer. 27:6-7--"And now have I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant; and the beasts of the field have I given him also to serve him. And all nations shall serve **him**, and **his son**, and **his son's son**, until the very time of his land come: and then many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of him."

9-Oh, the **folly** of those who **WILL NOT BELIEVE** God's infallible, inerrant Word

10-**Sir Flinders Petrie** of Great Britain, "The Grand Old Man of Biblical Archaeology" has well written: "Of the thousands & thousands and hundreds of thousands of artifacts, directly relating to the Bible, discovered by the archaeologists and by the philologists translated and interpreted, **not one** artifact has ever been discovered that **contradicts**, **denies** or **obscures** one

phrase, clause or sentence of the entire Bible (as written in the original) but always **confirms**, **verifies**, **illustrates** & **illuminates** it or **fills in** the historical gaps."

11--**Critics**.....**"BACKWARD, MARCH!!"**

II.-THE WRITING OF THE SIGN----(5:5-16):

A.-The Conviction --(5:5-6):

1-"**Fingers** of a man's hand"
- --"Out of the **sleeve of the night** comes the condemning finger of God"
- --"**In the same hour**"
- --Connection with the record of sin (5:1-4) is unmistakeable
- --**Mysterious hand** turned the feast into a **nightmare** of terror — A wierd phenomenon it was!

2-**Writing**--Near the Candlestick from the Temple in Jerusalem
- --Upon a plaster wall
- --The fact that the writing remained **indelibly fixed** on the wall showed that it was **no hallucination** of an intoxicated man's fancy — VISITATION from God was a harbinger of impending doom!

3-**King's conviction** (5:6)
- --Countenance changed
- --**Thoughts troubled** him
- --Joints loosed — TREMBLING
- --**Knees knocked**
- --Conviction of **sin** & **FEAR** set in together
- --**DEAD SOBER** in just an instant

4-All present at the feast **recognized** this as **a message from the other world**

B.-The Confusion---(5:7-9):

1-**Wise men** are brought in to Belshazzar — He seeks for his official interpreters
- --Astrologers == Predicters of the future by the stars
- --Chaldeans == Philosophers
- --Soothsayers == communicators with the dead
- --Same ones who **twice failed** King Nebuchadnezzar
  - ** Ch. 2 over the Colossal Image
  - ** Ch. 4 over the Tree vision

2-**Rich offer**--To "Whoseever shall **read** this writing and shew me the **interpretation** thereof"
- --RAIMENT----"clothed with scarlet"
- --REWARDS----"chain of gold about his neck"
- --RULER ----"third ruler in the kingdom"

3-**Inability** of the wise men
- --"They could **not read** the writing"
- --"Nor make known the King the interpretation thereof"
- --**FUMBLING FAKERS** — NO HELP

4-**WHY NOT ?**--Not written as we Westerners would imagine MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN
- --Talmud suggests probably written:

P	T	M	M
R	K	N	N
S	L	A	A

- --Doesn't mean anything if read across, but it does if **read DOWN**, as **an Acrostic**

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR"

--Remember---It takes a MAN OF GOD to interpret the WORD OF GOD

--1 Cor. 2:14--"But the natural (unregenerate) man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are Spiritually discerned."

5-Confusion abounds
- King is under conviction
- Wise men are unable to interpret
- Whole crowd is ASTONISHED

6-In all of history has there ever been such a scene ??

C.-The Commendation---(5:10-12):

1-Queen--Queen-Mother of Belshazzar — Daughter of Nebuchadnezzar
- --"CAME INTO the banquet house"
- --Clear indication that she was not a participant in this orgy of revelry & blasphemy
- *-As Nebuchadnezzar's daughter, she was perhaps a true believer, and thus SEPARATE from such sin
- -At least she was a lady----and thus not there!!
- --"Spake" and gives Belshazzar good advice

2-Dan. 5:11-12--"There is a man"--God's perennial method
- --"In whom is the spirit of the holy gods"
- --Identified as a man of the true God, Who is HOLY!
- --Man of "Light, understanding & wisdom"
- --"An excellent spirit"
- --"DISOLVING OF DOUBTS"
  - ** Quite a D.D. degree
  - ** Contrast Isa. 56:10--"His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark: sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber."

5:12, 13, 17

- --Name is DANIEL (Known by his real name)
- --Name is called Belteshazzar
- --Tremendous COMMENDATION of God's man

3-Advice--"Now let Daniel be called and he will shew the interpretation"
- *-Daniel wasn't at that kind of a party either
- --SEPARATED BELIEVER is not found in such a place and atmosphere of compromise

D.-The Consultation---(5:13-16):

83 to 85

1-Daniel brought
- -He has now reached 85 to 90 years
- -Not involved in the government of Bel.

2-"Art thou that Daniel?"
- --Sought to find if he was a JEW
- --Sought to find if he was GOD's MAN

3-"I have heard of thee"
- -Belshazzar was 15 years old when Nebuchadnezzar recovered his sanity & would have heard Neb's confession of faith + Decree proclaimed (4:1-3)
- --Belshazzar's mother was Neb's daughter, so he'd have known the intimate "FAMILY DETAILS"
- --Apparently knew ABOUT Daniel..... Daniel's TESTIMONY shone through!

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

--BUT, Belshazzar had never sought out the man of God until he was in deep trouble !!

4-Dan. 5:14-16

5-Grandiose offer- RAIMENT ①
- RICHES ②
- RULERSHIP ③

--But these were empty promises, for that very night Belshazzar would be slain and Babylon would fall to Medo-Persia

NB — Queen Mother speaks of "spirit of the holy gods" is in Daniel (5:11) — Belshazzar drops the word "holy" (5:14)

6 - There is no more powerful power on earth than a CHILD OF GOD in the face of CRISIS

So are the promises of SATAN & the WORLD — EMPTY

CONCLUSION:

A MAJESTIC FEAST - 5:1-4

THE MYSTERIOUS FINGERS - 5:5-6

THE MORTAL FRIGHT - 5:6-9

A.-Recapitulation:

1-The RECORD Of SIN — 5:1-4

2-The WRITING Of The SIGN — 5:5-16

3-Remainder of the chapter in next message.

B.-Lessons From Belshazzar's Feast:

1-SACREDNESS OF TEMPLE VESSELS
- --Their desecration was "THE FINAL STRAW"
- --Can't desecrate that which is sacred to God without a price to be paid
- --1 Cor. 6:19-20

2-EVIL OF BELSHAZZAR
- --He is a historic personage
- --Co-Regent with his father Nabonidus
- --Seals the doom of the nation & of himself by his sins (idolatry, licentiousness, drunkennes & blasphemy)
- --1 Cor. 6:9-10

3-ENDORSEMENT OF THE QUEEN-MOTHER
- --Not involved in the sinful revelry
- --Knew God's man
- --Recommended Daniel on all counts
- --Urges Belshazzar to call him & to listen to him

4-TESTIMONY OF DANIEL
- --Known as one of God's own (a Jew)
- --Known as one controlled by (ASV) "the Spirit of the Holy God"
- --Known as a D.D. =="Disolver of Doubts"
- --Known as one who is not "INVOLVED" in the crowd of compromise
- --Therefore, he is one who can be called upon for spiritual help in time of need

C.-Application:

1-God's things---------Sacred

2-God's witness---------Sacred

3-God's man---------Sacred

4-God's Word---------TRUE .... TRUE !

It is one thing to KNOW THE TRUTH. It is quite another thing to accept & profit from it.

5-Let us come to His Table (fellowship w/ God)
- --Not of idolatry, licentiousness or revelry
- --Not in drunkenness of wine

(7)

--But SOBERLY
--And reverently to the True God to worship Him in Spirit and in truth

EMILY DICKINSON wrote:

"Belshazzar had a letter
He never had but one;
Belshazzar's correspondent
Concluded and begun,
In that immortal copy
The conscience of us all
Can read without its glasses
On revelation's wall."

WHAT DO WE READ?

We read clearly the truth that God points His finger at SIN, and He will JUDGE wicked men and wicked behavior.

Westbrae--6/1/69--
Lookout Baptist Ch.
2/12/84
OKBC -3/2/86

"Cleanse Me" — 60
"Seeking For Me" — 110 (1,2,3)
"I Know A Fount" — 76
"In Times Like These" 202 (2)
"Standing On The Promises" 175 (1)
"O To Be Like Thee" — 316 (3)
"His Way With Thee — 367 (4)

"Weighed And Found Wanting" (1)

INTRO:

A.-Background Review:
1-**Location** of Babylon — Map
2-**Layout** of Babylon — Diagram
--15 miles on each side of a square
--**Euphrates** River running thru it
--Two walls running around it
** 87 feet thick
** 350 feet high
** 250 towers on the walls
** Wide enough for 6 chariots abreast
--**Two-leaved brass gates** at the ends of 25 N-S, & 25 E-W boulevards
--Virtually an **IMPREGNABLE FORTRESS**
3-**Siege** by Medes & Persians for **3 months**
--They have **a PLAN** to overthrow Babylon
--They have 2 deserters as guides
--**AND** there is the **blasphemy** of God at....

B.-Belshazzar's Feast (Review)—(5:1-16):
1-**RECORD OF SIN**--**Idolatrous** feast given
--**Iniquity** filled by desecration of holy vessels
--**Infidel's** folly of unbelieving
2-**WRITING OF THE SIGN**
--The **conviction**; King **sobered** by the writing
--The **confusion**; Wise men **unable to read** & interpret the writing
; It takes a **MAN OF GOD** to read & interpret the **WORD OF GOD**
; 1 Cor. 2:14
--The **commendation**; **Queen-Mother** tells of Daniel
--The **consultation**; Daniel is **called** & made a gradiose **offer** if he reads & interprets the writing

Outline

This Message →

C.-Babylon's Fall (5:16-31):
1-The Writing Interpreted
2-The Writing Fulfilled

PROP: We need to see GOD'S HAND in the affairs of men + nations, AND of ourselves also.

I.-THE WRITING INTERPRETED-----(5:16-31):

A.-The Reward--(5:16-17):
1-**Offered** by **Belshazzar**
--RAIMENT; "clothed w/ scarlet"
--REWARD; "a chain of gold"
--RULER; "third ruler"
* --**Honestly offered**
--**BUT** just **empty promises** in the light of God's plan for the kingdom

Outline

2-**Spurned** by **Daniel**
--5:17a
--Daniel maintains his **separation** & **independence** as a true witness for God
--Daniel **doesn't need** the **rewards** the world offers

in order to be **rich** or to be **at peace**

* -Come what may, Daniel is determined to **speak the truth**
--Daniel was a **REAL INDEPENDENT**! — **God's KIND OF MAN!**

3-**Interpretation promised**--5:17b
--Too many **PREACHERS** in too many pulpits today **cannot decipher** heavenly hieroglyphics
-Daniel didn't stop at **just READING**
--Daniel **gives it all**; the whole truth
-Daniel **also APPLIES** the truth in a practical sense to his hearers;
TRUTH TANGENT TO LIFE!

B.-The Reminder (5:18-21):
1-**Neb's power & glory**
2-5:18-19
3-**Neb's pride and deposing**
4-5:20-21a
5-**Neb's profession** of faith
6-5:21b
7-Daniel sketches the **background**....& **THEN** moves to....

C.-The Rebuke--(5:22-23): — Daniel **THRUSTS IT HOME!**
1-Daniel says "**THOU KNEWEST ALL THIS**"
--Belshazzar's sin was **not of ignorance**
-But **Belshazzar's sin** is of **pride** in the face of knowing the truth
--5:22 a,b
--God-given **light** had been **rejected** — **KNEW the truth BUT FAILED to respond**
--**Quite a rebuke!!!**

2-**Rebellion** seen--5:23
--**Rejection** of "The Lord of heaven"
--Revelry & idolatry to false deities
--**THE GOD** was not recognized nor glorified — Contrast w/ 5:4 — "the gods"
-Reminds of Rom.1:21-23--"Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things."
--**EDW. J. YOUNG**--"These words well illustrate the **folly** of any **way of life** which is not founded upon **true theism**, for all idols, whether they be of wood or stone, the creation of men's hands, or finely-spun philosophies, the creation of men's minds, cannot see nor hear nor know. **UNBELIEF IS FOLLY.**" (Dan. P.125)

3 NAMES OF GOD
① 5:18 - El Elyon
② 5:23 + Adonai
③ + Elohim

Religious desecration had been intended + in progress

3-Daniel emphasizes **God's singularity, sovereignty & displeasure**
4-**Implication** (at this point) that **the handwriting** is a **Divine judgment** for Belshazzar's rebellion & rejection

D.-The Revelation---(5:24-28):
1-**The hand**--"Out of the sleeve of the night comes the condemn-

ing finger of God"

2-**The Writing**--Western view as written in 5:25

Sampled

--Talmud presents it as:

P	T	M	M
R	K	N	N
S	L	E	E

--This would be **an ACROSTIC** read vertically

--Hebrew & Aramaic written **without vowels**; just the consonants

3-The Meaning (**Interpretation**)----

VERDICT: GUILTY!

--5:26-28

*==**"Numbered, Numbered, Weighed, Divisions"**

--**MENE** **"God hath numbered"**

** **Repeated** a second time for **emphasis**

** **Applied** by Daniel to **"THY KINGDOM"**

** Indicates God has **finished** Babylon

** **Time** of opportunity **is up**

** **NOTICE**--**No respite** or pardon is offered Bel.

--**No time** for repentance is given

--Contrast Dan. 4:29 & Nebuchadnezzar*

! Now Too Late

--**TEKEL** ** "Thou art weighed in the balances & art found wanting" (= lacking)

** **Weighed** on the **Divine scale of values**

** Belshazzar & his kingdom **don't measure up** according to the standard of Divine righteousness

** Prov. 16:2--"All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits

** 1 Sam. 2:3b--"..for the LORD is a God of knowledge, and by Him actions are weighed."

--**UPHARSIN** or **PERES**

** **"U"** **prefix** is the conjunction **"AND"**

** **PRS** are the common consonants in both words

** Same root & meaning with 2 ways of writing it

Singular + Plural

** "Thy kingdom is **divided**, & given to the Medes & Persians"

** **Second** reference to **"THY KINGDOM"**, so the meaning of this writing is abundantly clear

** **"Divided"**=="Destroyed" or "Disolved", but not parted in two

--Sense of **DIVIDED from you** as king

** Some see **"PERES"** as a play on words with **PERSIA**

4-This was **quite a revelation** to Belshazzar

--Drunken orgy of idolatry, debauchery, & licentiousness

--**DEAD SOBER** by the sight of the hand

--Wise men were not help

--**Queen-Mother** commends Daniel

--Daniel really **lays it on hard** !!

--**I WONDER** what went on in Belshazzar's mind !!

--Belshazzar must have **believed Daniel**, for....he gave him

E-The Reward---(5:29-31):

1-**Of Faithfulness**--5:29

To Daniel

--**Reward given** in spite of Daniel's not wanting it

--Reward given **in spite of** a NEGATIVE MINISTRY - No currying of favor

How FUTILE
--Reward was **not** at the expense of **compromise**
--RAIMENT
--REWARD
--RULERSHIP
Rewarded in a scene of miserable impotence
--**But**----it was of **short tenure**

Reward of sin to Belshazzar
2-5:30-31
--**"IN THAT NIGHT"**
--Prophecy was fulfilled **immediately**
--Rom. 6:23--"The wages of sin is **DEATH**..."
--Belshazzar was slain
--Babylon was taken

II.-THE WRITING FULFILLED:

A.-In Prophecy Foretold:

1-Isa. 13:1, 17-19--Medes prophesied to be Babylon's destroyers
--Prophecy given **713 B.C.**
--**Fulfilled** in 538 B.C.-----**175 years later**

2-Isa. 44:28---45:4
--**Cyrus is NAMED** almost 2 centuries in advance
--One of **only SIX such ones** in all of Scripture
** Ishmael (Gen. 16:11)
** Isaac (Gen. 17:19)
** Josiah (1 Kings 13:2)
** John the Baptist (Lk. 1:13)
** Jesus (Mt. 1:21)
** **CYRUS** (Isa. 44:28)

Not a believer, so far as we know
--Cyrus ** Shepherd ordained of God
** To perform God's pleasure
** To **proclaim an edict** allowing return to Jerusalem & rebuilding of the Temple, which he did in 536 B.C.
** Called "**ANOINTED**"; **only Gentile** so called
** Subduer of many nations
** Babylon's **destruction detailed** (45:1-3a)

--WHY did God **so mark out Cyrus**????
@ ** "That thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which calleth thee by name, am the God of Israel"
** That is **PERSONAL**
b ** "For Jacob my servant's sake, & Israel mine elect"
** That is **NATIONAL** for Israel

3-**Prophetically**--Forenamed by God
--Foretold in Isaiah's prophecy

4-Acts. 15:18--"Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world."

5-AND.....God has **the power** to bring it to pass !!

B.-In History Fulfilled:

1-Dan. 5:30-31

2-**HOW DID IT OCCUR??**
--**Very short account** given in Scripture
--**Two deserters** from Babylon joined Medo-Persian armies & "**TOLD ALL**" of the city's secrets
--**Diversion of the river** by a new channel was prepared

out of sight of the city of Babylon, so **no suspicion** was aroused
- --Cyrus' **forces split** into **3 parts**
  - ** 1 part to divert the Euphrates River
  - ** 1 part to enter Babylon from the NORTH
  - ** 1 part to enter Babylon from the SOUTH
- --**Marched in on the river bed under** the gates over the river
- --Found the **gates** thru the inner wall **left open** as Isa. **45:1** had prophesied
- --Soldiers, as well as captains **WERE DRUNK**, & so **no alarm** was **given**
- --**THEREFORE** Dan. 5:30 is **startlingly true** !!

3-**Secular confirmations**
- --Xenephon (Cyropaedia, VII, 5, 30) mentions the deflecting of a stream which flowed through Babylon. Finally, when the Babylonians were observing a night festival with drinking and revelry, Cyrus turned aside the river & entered the city. The entrance was made by Gobryas, who entered the palace and slew the wicked king. Xenophon represents the Babylonians as being extremely hostile to Cyrus.
- --Cyrus also in the "Cyrus Cylinder" states that he entered Babylon without encounter or battle in 539 B.C.
- --Berossus (Contra Apion) relates that Cyrus captured Babylon
- --R. Dougherty (Nabonidus And Belshazzar) states, indeed, "of all non-Babylonian records dealing with the situation at the close of the Neo-Babylonian Empire the **fifth chapter of Daniel** ranks next to cuneiform literature in **accuracy** so far as outstanding events are concerned." (P. 200)

4-**Clarification**
- --**Darius** (or Gobryas) was one of Cyrus' generals & he led in the attack on Babylon
- --Cyrus was **the GENERAL** of the armies, & he planned & led the attack
- * --To Darius was committed the **governor**ship for 2 years while Cyrus finished other campaigns (in Ecbatana, etc.)
- --Perhaps this was **as a courtesy** to the **MEDES**, which was the older of the 2 kingdoms. Thus, Darius "**TOOK**", or more literally "**RECEIVED**" enthronement in Babylon & the entire fertile crescent was under his dominion. See also 9:1 — "made King"

CONCLUSION:

A.-Babylon's Fall:

1-Whole passage has been a **CRITIC'S PLAYGROUND** for denial

2-We've seen-
- The writing given
- The writing interpreted
- The writing fulfilled

3-Jos. P. Free--(Archaeology And Bible History, P. 235)"The matter concerning Belshazzar, **far from being an error** in

the Scriptures, is **one** of the **many striking confirmations** of the Word of God which have been demonstrated by archeology."

(6)

B.-Basic Fallacy:

1-Belshazzar **KNEW THE FACTS** of God's dealing with Nebuchacnezzar

* 2-**YET** he did **not** humble his heart

3-**Sealed his own doom** with his blasphemous use of the holy vessels of the temple

4-**Path** of truth-rejection is DOWN, DOWN, DOWN !!

5-How **many** there are in the **same boat**

6-ILLUS--The **Aga Khan** was for years the leader of a Moslem sect & a worldly sportsman. The 5 million members of his Imanee Ismaili sect have kept the old Eastern custom of showing their devotion by weighing him in **gold** or **precious gems**.

One year he went to **Karachi** to celebrate his birthday. He weighed 210 pounds, and they matched it in **gold**

One year he went to **Bombay**, and weighed in at 260 pounds, and they matched that in **diamonds** estimated to be worth $2,500,00.

I wonder just how much that gold and diamonds he would be worth **if weighed on God's scales**. Many today in foreign lands-------and here at home----would be "WEIGHED IN THE BALANCES AND **FOUND WANTING**" in the light of the Bible standards **of true faith** in Jesus Christ.

7-**How about you**?? ?

PROP. restated:
We need to see GOD'S HAND in the affairs of men & nations .... and of OURSELVES also

C.-Blessed Fortune:

1-Daniel was **safe** in the will of God
--Safe in a foreign nation
--Safe in a beseiged city
--Safe in a doomed government
--Safe in a night of invasion and death

2-Ps. 31:14-15--"But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said, Thou art **my God**. **My times are in thy hand:** deliver me from the hand of mine enemies, and from them that persecute me."

3-We, too, may **share** in the **BLESSED FORTUNE** of knowing that "MY TIMES ARE IN THY HAND"

4-When all about you is in turmo

5-**YOU** can have **peace**--Because of
--Because of
--Because of
--Because God
affairs of

6-**Why**, then, should we **live** "sub

7-**You** can **rejoice** that "**My times**

The spiritual lesson is clear. Sin deserves, & will receive, punishment.
God's purposes are inexorably being carried out.
He who trusts the SON OF GOD as Savior is "not wanting", but is "accepted" in the Beloved"

Holy Bel
#234 -
#178 -7

Westbrae--6/8/69
Lookout Baptist Ch - 2/19/84 #268 H
OKBC - 3/9/86

163
325

INTRO:

A.-Familiar Story:
1-Every S.S. student knows this passage
2-One of the **most stirring stories** of divine deliverance ever experienced & recorded
3-Very practical truths in it
4-Pertinent for today — SERENITY in the face of PERSECUTION

B.-Facts Of Setting: KEY DATES
1-Babylonian Captivity
--606 B.C.--1st deportation
--597 B.C.--2nd deportation
--586 B.C.--3rd deportation
--538 B.C.--FALL OF BABYLON to Medo-Persia
--536 B.C.--Death of Darius
2-**Image Progression** (World Empires)
--BABYLON--Head of gold
--MEDO-PERSIA--Shoulders & arms of silver
--GREECE--Waist of brass
--ROME--Thighs & legs of iron
3-**Time** is between **538** and **536 B.C.**
--Babylon has fallen
--Darius the Mede is ruling
--**Soon after** his **accession**, for he die d in 536 B.C. — two years after accession to throne
4-**Governmental Power Progression**
--Nebuchadnezzar--ABSOLUTE MONARCH
--Darius--**LIMITED Monarchy**
** Law of Medes & Persians could not be altered by even the King without consent of others
** Organization was well-ordered
--**120 Princes** (Satraps) who were "**KINGDOM PROTECTORS**" — Some semblance of REPRESENTATIVE GOV't.
--3 Presidents
--Daniel was **CHIEF PRESIDENT** (Like a PrimeMinister or Secretary of State) — PRESTIGIOUS POST
--**Unusual elevation** for one prominent in a deposed government of Belshazzer

An organized regime — This PLEASED Darius

3 such men in History
- Joseph
- Daniel
- Mordecai

C.-Flow Of The Story:
1-The PLOT
2-The PATTERN
3-The PUNISHMENT
4-The PROTECTION
5-The PENALTY
6-The PROCLAMATION
7-**PROP:** --Show kind of Person to be
--Show how that kind of person reacts to persecution
--LEARN the **profit** of **problems** coming into our own lives.

NEITHER the envy of Daniel's colleagues nor the fury of hungry lions could mar Daniel's repose in a calm, unruffled faith in his God.

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

I.-THE PLOT----(6:1-9):

A.-The Person---Consistency:

1-"Preferred above" (6:3)-- "Distinguished himself above"
--Man of accomplishment

2-"An excellent spirit" (6:3)--Manifested the Spirit of God in his life — SEEN by all
--Man of convictions
--Once misprinted "an excellent SPINE"
--Need more DIVINELY UNBALANCED men
— SQUARES for God

3-6:4--"He was faithful"
--To Darius the King
--To his God
--Spiritual attainments precede spiritual responsibilities — the office seeks the man

4-No error or fault--Like "BLAMELESS" for an elder (1 Tim. 3:2)

5-Quite a man--Especially for one in POLITICS
--YOUNG--"An honest man of conviction in the midst of government or ecclesiastical politicians stands out like a fair flower in a barren wilderness"

6-No wonder--Darius made him FIRST President
--Daniel was a rebuke to the self-interests of lesser men
--Virtue will excite the enmity of bad men!

7-Daniel was TOO BIG to be LITTLE

- INTEGRITY of character
- UNIMPARED ABILITY even at an advanced age.

B.-The Problem---Conspiracy:

1-Cunning of the Serpent now seen--LITTLE MEN conspire

2-Knew their men--6:5
--What a testimony!
--Faithful to the Law of God
--In a straightjacket of the TRUTH — IT FIT WELL!

3-Decree proposed--6:7-9
"all"
--A LIE: Daniel wasn't consulted
--Darius was flattered because his subjects sought to deify him
--Created a conflict between CIVIL & RELIGIOUS responsibilities & loyalties

A shrewd plot calculated to ensnare Daniel.
- Deification of the STATE — Daniel 3
- Deification of the RULER Daniel 6.

II.-THE PATTERN----(6:10-11):

A.-Daniel's Actions:

1-6:10

2-BUSY, but prayerful
- A crisis brings out the worst in a bad man & the best in a good man.
--Not hiding from man
--Not tempting God
--Not guilty of ostentation or of hypocrisy

-DEEP PIETY — D. "GAVE THANKS"
--Beautiful steadfastness--"as he did aforetime"
--ILLUS --Once in his first pastorate Dr. James H. Brookes was out camping with a party of hunters. At bed-

UNPERTURBED + UNDISTURBED

"Touch not Mine anointed + do My prophets no harm"
— 1 Chr. 16:22

Daniel reckoned who conciliating that they were dealing with GOD

Those enemies of Daniel with a PROPHET OF

(4)

time, in the midst of the general laughter & confusion--without any ostentation--the young St. Louis Pastor began to read his Bible, & when he was through he politely requested silence for a short time while he knelt in prayer.

The men of the world--for it was not a party of ministers by any means--were **hushed** in a moment.

The scene made a great impression on 1 young man. He was so attracted by the manly young minister-woodsman's consistency that he asked to be allowed to join in the Bible reading the **next night**. The **others** did likewise. Soon the question: "**WHAT** SHALL I **DO** TO BE **SAVED**?" was asked, and the one who had first been allowed to join in Dr. Brookes' devotions became a christian.

3-**Open windows**--Facing Jerus.; the place of God's house
--**TO CLOSE** them would be **cowardice**
--TO OPEN them would be to court persecution

4-**SIX MEALS** a day--3 of food
--3 of prayer
--**Ps. 55:17**--"Evening & morning & at noon will I pray, and cry aloud: & He shall hear my voice." Caught in the act of being GODLY!

5-**ATTACKS COME**--Ch. 1 in area of **DIET**
--Ch. 6 in area of **DEVOTIONS**
--Learn to **EXPECT** opposition in our lives as believers
--That's how we **grow** & **develop**

B.-Daniel's Attitudes: ON KNEES

1-**Consistency** in the face of attacks

2-"**PRAYED** & GAVE **THANKS**"
--Phs. **4:6**--
--1 Thess. **5:17-18**
--Sometimes **hard to see**,

3-**Daniel** certainly followed

4-This **proves** Daniel's **fait**
was not with the 3 in the

5-**Therefore**---6:11

6-Not hard to "**FIND OUT**" th

7-If you were "**accused**"of b
servers be able to glean
you to gain a conviction?

Phs. 4:6 -Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer & supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made Known to God.

1 Th. 5:17-18

Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

III.-THE PUNISHMENT---(6:12-17):

1 Pet. 2:23 "Who when He was reviled, reviled not again; when He suffered He threatened not; but committed (everything) to Him that judgeth righteously"

A.-Daniel Accused:

1-6:12-13

2-**Didn't take them long** to make accusations

3-Not referred to as the "CHIEF PRESIDENT"

4-But--"**That Daniel**"
--Accused as an exile & a foreign-god worshipper
--Contemptuous tone. —Trick of corrupt politicians to present opponents in as bad a light as possible.

B.-Darius Disturbed:

1-6:14

2-**Saw** in a moment that he'd **been DUPED**.

3-"Sore **displeased** with himself"
4-**Sought to deliver** Daniel
--In his heart he loved Daniel
--**Law** condemns, but **Love** desires to deliver
--Labored all day to find a "loophole", but there was no loophole
5-6:15
6-Very discourteous reminder

C.-Daniel Entombed:
1-6:16--"**THY God**"
--Not saved at this point
--But certainly **impressed** with Daniel
--"Whom thou servest continually"
--What a **CONSISTENT** believer Daniel was!
--"He will deliver thee"
--Probably **more hope** than **confidence**

Wonderful description of Daniel's CHARACTER

Tremendous Testimony

2-6:17--We know nothing of the lions den as to shape or structure
--**Entrance** was closed with a stone & sealed
--Official character of this judgment is thus witnessed
3-**BUT** the accusers had **failed** to take into account Daniel's **God**

DON'T underestimate the God of Daniel — and of ourselves!

IV.-THE PROTECTION ----(6:18-23):

A.-Darius' Concern:
1-6:18--Long & silent night
--No instruments of entertainment
--No mirth
--Just deep & genuine concern
--SLEEPLESSNESS for the King
2-**Early arising** & **coming in haste** (6:19)
3-**Concerned question**--6:20
--"Is **thy God** able to deliver thee?"
--Important for Daniel--LIFE
--**Important for Darius**--ETERNAL LIFE

?

B.-Divine Care:
1-Angels have **SHUT** the lions mouths
--6:22
--Who's afraid of a royal decree when you've got a God like this ??
--**Ps. 34:7**--"The angel of the LORD encampeth round about them that fear him, & delivereth them."

God is SOVEREIGN! + OMMIPOTENT

2-**What happened** in the lions den ??????
--Daniel may have sung songs & psalms
--ILLUS--Paul & Silas (Acts 16:25)

And at midnight Paul + Silas prayed, + sang praises unto God: + the prisoners heard them.

--Daniel may have **fluffed up** the largest of those BIG CATS & **pillowed** his head to sleep the sleep of the righteous
** **Ps. 127:2**--"It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows: for so He giveth His beloved sleep."
** **Ps. 4:8**--"I will both lay me down in

peace, and sleep; for thou, LORD, only makest me dwell in safety."

** Quite a **contrast** with Darius" sleeplessness
** Daniel **lost no sleep**

3-ILLUS --In the LONDON ART GALLERY some years ago, I saw a beautiful painting entitled "**CHRIST OR DIANA?**" It was the portrait of a young girl, about 19 years of age. She was standing before an image of the Greek goddess, Diana.

There were the vestal virgins. There were the priests of this pagan deity. One of the vestal virgins held out to this girl a **golden box of incense.** All that was asked of her was that she put her hand in the incense box, take and offering to present to Diana.

By her side stood **her lover**, begging her to obey & to save her life. But the girl knew the Lord Jesus Christ as her Savior. LIKE DANIEL OF OLD SHE **COULD NOT DENY HIM.**

Her eye was fixed upon that "city that hath foundations, whose builder & maker is God". Her faith did not falter. She was **cast into the arena**, to be devoured by the lions, but the God of Daniel **went with her** thru the ordeal, & took her Home to His presence forevermore, after using her testimony to a heathen people.

4-**WHY** did God **spare Daniel** & **not spare the christians** cast into Roman arenas for their faith ????
--God has His **own purposes** which we may not see now
--**For Darius' sake** Daniel was spared
--See this later (6:25-28)
--**OUR TIMES** ARE IN HIS HANDS (Ps. 31:14) "But I trusted in thee, O LORD: I said Thou art my God"

C.-Daniel's Confession:

1-"My God hath sent"--Words of **testimony** (6:22)
--**BUT**, not Daniel's first words
--See **6:21**
--Daniel was concerned about Darius' spiritual condition

2-**Innocency claimed**
--Not guilty of disloyalty to Darius
--Just had a **HIGHER LOYALTY** to God to which he was obedient
--"No manner of hurt" was proof of his innocence

3-Darius--**Glad** for Daniel's deliverance
--Had Daniel removed from the lions den
--WAS **VERY IMPRESSED**
** With Divine deliverance
** With Daniel's testimony

Those who dig a pit for others usually manage to fall into it themselves.

V.-THE PENALTY----(6:24):

A.-Just Punishment: (for Daniel's persecutors)

1-6:24a
2-"**Those men**"--Not likely all of the 120 princes, etc.
--But **the RINGLEADERS** of the slander
3-**Just retribution** in that their punishment was what they had planned for Daniel
4-Argument that "the lions were **not hungry**" & so did Daniel no harm is hereby disproven by lions ravenous manner
5-**MIRACLE** of God delivered Daniel as also the 3 in Ch. 3

6-No miracle of deliverance for **those without God**--only their just punishment

B.-Joint Punishment:
1-The wicked **involve their families** (Wives / Children)
2-6:24b
3-This was **PERSIAN LAW**--Man's way apart from God
4-**Contrary** to **God's law**
5-De. 24:16--"The fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the fathers: every man shall be put to death for his own sin."

In human justice there is often much cruelty

VI.-THE PROCLAMATION ----(6:25-28):

A.-Its Extent:
1-6:25
2-Medo-Persian Kingdom was regarded as **UNIVERSAL**

B.-Its Intent:
1-"I make a decree" (Nebuchadnezzar in Ch.4 / Darius the Mede in Ch.6)
2-**More** than a Decree of RELIGIOUS **TOLERATION**
3-Seems more like an **encouragement of faith** by others
4-6:26-27

C.-Its Evidence:
1-Something of Darius' own heart revealed ! (REVERENCE / CONFESSION)
2-"FOR He is **THE** living **God**" (6:26)
3-Darius was **CONVERTED**--Thru divine intervention in Daniel's behalf (HE SAW)
--Thru Daniel's faithful witness (HE HEARD)
4-Fulfillment of Daniel's desire (6:21) "**O King, live forever**"
5-Nebuchadnezzar & Darius were **saved** thru Daniel (Both)
6-Doubtless other Babylonians, Medes & Persians also
7-Reminds of **Ps. 107:8**--"Oh that men would praise the LORD for His goodness, & for His wonderful works to the children of men!"
8-YOUNG--"**How tragic** it is that in the presence of His mighty miracles, men do not acknowledge God to be the only true God." (P. 139)

CONCL:

A.-Resume':
1-Daniel was **FAITHFUL**
--**Daily life**; served God continually
--**Devotions** were his daily "meat"
--**Danger** did not divert him
2-Daniel was **FRUITFUL**--Prosperity as a leader (6:28)
--Progeny in those that trusted GOD thru his testimony
3-**FAITHFULNESS** leads to **FRUITFULNESS** (NB)
4-Let's be aware that even such a familiar story can have a word for us **today**! as we live our life of faith in THE FISHBOWL ! BE FAITHFUL !

B.-Reminder:
1-**WHY** does God allow **SUCH PROBLEMS** to come into our lives ??

2-**THREE REASONS:**

(1) Burn out the dross
(2) Burn in the promises
(3) **Prepare us to comfort others** (2 Cor. 1:3-4)

Exhort
Encourage

~~Scriptural~~ — Phil. 1:29

Phil 1:29

"For unto you it is given in behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake."

3-King Darius leaned over th
"IS **THY GOD ABLE** TO DELIVER THE?"

An uneasy **world wonders** to
God can save us in the hour of tr
who, though sore beset, can answe
WHAT I HAVE COMMITTED: able to do
all that we ask or think; able to
to succour the tempted; able to s
to keep us from falling; able to [illegible] all things unto Him-
self."

And above Darius, stands our Lord asking, "**BELIEVE YE THAT I AM ABLE** TO DO THIS?"

If we can reply: "**YEA, LORD**," He will answer, "According to your faith be it unto you."

DO YOU PROFIT from the things God brings or allows to be brought into your life? — FAITH IS IN THE FISHBOWL

Only if you are
- God's child
- Walking in fellowship.
- God will bring a DOWNFALL of all PLOTS against you

- DANIEL loved God.
- The 3 HEBREW MEN loved God.
- JOSEPH loved God.
- APOSTLE PAUL loved God.

If we love and honor God as these men did, He will do for us all that He for them.

Do I love God?
Do YOU love God?

The God of Daniel is still able to deliver, to do exceedingly abundantly above all we think or ask.

TRUST HIM FULLY!

7/13/69 — Westbrae
2/26/84 — Lookout Baptist Ch
4/23/86 — OKBC

#175 — Are Ye Able, Said The Master
#457 — Yield Not To Temptation
#421 — Hiding In Thee
#192 — He Is Able To Deliver Thee

"THE BEAST VISION OF DANIEL" Dan. 7:1-8, 12, 15-28

The Beasts And The Nations

INTRO: **A.-Spiritual Nobility:**

1-Example in the N.T.

2-Acts 17:1-11--"And the brethren immediately sent away Paul & Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, & searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so."

--Bereans "**searched** the Scriptures daily"
--Bereans called "MORE NOBLE" than Thessalonians
--**WHY ??**
--Because they were people of the **BOOK**
--Result in 17:12 is "THEREFORE MANY OF THEM **BELIEVED...**"
--**FAITH** is on the basis of knowing the truths of God's Word

3-Spiritual Nobility in those who are "IN THE **BOOK**" for daily food

4-Variety of subjects & Passages in the Bible

--Some easy to understand
--Some hard to understand
--Some central to right doctrine
--Some peripheral, but **still important**
--**ALL ARE PART** of that spoken of in
** 2 Tim. 3:16-17
** Rom. 15:4--"And whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience & comfort of the Scriptures might have hope."

= "confident expectation"

B.-Difficult Passage Before Us:

1-Daniel **7** (most of it)

2-**Daniel's Beast Vision:**

--The Vision INTRODUCED------7:1-3
--The Vision IMPRESSED-------7:4-8
--The Vision INTERPRETED-----7:12, 15-28

3-**PROP:** --To learn that all History is **HIS--STORY**
--To **know** the future according to God's Word
--To not be "**THROWN**" by problem details which we do not yet understand

4-ILLUS.-A shrewd worldly unbeliever and a Christian clergyman were on the same train going up the Hudson River some years back. Perhaps the unsaved man had observed the Pastor reading his Bible in the chair car, but in any case when they were seated together in the Dining Car, the denier of the faith started in.

"I judge you are **a clergyman**, sir!"

"Yes, sir; I am in my Master's service."

"Yes, **you look it**, with that modest suit on. Preach out of the **Bible**, don't you?"

"Oh, yes; of course. It is the **BEST BOOK** of all"

"Find a good many things in that old book that **you don't understand**, I presume," baited the scoffer.

"Oh, yes; there are some things which I do not understand in their fullest."

"WELL, **WHAT DO YOU DO** WITH **THOSE THINGS** YOU **DON'T UNDERSTAND**?"

"Why, my dear sir, I simply do with them just as I am now doing as I am eating this delicious fish. If I come to **a bone**, I quietly lay it on one side and go on enjoying the fish, and **LET SOME FOOL** INSIST ON **CHOKING HIMSELF** WITH THE BONES."

With that the unbeliever got up, wound his watch, and headed to the club car without another word.

PROP We need to learn that History is HIS STORY too! + not "choke" on what we do not understand.

I.-THE VISION INTRODUCED----------(7:1-3):

A.-The Date:

1-Dan. 7:1

2-Divisions of the Book of Daniel:
- --Chapters 1-6 are HISTORICAL
- --Chapters 7-12 are PROPHETICAL
- **--Chronologically chapter **7** precedes chapters **5 & 6**
- --Put here to keep Historical & prophetic sections separate

WHY?

3-**Daniel**--An **old man** now; in his 80's
- --No longer in top prominence in government
- --Semi-retirement with Belshazzar in power
- --Time & maturity to now receive visions
- --**Similar to John** in old age on Patmos
- --Both got revelations regarding the **FUTURE**

4-Precise date of Ch. 7 is not sure, for historians don't agree as to how long Belshazzar was co-regent with his Father, Nabonidus

5-At latest it was **541** B.C., & perhaps back to **553** B.C.

6-Chapter 7 was in **FIRST YEAR** of Belshazzar's reign

B.-The Details:

1-**Visions**--Heretofore Daniel has interpreted the dreams & visions **of OTHERS**
- --Now God gives him **his OWN** visions — 7:1-2

2-Daniel's peculiarity--**"Times of the Gentiles"** — Lk. 21:24
- --What period ??
- --606 B.C. until the 2nd Advent
- --Chapter 2 & Chapter 7 both deal with this same period

OVERLAY

3-"**The 4 winds** of the heaven strove" — 7:2
- --Some take them as **EVIL POWERS** of the air
- --Eph. 6:12
- --Others take them as **PROVIDENCES OF GOD** controlling all forces (Satanic & human) at work in the world
- **--Prefer the 2nd
- --**Universality** of this striving

4-"Upon the **great sea**" — 7:2
- --Sometimes "GREAT SEA" is used of the Mediterannean, & that is possible here, for all these empires were in that general area + "Great Sea" in all other refs. relate to Med.
- --More likely **a representation** of **people**, of **humanity**, of the **populace** out of which these nations sprang
- --7:17 speaks that these kingdoms "shall arise out of **the earth**"
- --**SO**--**Earths people** are the battleground of the striv-

ings and controllings of the providences of God

5-"And 4 great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another"--Unconsciously the nations witness to their BEASTIAL CHARACTER

7:3

--National emblems; Eagle, Bear, Lion, Dragon, etc

--Dan. 2---MAN's VIEW----Giant Colossus

--Dan. 7---GOD's VIEW----Rapacious, devouring beasts

NB

--BOTH represent the "Times of the Gentiles"

--Each one gives one viewpoint

--SUCCESSION of empires is in foreview

--Repetition for emphasis & for clarification of 2 views

II.-THE VISION IMPRESSED--------(7:4-8):

A.-The Lion----Babylon (7:4):

1-Dan. 7:4

2-Babylon--First world empire

--Realm of King Nebuchadnezzar

--Image's HEAD OF GOLD (Ch. 2)

--SUPERIORITY among all kingdoms

3-Lion with eagle's wings — A hybrid creature

--King of beasts

--King of Birds

--Strength & majesty pictured

--Used as a common symbol of Babylon in its palaces

--ABSOLUTE MONARCHY

4-"Wings were plucked"--Ref. to Nebuchadnezzar's bout with insanity (Ch. 4)

5-"Man's heart was given to it"

--Perhaps to show its temporary life

--Perhaps to show its tempering from total beastiality with Nebuchadnezzar's conversion

6-CONTRAST--Head of Gold

--Colossal image---OUTWARD power & glory

--Man's view of Babylon

--Ravenous Beast--LION with eagle's wings

--God's view of Babylon---BEASTIAL character

B.-The Bear----Medo-Persia (7:5):

1-Dan. 7:5

2-Medo-Persia--Second world empire

--Two-fold empire amalgamated into one

--Image's shoulders & arms of silver (Ch. 2)

--Realm of Darius & Cyrus (two)

--Inferior to Babylon

3-"Bear"--Strongest beast after the lion

--Very fierce; BRUTE FORCE

--NOT AGILE; comparatively slow of movement

--Raised up on one side

==Showing pre-eminence of Persia over Media in their alliance

4-"Three ribs"--TRIPLE ALLIANCE of Lydia, Babylonia & Egypt was formed to stop Medo-Persia

--Alliance **failed**; didn't work
--**Devoured** by the Medo-Persian armies
--Alliance represented by the **3 ribs** — eaten up!

5-"**Arise, devour** much flesh"
--Rapacious & **greedy** character of Medo-Persian armies
--**XERXES**' expedition against Greece had 2,500,000 fighting men
--Persian army **killed** its **POW's**
--**CRUELTY**

6-CONTRAST--Shoulders & arms of silver
--Colossal image---**OUTWARD** power & glory
--**Man's view** of Medo-Persia
--Ravenous Beast----------**BEAR**
--**God's view** of Medo-Persia---------**BEASTIAL** character

X

C.-The Leopard--------Greece (7:6):

1-Dan. 7:6

2-**Greece**--**Third** world empire
--**Begins** as a unified kingdom
--Image's **waist** & **hips** of brass
--Realm of **Alexander the Great**
--**Inferior** to Babylon & Medo-Persia in length of continuance as a united empire

3-**Leopard** with **4 wings** & **4 heads** — A MONSTER indeed
--**Most agile**, swift, strong & graceful of all beasts
--Wings speak of **swiftness** of movement for conquest
--Alexander **subdued** the known world, including India, in just 10 years
--**Small**, but well-equipped & splendidly **brave** armies
--**30,000 men** overwhelmed over **200,000** Medo-Persians

4-**Four Heads**--Alexander died at age **33**
--**CHILDLESS**, so no heir to the throne
--Kingdom **divided** among **4 Generals** about 300 B.C.
① ** Greece
② ** Asia Minor under Syria
③ ** Egypt
④ ** The East, including India

His Son died

Division of AUTHORITY

--**NO DIVISION** seen in Ch. 2, but this detail is added here
--Dan. 8:21-22 for detail

5-"**Dominion** was given unto it"--**Widest land encompassment** of any world empire up to that time

6-CONTRAST--Waist & Hips of brass
--Colossal image------**OUTWARD** power & glory
--**Man's** view of Greece
--Ravenous Beast----**Leopard**
--**God's view** of Greece---**BEASTIAL** character

D.-The Ten-Horned Beast------(7:7-8):

1-Dan. 7:7-8

2-**Rome**--**Fourth** world empire
--Image's iron legs
--**Divided** Kingdom (Eastern & Western divisions)
--Realm of the **Caesars**

3-The **10-Horned Beast**--**Non-descript**; **Unlike any other** beast on earth
--"Dreadful & terrible, & strong exceedingly"
--Correspondence to the **power** & **strength** of ROMAN LEGIONS.

THE BEASTS AND THE NATIONS

Dan. 7:1-8, 12, 15-18
(~~Second Message~~)

INTRO

A.- "Repetitio, Repetitio, Repetitio:

1- Latin Proverb: "Repetition is the mother of learning"

2- GOD uses that principle to teach also

3- So do preachers!

Illus - Old colored preacher was asked the secret of how he preached so effectively. He replied; "I tells them what I's goin' to tell 'em. Then I tells 'em, Then I tells 'em what I's told 'em."

B.- Repetition In Book Of Daniel:

1- CHAPTER TWO — IMAGE VISION — Man's View of History

Now history

- (a) - HEAD — Gold — Babylon
- (b) - SHOULDERS + ARMS — Silver — Medo-Persia
- (c) WAIST — Brass — Greece
- (d) LEGS — Iron — Rome
- (e) TOES — Mingled Iron + Clay — Revived Rome in Last Days

still Prophecy

2- CHAPTER SEVEN — Beasts Vision / God's View

(Four beasts which pictorially represent the character of the Kingdoms)

(a) LION — Babylon
- King of beasts + fowl
- A hybrid creature

(b) BEAR — Medo-Persia
- Large, lumbering creature
- Conquered 3 allied opponents

(c) LEOPARD — Greece
- Speedy conquest
- A Monster indeed
- 4 Heads as Kingdom split among 4 generals after death of Alexander
- Division of power + authority

(d) TEN HORNED BEAST — Rome
- Different from NATURAL beasts of forest
- Amalgamated Kingdom of 10 horns
- Nothing like this found in a ZOO
- 10 Kings over a Confederacy
- Little Horn becomes DOMINANT POWER over the confederacy. Ruler of EUROPE

— Other Names for "Little Horn"
* The Beast — Rev. 13
* Antichrist — 1 Jn. 2:18
* Man of Sin + Son of Perdition — 2 Th. 2:3

C.- Proposition:
History is HIS - STORY, for God rules + overrules in the affairs of men. Because of God's revelation of truth, we can KNOW THE FUTURE, and be at ease about it.

I.- THE VISION INTRODUCED: (7:1-3)

A.- The Date: (7:1)

B.- The Details: (7:2-3)

II.- THE VISION IMPRESSED: (7:4-8)

A.- The Lion: (7:4)

B.- The Bear: (7:5)

C.- The Leopard: (7:6)

D.- The Ten-Horned Beast: (7:7-8)

III.- THE VISION INTERPRETED

See Sermon Notes

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR"

--IRON TEETH==**Devouring**
--**FEET**==Trampling & destroying power
--**DIVERSE** from all beasts== no kingdom like it !
--**TEN HORNS**==Horns **symbolize kings**, so **10** kings
**Rev. 17:12--"And the 10 horns which thou sawest are ten kings,.."
**Dan. 7:17
** Has in view both the first & the last stages of Rome
** Reminds of the **TEN TOES** on the image of Ch. 2 as comparable to 10 horns

No beast like this to be found in a ZOO

4-The **LITTLE HORN**
--Not one of the 10 kings over the 10 federated kingdoms of Rome
--But comes up **among them** — in addition to them
--Plucks up 3 horns by the roots, indicates he takes over their power & kingdoms; **A SUPPLANTER**
--Becomes the **DOMINANT POWER** in control of the Western Power, Rome
--**Twin Characteristics**:
** **EYES** of a man---(SEEING & SPYING)
** **MOUTH** speaking great things---(PROPAGANDIST)
--Reminds of Rev. 6: & 13 as revealed to John
--He is known by **many names** in Scripture
** LITTLE HORN----Dan. 7:8
** THE BEAST------Rev. 13
** ANTICHRIST-----1 John 2:18
** MAN OF SIN-----2 Thess. 2:3
** SON OF PERDITION----"
--This "**LITTLE HORN**" comes (in the end of the view of this **dreadful beast**---**ROME**) to characterize this confederacy as the **RULER OF THE WEST**

5-**CONTRAST**--Legs of iron
--Colossal image----**OUTWARD** power
--**Man's view** of Rome
-10-Headed Non-Descript Beast
-**God's view** of **Rome**---**BEASTIAL** character

III.-THE VISION INTERPRETED------(7:12, 15-28):

A.-Declarative Information:

1-**Response** of Daniel
--7:15
--"Grieved in my spirit"
--"Visions of my head troubled me"
Apparently Daniel recognized that these beasts represented **GENTILE OVERLORDSHIP over his people, **Israel**

2-**Desire** of Daniel--7:16
--**Wants to know** the accurate interpretation of the vision
--Angel is consulted

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

3-Meaning--7:12
--Indicates that these beasts represent dominions or kingdoms
--So also 7:17
4-Final outcome--7:18
--Saints of the Most High
** El Elyon==Possessor of Heaven & Earth
** Saints would be JEWISH BELIEVERS
** Church is not in the O.T. foreview
--These JEWISH "Saints" will have part in God's ETERNAL KINGDOM
--This would be strong encouragement in the midst of a troubling vision

B.-Daniel's Inquiry-----(7:19-22):
1-FOURTH BEAST--EMPHASIS of the vision is HERE
--Looks all the way to the end of the "Times of the Gentiles"
--This was DIVERSE & DREADFUL
** Others were over short periods of time
** This one is over a long period & then is revived in the "end time"
** This one extends into an era when its POWER IS DREADFUL
--Details of appearance
** Teeth of iron
** Nails of brass (added in the interp)
** Devouring & breaking
** Ten horns
** One horn with eyes & a mouth

NB

2-

RECAP OF 4th BEAST

- Dreadful and terrible in appearance - 7:19
- Destructive capacity as it is "strong exceedingly"
- Violent activity - devoured - brake in pieces - stamped 7:19
- Diverse from other beasts 7:23
- Ten Horns - 7:20 Aggression + destruction
- Eleventh Horn - 7:20

C.-Det
1-
2-

Little Horn
3-Little Horn's activities described:
--7:25
--Speak great words against the Most High==BLASPHEMER
--Wear out the saints==Hatred for God & His people
--Think to change times & seasons
** Jewish sabbaths & festivals cut out
** ILLUS--French Revolutionists instituted a 10 day week

--Israel "given into his hand"
--"UNTIL"---God has His time-table
--"A time, times & the dividing of times"==3½ yrs; 1260 days or 42 months
--PROMINENCE for 7 years
--DOMINENCE for 3½ years

NB

4-Parallel from Rev. 13:1-9----------READ

Several years ago Belgium's Premier P. H. Spock made a statement quoted in newspapers:

"The truth is that the method of international committees has failed. What we need is a person, someone of the highest order of [redacted] great energy.

"Let him come and let him come quickly. Either a civilian or a military man, no matter what his nationality, who will cut all the red tape, shove out of the way all the committees, wake up all the people and galvanize all governments into action. Let him come quickly. This man we need + for whom we wait will take charge of the defense of the West. Once more I say, it is not too late, but it is high time." Quoted - Tan's Illus - #1386, P. 380

--"Cogitations troubled me"
--Spiritual indigestion over what he has seen
--"Countenance changed"==
--Face showed his concern
--"Kept the matter"
--Did not discuss it with others

3-WHY these problems:
--Like 2 Pet. 3:16--"As also in all his (Paul's) epistles, speaking in them of these things: in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned & unstable wrest, as they do also other Scriptures, unto their own destruction."
--1 Pet. 1:10-12--READ

4-If Daniel did not understand it all, let us not be disturbed that we, also, have some unanswered problems concerning "future things"

CONCLUSION:

A.-The Beast Vision Of Daniel 7:
1-Succession of 4 kingdoms
2-Divine view of their character--BEASTIAL
3-Emphasis on the 4th kingdom:
--Rome
--Time of our Lord for first prominence
--Latter days for a REVIVED Roman Empire

B.-Lessons To Learn:
1-History is HIS--STORY
--God sees it all
--God controls the future
--God helps us in the present

NB

--Nothing catches God by surprise
--**God is working out** all things according to the counsel of HIS WILL

2-Much of the future **CAN BE KNOWN**
- No excuse for gross ignorance
- **Some** details will be **obscure**
- But the "broad sweep" will be knowable
- Let us determine to be "understanding the times"

--What is **unclear** is to be "**Kept in the heart**" & not make it an occasion of stumbling to the weak or unlearned

3-
Determine to **KNOW** FROM THE **WORD**!!!

4-Let us be those "**spiritual nobility**" who "search the Scriptures daily" to see what God has revealed for us.

5- **WHY?**

"When we leave God out of our reckoning, difficulties will daunt us, sin will seduce us, and the world will warp us." ANONYMOUS

6- **QUESTIONS:**

Is God
- in control of human history?
- wise enough to guide your decisions?
- Attentive enough to know your needs?
- Strong enough to lift your burdens?

"One Day" #137
"Meet Me There" #495
Westbrae--7/27/69--"What Though Wars May Come" Overhead
"Jesus Never Fails" No. 496 274

Lucerne 8/30/69
Lookout Baptist Church, 3/18/84
OKBC 5/4/86 + 5/11/86

#486 - "I Know I'll See Jesus Some Day"
#483 - Take The Name Of Jesus With You
#496 - Jesus Never Fails
#157 - "Tell Me The Old, Old Story"

"GOOD NEWS ABOUT JUDGMENT" Dan. 7:9-12

INTRO: **A.-Bible Teaches Judgment:**

1-ILLUS--Robert G. Ingersoll, one of the most colorful agnostics in American history, gave dramatic lectures throughout the country questioning the Bible and the existence of God.

One night in a small New York town he eloquently proclaimed his doubt about a future judgment and hell. When he finished, **an old drunkard** stood up in the rear of the hall and said with a **thick tongue**, "I SURE **HOPE YOU'RE RIGHT**, BROTHER BOB. **I'M COUNTING ON THAT.**"

2-**Human reactions** to judgment
- --Whistle in the dark to reassure themselves
- --Stick head in the sand like the ostrich
- --Some laugh & ridicule the idea
- --As they **ridiculed NOAH** in his day when he predicted the judgment of the flood
- --Even the church, in some quarters, has soft-pedaled the whole concept of judgment as being "**unacceptable**" to modern man

3-Bible teaching------**Heb. 9:27**--"It is appointed unto man once to die, but after this the judgment"

4-**WHY JUDGMENT** ??
- --Bible emphasizes the **LOVE** of God
- --But that doesn't mean God can overlook the **guilt** of man as a **sinner**
- --God is also **HOLY** & **JUST**
- --By His very nature He must pour out His **wrath upon sin**/.

B.-Orientation To Background Truths:
1-"Times of Gentiles" overlay
2-Tribulation overlay
3-Judgment overlay

Overhead Projector

C.-Our Message From Daniel:
1-Read Dan. 7:9-14
2-Outline--THE PERSON----------JUDGE
- --THE PURPOSE----------JUDGMENT
- --THE PROSPECTS----------INDIVIDUAL

3-Minor details
- --**7:13-14** will historically **precede** 7:9-12
- --7:13-14 will take place **in heaven**
- --**7:9-12** will take place **on earth**

4-**PROP:** --**Survey** Bible teaching on judgment
- --Carry "**GOOD NEWS**" about judgment to all we meet day by day.

NB

I.-THE PERSON----------(JUDGE):

A.-What Is The Scene?:
1-Dan. 7:9-10a
2-"I beheld"=="I am beholding"
- --Movement changes from **CHAOS** of 7:1-3 to **DOMINANCE** of successive beasts & the

"Little Horn" of 7:4-8 to JUDGMENT
--This is an abrupt movement"

3-"Thrones were cast down"
--KJV "cast down" has led some to see this as the thrones of the 4 Beasts & their dominions being overthrown
** Viewed as the result of a WAR IN HEAVEN
** Proof adduced from Eph. 6:12 & Rev. 12:7-10
** Heb. term, however, has no sense of "destruction" in it at all
** Flagrant case of TRANSLATIONAL THEOLOGY !
--R.V. "Placed" as in the case of an oriental rug or cushion being placed ** Thrones placed about THE THRONE, upon which those who join in the judgment will sit
** Plural (thrones) indicates a court or session
** Example in Rev. 4:2-5

--Occupants of those thrones
** Attendants around the Throne of God
--Seraphim (Isa. 6:2)
--Spirits (Rev. 1:4)
--Elders (Rev. 4:4)
--Angels (Rev. 8:2)
** Angels & spirits are NEVER SEATED as if participating in the judgment of others
** Christians are to be associated with Christ in judgment --Lk. 22:29-30--"And I appoint unto you a kingdom, as my Father hath appointed unto me; That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the 12 tribes of Israel"
--1 Cor. 6:2-3a--"Do you not know that the saints shall judge the world? And if the world shall be judged by you, are ye unworthy to judge the smallest matters? Know ye not that we shall judge angels?

B.-Who Is Seen?:

1-"The Ancient of Days did sit"
--Only used in Dan. 7:9, 13, 22
--KEIL--"...an old man, or a man of grey hairs, in whose majestic form God makes Himself visible (cf.Ezek. 1:26)." (P.)
--Appearance of age inspires veneration & conveys the impression of majesty
--Obviously, the purpose of the"sitting" is to exercise judgment

2-DEITY is before us in this term "Ancient of days"
3-Which Person of the Trinity is not delineated in the O.T.
4-Parallels--Jehovah is a term used of all 3 Persons of Trinity
--Christ is predicted as "Everlasting Father" Isa. 9:6
5-In the O. T. we see judgment as the PREROGATIVE OF DEITY without distinction of Persons.

C.-How Is "Ancient Of Days" Identified?:

1-Description in 7:9-10a
2-Only the Ascended Christ fits this description

3-Rev. 1:12-18 READ
--Garment white---Dan. 7:9----Rev. 1:13---Purity
--Hair white 7:9---- 1:14---Judging
--Throne fiery 7:9----- none---Holiness
--Wheels of throne 7:9---- 1:15---Power & motion
--Fiery stream 7:10--- 1:16---Consuming
--Sufficient similarities to call an IDENTIFYING likeness

4-Rev. 1:13 calls this one "SON OF MAN"
--Not "Son of a male person" (ανηρ) (Joseph)
--But "Son of man (ανθρωπος) as One Who is HUMAN
--RACIAL name of the Lord Jesus

5-John 5:22-27 is crucial
--5:22--Son does the judging, not the Father
--5:25--Son of God, so DEITY
--5:27--Son of Man, so HUMANITY
--To be a JUDGE of men, one must be a MAN so no one can throw up the charge: "You don't know what it is like"

6-Remember--In O.T. we see judgment as prerogative of Deity
--In O.T. Persons of the Godhead aren't always distinguished.
--In N.T., we see judgment put solely in the hands of the Son
--Since one Testament may enlarge upon the other, but cannot contradict the other, we see that THIS JUDGE is none other than THE SON

II.-THE PURPOSE ----------(JUDGMENT):

A.-First Coming-----TO SAVE:

1-Mt. 1:23-Behold a virgin shall be with child, & shall bring forth a son & they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted, is GOD WITH US"
2-Lk. 19:10
3-Heb. 9:26b--"..but now once in the end of the age hath He appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself"
4-This is historic & won't be repeated.

B.-Second Coming-----TO JUDGE:

1-Ps. 50:3--"Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence: a fire shall devour before Him, and it shall be very tempestuous round about Him."
2-Ps. 97:3--"A fire goeth before Him, and burneth up His enemies round about."
3-Dan. 7:10, 22, 26
4-Heb. 9:27--
5-This is prophetic and sure!

C.-Seven Bible-Taught Judgments:

1-SIN on the cross--1 Cor. 15:3
2-SATAN on the cross--Col. 2:15
3-SIN in the believers life--Rom. 6:11
4-REWARDS at Bema--2 Cor. 5:11
5-ISRAEL at Christ's return--Mt. 24:29-31
6-GENTILES at Christ's return--Mt. 25:31-46
7-UNSAVED at Great White Throne--Rev. 20:11-15

Overhead Projector

D.-The Details:

1-Dan. 7:10

2-"Thousand thousands ministered unto Him"==Angels

3-"Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him"==People to be judged

4-"The judgment was set"

--Sure & certain

--Acts 17:31--"..He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man Whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead."

--PLACE not stated here, but ON EARTH acc. to Mt. 25 after Christ's 2nd coming

5-"And the books were opened"

--Actions of men recorded in books

--Accurate records kept in heaven

--Isa. 65:6--"Behold, it is written before me: I will not keep silence, but will recompense, even recompense into their bosom."

--Rev. 20:12--"And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works."

--WORKS are in view on the basis of what they have done with Christ as Savior. His salvation gives their works meaning and value.

III.-THE PROSPECTS----------(Individual):

NOTICE this

A.-For The Four Beasts:

1-Fourth Beast==Revived Roman Empire

--Dan. 7:11

--Slain, body destroyed, given to burning

--End of that POLITICAL ENTITY

--No Rome in the Millennium

2-First 3 Beasts--Dan. 7:12

--Dominion taken away from each by its successors

--Allowed to continue for only a Divinely appointed time

--THEN JUDGED as taken over by the next empire

3-END of these 4 beasts corresponds to the SMITING OF THE IMAGE by the "Stone" in Ch. 2

B.-For Gentiles:

1-Not detailed in Daniel

2-Really a part of the judgment of their governments

3-Detailed in Matt. 25:31-46

--Facts presented

--Mt. 25:31-33

--"COME" of 25:34 is for "Ye blessed" !

--These are SAVED Gentiles

--On basis of trust in Christ as Savior.

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR"

--Evidenced by their **treatment of the Jews**
--"**DEPART**" of 25:41 for "**Ye cursed**" !
--These are **UNSAVED**
--They have rejected both Christ, and His "brethren"

4-**Eternal issues** are at stake
5-Mt. 25:46--"And these shall go away into everlasting **punishment**: but the righteous into life eternal
6-Prospects on the basis of **individual relationship** to Jesus Christ.
7-Use **HELEN REITER**, as illus that God will judge righteously in unknown cases

C.-For Satanic Trinity:
1-**Counterfeit** of True God as a Trinity
--Anti-God==SATAN
--Anti-Christ ==Little Horn or BEAST of Rev. 13
--Anti-Spirit==FALSE PROPHET
2-They will have **deceived many** in the world into false worship and allegiance
3-They will **not escape**. "SCOTT-FREE"
--**Dan. 7:26**
--Rev. **19:20** ** Beast == Little Horn
** False Prophet
** Cast **ALIVE** into the lake of fire
--Rev. **20:1-3** ** **Satan**
** Bound for 1000 years
** Eventually **cast** into **Lake of fire** (Rev. 20:10)
** Idea that **SATAN REIGNS** in hell is **Miltonic**, not Biblical
4-We see that both the leaders and the led will have to **face the "Judge** of all the earth", Who always "does right"

D.-For Jewish Saints:
1-**Time** of **Tribulation** --Terrible persecution
--Widespread testimony for Christ
--144,000 sealed to **live thru** Trib.
--Multitudes martyred for faith
2-Jesus will **judge** & "set it **right**"
--Messianic Kingdom will be established
--Jewish saints will be **rewarded**
** Dan. **7:18**
** Dan. **7:27**
--This will be an "**everlasting kingdom**"

CONCLUSION:

A.-Recapitulation:
1-The PERSON-----Jesus as SON OF MAN
2-The PURPOSE----Judgment
3-The PROSPECTS--INDIVIDUAL, on the basis of **relationship to Christ** as Personal Savior

B.-Certainty Of Judgment:
1-Various **reactions** --Some are frightened
--Others are **denying** it
--**DREADFUL** to all who are unprepared

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

2-**Believers** may face it **FEARLESSLY**
--1 John 4:17--"Herein is love made perfect, that we may have **boldness** in the day of judgment: because as He is, so are we in this world."
--**Not** a **horror** to the believer

3-**GOOD NEWS** ABOUT **JUDGMENT**
--Judgment for our sins has **already come**
--Christ has died for our sins
--**Wrath** of the Holy God has been fully **satisfied**
--Jesus took our place---OUR SUBSTITUTE
--**ILLUS**--Covered wagon trains coming west occasionally **faced prairie fires**, either set by Indians, or by lightning.
--**HOW to be safe** in the midst of such a holocost ??
--Set **BACK FIRES** to burn away a protected area, and then they drove their wagons onto blackened & **burned areas** where the fire had already come
--**SO IT IS** with the Christian, for he is one who has trusted Christ as His savior and so is **on "BURNED OVER GROUND"**, where the wrath of God has already burned
--Thus, there is, indeed, **GOOD NEWS** ABOUT **JUDGMENT**

4-The man who commits himself to Jesus, can **face the future**--can face the **JUDGMENT OF GOD**.....**CONFIDENTLY** !!

5-**HOW** ???--By knowing Christ has **taken your judgment**
--Rom. **5:9**--"Much more them, being now justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him."
--John **5:24**--"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation (JUDGMENT); but is passed from death unto life."

6-For the **REJECTOR** of Christ--Judgment is a **TERRIFYING** reality
--**DENY** it, he may
--**Escape** it, **he cannot**
--**Judgment** is coming

7-Are you **willing**--**TO RECEIVE** God's Good News about judgment and trust Christ as your very own?
--**TO SHARE** God's Good News about judgment with friends, family & co-workers?

#98
1-"Happy Day"
Westbrae--8/3/69--"Once For All"----------112 205
4 "Have You Any Room For Jesus?"-----420 241
5 "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross"----423 118
3-Wonderful Story of Love 69
Lucerne - 8/31/69
Lookout Baptist Ch. 4/1/84
OKBC ---5/25/86

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR"

"THE INVESTITURE OF THE SON OF MAN" Dan. 7:13-14

INTRO:

A.-Orientation Of The Passage:
1-"Times of the Gentiles" chart
2-Tribulation underlay
3-Judgment overlay
4-**Last message**--Dan. 7:9-12
--Dealt with JUDGMENT ON EARTH

B.-This Message:
1-Dan. 7:13-14 (Read)
2-Peculiar & enigmatic by itself
3-Needs "**comparing scripture** with scripture"
4-The Investiture:--EARTHLY Investitures
--HEAVENLY Investiture
5-PROP:
- **TO KNOW** the future for our own clarity and peace of mind
- **TO SHARE** the future authoritatively with others
- **TO SPARE** ourselves from being "sold" & "sucked in" on a variety of unscriptural doctrines & schemes
  - ** Hyperdispensationalism
  - ** Armstrong's British-Israelism

I.-EARTHLY INVESTITURES:

A.-Modern Examples:
1-July 1, 1969--**Prince Charles** of England
--Investiture as PRINCE OF WALES
--Ceremony at Castle of Caernarvon
--20 men have held this title
- ** 6 did not live long enough to become King of England
- ** 4 died violently after reaching the throne
- ** 2 abdicated

2-July 28 (?), 1969--**Juan Carlos**, Prince of Spain
--Investiture as successor to Francisco Franco, Spain's Dictator
--Ceremony in the Cortes(Assembly)
--New dynasty to by-pass his father, Don Juan

B.-Details On Each:
1-Prince of Wales--Royal blood of Windsors
--Chosen for the task by being eldest son
--Title promised by Queen Elizibeth when Charles was only 9 (Title was then realized 13 yrs. later)
--Trained & prepared for the throne
- ** Private schools
- ** Private tutors
- ** Public University

--Time of Investiture has come
--Opposition from Welshmen

"The Apprentice King" TIME 6/27/69

NOT YET on the throne (41st Monarch when he rules)

2-Prince Of Spain--Royal blood of Borbons (1700--1931)
--Grandfather ruled until 1931
--Father was barred by Franco (Age 76) in 1969
--NEW DYNASTY established in the 6' 3" "story-book prince"
Many expected
Likely to face opposition when Franco dies & he tries to succeed to the Throne, for there are many anti-Monarchists in Spain. Actually, very little problem

O. H.

II.-HEAVENLY INVESTITURE:

A.-The Scene:

1-Subject of a "Night Vision" to Daniel
2-Location is heavenly, for GOD IS THERE
3-Two Personages--"One like the Son of Man" (1)
--"The Ancient of days" (2)
4-THRONE seems to be implied
5-"With the clouds of heaven"
and a cloud received Him
*--Associated with Christ
** At His ASCENSION
** Acts 1:9-11--"And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; out of their sight. And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel: Which said, 'Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen Him go into heaven.'"
** At the RAPTURE
** 1 Thess. 4:16-17--"For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and the trump of God, and the dead in Christ shall rise first. Then we which are alive & remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air..."
** At the SECOND ADVENT
** Rev. 1:7--"Behold, He cometh with clouds; & every eye shall see Him, and they also which peirced Him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of Him."
--No doubt that DEITY is here intended to be conveyed by the association with clouds
--Among the Jews, Messiah came to be known as "CLOUDY ONE" or "SON OF A CLOUD"
--Heaven is the source of Divine power

B.-The Son:

1-Difficult point of demarcation !!
--"Ancient of days" (Dan. 7:9, 13, 22 only)
--Title of Deity; that is certain

--**Titles** are occasionally used **interchangeably** among the Persons of the Trinity in the O. T.
** Jehovah, in many places
** Everlasting Father (Isa. 9:6)
** Ancient of days (Dan. 7:)

*--Clearly "Ancient of days" is the **SON** in 7:9

*--Clearly "Ancient of days" is **differentiated** from the **Son** in 7:13

--HOW CAN THIS BE???

--John **1:1**--"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."

--John **10:30**--"I and My Father are one"

2-**FATHER** is on a Throne **OVERHEAD**

3-Son of Man--"Brought near before Him (The Father)

--**Title** of Jesus Christ

--Title associated with His characteristic as

FEINBERG -"In the N.T. the expression was used only by Christ of Himself, to show that He is truly one of us, in every essential respect a man. It relates Christ to the promise of the Redeemer as the seed of woman, a part of the human race (Gen. 3:15). But there is more than mere humanity in view in this passage, for He is promised universal dominion, and God never shares eternal power and rule with man.

Early Jewish and Christian interpreters understood this One to be the Messiah, a position the N.T. abundantly confirms (see e.g. Mt. 16:28; 19:28; 24:27, 30, 39, 44; 25:31, 34). In this passage, the judgment has already taken place on earth in fulfillment of the Lord's Prayer, 'THY KINGDOM COME. THY WILL BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN' (Mt. 6:10). Throughout the Scriptures, the title 'Son of Man' refers to Christ's coming again for His Kingdom."
(Pp. 90-91)

--Mk. 10:45--"For even the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many."

--Mt. 25:31--"When the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory

--Lk. 17:24-26--"For as the lightning, that lighteneth out of the one part under heaven, shineth unto the other part under heaven; so shall also the Son of Man be in His day. But first must He suffer many things, and be rejected of this generation. And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it also be in the days of the Son of Man."

Ideas — Representative Man
— Racial name as "One" w/ humanity
— Related to His MISSION of redemption

C.-**The Sceptre**

1-Dan. 7:14-

2-Jesus' own words on this matter

--Luke 19:11-14 (READ)

--Popular idea of "**kingdom NOW**" in Christ's day

--Proper perspective ** 19:12

** Nobleman == Christ

** Far Country == Heaven

PHYSICAL + POLITICAL

** To receive Kingdom == Investiture
** To return == 2nd Advent

--Personal distinction
** Servants are stewards; SAVED
** They "Occupy" ==Do business"
** Citizens are UNSAVED
** They hate the Nobleman & say, "We will not have this Man to reign over us" (rebellion)

3-"There was given Him Dominion" (Dan. 7:14)
--What does this mean?
--See Rev. 4:1-2. — OVERHEAD of God on THRONE
--Rev. 5:1-7 ** "Book"=="SCROLL" — OVERHEAD of SCROLL
** "Who is worthy?"
**"No man in heaven nor in earth"
** Introduction of the LAMB
** "He came and took the scroll out of the right hand of Him that sat on the throne."

Read

4-WHAT IS THE SCROLL??
--ILLUS in Jer. 32:6-15
--Scroll is a TITLE DEED
--Title deed to what?
--Title deed to the earth, over which the Son of Man is given dominion
--"Thine is the Kingdom..."

Read

5-Kingdom described--"Everlasting" (Dan. 7:14)
--"Shall not pass away"
--"Shall not be destroyed"
--VERY EMPHATIC
--Successor to 4 world empires we have seen in Chapters 2 & 7
--Built on their "rubble" & ruin
--Dan. 2:34-35
--Dan. 2:44

D.-The Servitude: (Dan. 7:14)
1-"That all people, nations, and languages should serve Him" /
--Dominion is UNIVERSAL
--Whole of earth & heaven
2-Knowledge of the Lord
3-Isa. 11:9-10--"They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain: for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea. And in that day, there shall be a root out of Jesse, which shall stand for an ensign of the people."
4-Knowledge of the GLORY of the Lord
5-Hab. 2:14--"For the earth shall be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.
6-Servitude of the redeemed--Rev. 5:8-13

CONCLUSION:

A.-Earthly Investitures:

1-Seen only **rarely**
2-**Passing pomp** and glory
3-Generally have **substantial opposition**
4-Recent **examples**--PRINCE OF WALES; Charles
--PRINCE OF SPAIN; Juan Carlos

B.-Heavenly Investiture:

1-**Promised** in the **PAST** (Dan. 7:14) — but — not w/o substantial opposition.
2-**Expected** in the **NEAR FUTURE**
3-**Enjoyed** for all eternity
4-Will never see a successor after Jesus Christ, the Son of Man
5-No wonder at John's words:
"Even so, **come**, Lord Jesus"
6-Incentive to **pray**:
"THY KINGDOM COME, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

- Let us who believe God's Eternal Word, live our lives with **ETERNITY'S VALUES** in view, all the days of our lives.
- Looking for the PERSON of this event of investiture. End of "The Times of the Gentiles" which began w/ Nebuchadnezzar's accession to the Throne of Babylon in 596 B.C.

Westbrae--8/10/69--"Jesus Shall Reign"----------# 470 142
"Praise Him, Praise Him"------- 223 442
"Crown Him With Many Crowns"--- 212 62
"Christ Returneth" 131 156

Lucerne - 8/31/69
OKBC - 6/8/86

Intro:

A.-Peculiarities Of Chapter 8:

Our Overhead

1-N. T. verse clarifies a **PRINCIPLE**

2-1 Cor. 10:32--"Give none offense, neither to the **Jews**, nor to the **Gentiles**, nor to the **church** of God"--

3-**THREE** DISTINCT **ENTITIES** in the sight of God

4-Seen in the **languages** of Daniel

--1:1--2:4 Hebrew; Deals with the fall of Jerus.

--2:5--7:28 Aramaic; Deals with Gentile Powers on the world scene

--8:1--12:13 Hebrew; Information & comfort for the Jews about their future

--NOTHING of the Church in the O.T.

B.-Particulars Of Chapter 8:

2 yrs after Ch. 7 was received

1-**Third year** of Belshazzar

= 539 or 538 B.C

--Just at the **very end** of his reign

--Just at conclusion of Babylonian empire before fall to Medo-Persia

2-"**Vision**"--Came to Daniel

--Followed his first vision (Ch. 7)

--Wealth of **detail** in Ch. 8 that is omitted in Chapters 2 & 7

--This deals with what will **TOUCH** THE **JEWS**

3-"**Shushan** in the palace in the province of Elam"

--In the **vision** or in the **flesh**?

--Not clear, but not important

--SHUSHAN = Suza; **Chief city** of Persian Empire (Esther 1:2, 5 etc)

** Place where **Code of Hammurabi** was found in 1901 or 1902

** Whole city was a fortress

4-"River of Ulai"--Apparently a **CANAL** 900' in breadth

--Connected Choaspes & Coprates Riv.

--N.E. of Shushan

C.-Presentation Of Chapter 8:

1-Outline--The VISION REVEALED (8:3-14):

--The VISION INTERPRETED (8:15-27)

2-**Parallel** to earlier revelations

--Neb's dream (Ch.2)--The COLOSSAL IMAGE

--Dan's dream (Ch.7)--The RAVENOUS BEASTS

Image Overlay

2 Beasts Overlays

3-Chapter 8's **emphasis**:

--At the **end** of the first empire (Babylon

--EMPHASIZES **2nd** & **3rd** empires

--Seems to look **ahead** to the 4th empire

4-**PROP**:--To **know** the future & the Word

--To be **spared** wild & heretical theories

--To realize the close care God has in over-seeing **HIS OWN** in their times of trial

--"..he that toucheth you, toucheth the apple of His eye." Zech. 2:8

I. THE VISION REVEALED---(8:3-14):

A. The Ram (8:3-4, 20):

1-"A ram which had two horns"
- --Ch. 7 shows the RAVENOUS character of the nation
- --Ch. 8 shows the emblem of the nation
- --Emblem of Persia was a RAM — Ferocious!
  - ** Coins have been found with the RAM on them
  - ** Persian rugs are made from RAMS wool

2-"Two horns"==Medes and Persians
- --Duality of the kingdom

3-"One higher than the other"
- --Persians under Cyrus were raised higher than the Medes
- --Power of the Medes declined after the death of Darius, two years into the Empire

4-AUTHORITATIVE interpretation--Dan. 8:20 N.B.
- --This is PREDICTIVE PROPHECY

5-"Ram pushing"--Rapid expansion by conquests
- --Westward ==Babylonia, Syria, Asia Minor
- --Northward ==Armenia, Caspian Sea, Russia
- --Southward == Egypt & Ethiopia
- X --BUT NOT EASTWARD, for M-P did not expand to the east

Directions

6-Dan. 8:4b--Arbitrary & despotic
- --Irresistable advances.....for a time

Great!

B. The He-Goat (8:5-8a, 21):

1-Read 8:5-7

2-"He-Goat"--Authoritatively interpreted in Dan. 8:21
- --Represents Greece
- --City-states welded together into a nation
- * --Emblem of Greece was a GOAT
- --Capital of Greece was AEGAE =="Goat City"
- --Aegean Sea == "Goat Sea"
- --Son of Alexander was named Aegus--"Son of a Goat"
- --Remember, this was written predictively over 2 centuries before Alexander

NB Direction

3-"From the west"--Always before, power had arisen in the EAST
- --FIRST of the WESTERN EMPIRES

Description!

4-"He-goat...touched not the ground"==Rapidity of conquests

5-"A notable horn"--1st King of Greece (8:21) N.B.
- * --Alexander the Great (B.C. 356-323)
- --Son of Philip of Macedon
- --1 Macc. 1:3--"Alexander...went to the ends of the earth, & took spoils of many nations, insomuch that the earth was quiet before him; whereupon he was exalted, and his heart was lifted up."

Pseudepigrapha

6-DESTRUCTION of the power of Medo-Persia is described as occurring near Canal Ulai
- --Utter destruction Total defeat of M.-P.
- --"Moved with choler (anger)" because of previous Persian plunder of Greece
- --As others had been helpless before Medo-Persia, so Medo-Persia was now helpless before Greece
- --Two horns broken== MEDES and the PERSIANS Both!

--"There was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand"
--Destruction of Medo-Persian power is presented as one action PROPHETICALLY, whereas HISTORICALLY several vigorous blows were inflicted at different points (GRANICUS, ISSUS, & SUSA) (1) (2) (3)

7-"The great horn was broken"
* --Death of Alexander at age 33 — Short reign
--Broken at the ZENITH of his life
--Conquered the world, but could not conquer himself
--Divine providence brought him to his end in Babylon
--Carried thru the streets in an open coffin with his hands outstretched and open to show that EVEN ALEXANDER CAN CARRY NOTHING OUT OF THIS WORLD

Doom!
ALCOHOLISM

C.-The Four Horns (8:8b, 22): Development:

1-Dan. 8:8b
2-Four horns succeed the "One notable horn"
* --Divine interpretation in 8:22 N.B.
--Alexander's successors
** Cassander over Macedonia
** Lysimachus over Thrace & Asia Minor
** Seluecus over Syria
** Ptolemy over Egypt
3-These 4 horns occupy an "INTERMEDIATE STAGE" between the 3rd & 4th world empires — Transition

D.-The Little Horn (8:9-12):

1-Dan. 8:9--Ruler arises out of 1 horn (Seleucus) — Segment of Greek Empire
--Not immediately, but 147 years later
--Called "A Little Horn"
* --Universally agreed to be ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES (Young--P. 170)
--This "little horn" is from NORTH of Palestine, & so is to be distinguished from the "little horn" of Dan. 7:8, who is a WESTERN ruler over Rome

IMP

2-Seven Point Portrait of Antiochus Epiphanes 8:9

N.B.

AGGRESSIVE + VIOLENT IN NATURE

- (1) --He came forth out of one of the 4 Kingdoms (Syria) ORIGIN
- (2) --He "waxed exceeding great" (8:9) = Military Success
** Toward South == Egypt
** Toward East == Armenia
** Toward Pleasant Land == Palestine
- (3) --He exalted himself
** 8:10a
** Defied Israel's God
** Set up a statue of Jupiter in the Holy of Holies to be worshipped
** OVERWEENING PRIDE was a characteristic acc. to 2 Macc. 5:21; 9:8 — HIS SIN
- (4) --He persecuted Israel
** 8:10b
** "Host of heaven"==People; Saints of God; Daniel's people
** 2 Macc. 9:10 says Antiochus is "...the man that a short while before thought himself to touch the stars of heaven."

HIS CRIME

** Known to have **hated & persecuted** the Jews
** JOSEPHUS--(Antiquities--X-11:7) "...and that from among them there should arise a certain king that should overcome our nation and their laws, and should take away their political government, and should spoil the temple, and forbid the sacrifices to be offered for three years time. And indeed it so came to pass, that our nation suffered these things **under Antiochus Epiphanes**, according to Daniel's vision, and what he wrote many years before they came to pass." (Pp. 320-321 of my copy)

-(5)--He claimed **honors due Israel's Messiah**
** 8:11a
** **Prince** of the host == **CHRIST**
** Antiochus Epiphanes claimed to be Θεος (Vol I, Page 95, Schaff-Herzogg Encyclopaedia)
** **Defied** both God and the Jewish High Priest, **ONIAS**

HIS BLASPHEMY

-(6)--"By him the **daily sacrifice was taken away**" (8:11b)
** **Refused** to allow the Evening & morning sacrifices at the Temple
** **1 Macc.** 1:44-49--"For the king had sent letters by messengers unto Jerusalem & the cities of Juda, that they should not follow the strange laws of the land, & forbid burnt offerings, & sacrifice, & drink offerings, in the temple; and that they should profane the sabbaths & festival days: and pollute the sanctuary & the holy people: Set up altars, & groves, & chapels of idols, & sacrifice swine's flesh, & unclean beasts; That they should also leave their children uncircumcised, & make their souls abominable with all manner of uncleanness & profanation: To the end they might forget the law, & change all the ordinances

HIS DESECRATION

** "the place of the sanctuary was cast down"
** Not torn down, but **desecrated**
** Antiochus Epiphanes had a sow slain on the Jewish altar & the broth of the sow sprinkled throughout the Temple & onto the holy furniture.

This is HOW !

-(7)--He **"cast down the truth to the ground"** (8:12)
** He robbed Israel of her sacrifices
** He caused Israel to go into transgressions as they adopted heathen ways
** Love of the truth was rare
** True God was supplanted by **idolatry**
** Antiochus Epiphanes was "in the saddle"
** Antiochus Epiphanes **seemed to prosper** FOR A TIME

HIS EFFECT

E.-The Cry--"HOW LONG"? (8:13-14):

1-8:13
2-"One saint"=="Holy one"== **ANGEL**
--Speaks to another angel

THE QUESTION!

3-Cry--"**HOW LONG**" ??
--"**Desolation**" is a key term in Daniel (Used 7 times)
--Here a **desolation** of the Sanctuary
--Trodden under foot
--**HOW LONG** will this desecration continue ??

4-**The ANSWER**--Dan. 8:14
--**2,300 days** ==6 yrs, 4 mos., & 20 days
--These are **literal days**
--These ran from **B.C. 171** to **164** at Antiochus Epiphanes' death & covered the full length of his desecration of the Temple in Jerusalem
--**NO** RELATION to **Millerite heresy** of Christ to come to earth after 2300 yrs. on Oct. 22, 1844 to "cleanse the sanctuary"
--**NO** RELATION to **Ellen G. White**, who broke from the Millerites & formed the **SDA** & then taught that Christ "cleansed" a heavenly sanctuary instead

5-"**Then** shall the sanctuary be cleansed"
--HISTORICALLY **FULFILLED** by Judas Maccabbaeus
--Led to the Feast of Dedication (Jn. 10:22) "a feast of the Jews"

II.-THE VISION INTERPRETED (8:15-27):

A.-Angelic Clarification (8:15-19):

1-**Gabriel appears** & speaks to Daniel
--Authoritative voice
--Only O.T. book **to name** any **angels** as individuals (8:16; 9:21; 10:13ff)
--Came to bring Daniel **UNDERSTANDING**

2-Daniel--Is "**Panic stricken**" (8:17)
--Goes into a deep sleep (sweon) (8:18)

3-**Angel's message — TIME** clarification
--8:17--"For at the **time of the end** shall be the vision"
--8:19--"Behold I will make thee know what shall be in **the last end** of the indignation"
--8:19--"For at the time appointed **the end** shall be"
--This **COMPLICATES** THINGS
**Not just at the end of the 3rd Kingdom
** Because "time of the end" is **a technical term** used in Scripture relating to the Trib, or "Time of **Jacob's Trouble**"
** Somehow this makes a case of the "Law of **DOUBLE REFERENCE**"
--Deut. 29:24-28

NB

Jewish emphasis

Certainly this is not "just history" but predictive

B.-Beastial Explanation (8:20-22):

1-Already "**read in**" to explain the vision earlier
2-**DETAILS**--Ram with 2 horns == Medo-Persia
--Rough goat == Greece
--Horn == Alexander
--4 Horns == **4 Kingdoms** that succeeded Alexander, but not as strong as Greece was under Alexander

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

C.-Final Disposition (8:23-25):

1-"King of fierce countenance"
- --Seems to be Antiochus Epiphanes
- *"A master of Machiavellian arts, master-diplomatist, able to deceive the very elect" J. A. Montgomery
- --BUT seems to many to be a case, also, of DOUBLE REFERENCE
- NB --Some feel that the Roman Anti-Christ will arise from the EASTERN part of the Roman Empire; from Syria

2-"Not by his power"--Indicative of cunning above strength, at least at first
- *--Perhaps Satanically inspired

3-"He shall magnify himself"--PRIDE & self-glorying
- --Characteristic of Antiochus E.
- --Characteristic of Anti-Christ

4-"He shall stand up against the Prince of Princes"
- --This is CHRIST against whom this King stands
- *Antiochus Epiphanes never did this against Christ personally, but as against God's appointed system of worship

5-"But he shall be broken without hands"
- *Antiochus Epiphanes had no human instrument in his death in Persia in B.C. 164
- --Preparing to return to Judea to take revenge on Judas Maccabbeus, who had defeated his General--LYSIAS
- --2 Macc. 9:9-11--"So that the worms rose up out of the body of this wicked man, & whiles he lived in sorrow & pain, his flesh fell away, & the filthiness of his smell was noisome to all his army. And the man, that thought a little afore he could reach to the stars of heaven, no man could endure to carry for his intolerable stink. Here therefore, being plagued, he began to leave off his great pride, & to come to the knowledge of himself by the scourge of God, his pain increasing every moment."
- --SIMILARITY to Rev. 19 at Christ's 2nd Coming
- --Tyrants may rise, but the hand of God will prevail !

6-God will deal
- With Antiochus Epiphanes
- With Anti-Christ at the end of the Trib

D.-Personal Adaptation (8:26-27):

1-Daniel's vision--8:26
- --Prophecy for the future
- --And it is TRUE
- --"Shut it up"=="PRESERVE IT for later understanding
- --"For it shall be for many days"—FUTURE

2-Daniel's Reaction--Fainted
- --Was sick !
- *--Psychological & physical effects on Daniel
- --HE WAS EXHAUSTED

3-Daniel's continuance--"I rose up & did the King's business"
- --Vision was important
- --Vision was for the future
- --INVOLVEMENT was for HIS DAY — What an example !

--Prophecy is designed to make us **MORE DILIGENT** in **our tasks** of every day

4-"And I was **astonished** at the vision, but **none understood**."

CONCLUSION:

A.-The Vision In Prophecy:

1-**Vision REVEALED**

--The Ram
--The He-Goat
--The 4 Horns
--The "Little Horn"
--The Cry---"**HOW LONG**"?

2-**Vision INTERPRETED**

--Angelic clarification
--Beastial explanation
--Final disposition
--Personal adaptation

B.-The Vision In History:

1-JOSEPHUS' RECORD of Daniel being **read to Alexander** (ANTIQUITIES--XI, 8:5 Pp345)

After Alexander had laid seige to **TYRE** and to **GAZA**, he came to Jerusalem. The priests went out in full aray of their garment, to meet him. "The Jews also did all together, with one voice salute Alexander, & did encompass him about; whereupon the kings of Syria & the rest were surprised at what Alexander had done, & supposed him to be disordered in his mind. However, Parmenio alone went up to him, & asked him how it came to pass that, when all others adored him, he should adore the high priest of the Jews? To whom he replied, "I did not adore him, but that God who hath honoured him with his high priesthood; for **I saw this very person in a dream**, in this very habit, when I was at DIOS in Macedonia, who, when I was considering with myself how I might obtain the dominion of Asia, **exhorted me to make no delay**, but boldly to pass over the sea thither, for that he would conduct my army, & would give me the dominion over the Persians; whence it is that, having seen no other in that habit, & now seeing this person in it, & remembering my vision, & the exhortation which I had in my dream, **I believe that I bring this army under Divine** conduct, & shall therewith conquer Darius, & destroy the power of the Persians, & that all things will succeed according to what is in my own mind."

And when he had said this to Parmenio, & had given the High Priest his right hand, the priests ran along by him, & he came into the city. And when he went up into the temple, he **offered sacrifice to God**, according to the High Priest's direction, and magnificently treated both the High Priest & the priests.

And when the **Book of Daniel was showed him**, wherein Daniel declared that one of the Greeks should destroy the empire of the Persians, **he supposed that himself was the person intended**. And as he was then glad, he dismissed the multitude for the present; but the next day he called them to him, & bid them ask what favours they pleased of him; whereupon the High Priest desired that they might **enjoy the laws of their fore-**

fathers, & might pay no tribute on the seventh year. He granted all they desired."

2-PROOF--Of the historicity of Daniel as the author who wrote in 538, so this could be shown to Alexander in about 330 B.C
--Of providential care of God for His own

3-Let us, in our day, be diligent to "RISE UP" and "DO THE KING'S BUSINESS" also

Also - Included in LXX which was translated in 285 B.C. though Antiochus was about 165 B.C.

Westbrae--8/17/69-- 40 - Great Is Thy Faithfulness 403
Lucerne - 9/1/69 444 - There's a Wideness in God's Mercy 28
Lookout Bapt. Ch - 4/15/84 450 - Isn't The Love of Jesus Something Wonderful
OKBC - 6/15/86 439 - Work, For The Night Is Coming 410

INTRO:

A.--Date & Timing With Other Events: — 10:1

1-"**First year** of CYRUS"
- --Predicted **by name** 200 years in advance by Isaiah (44 & 45)
- --Cyrus **caused the RETURN** of the remnant of 50,000 under Zerubbabel
- --Ezra 1:1-3

2-Cyrus was a **DIVINELY CHOSEN** instrument in human affairs as they touched Israel

3-Now in his **3rd year of reign** over Medo-Persia (533 or 534 B.C.) shortly after the Remnant had returned

B.--The Vision Revealed: — 10:1-3

1-**Content is long**--------Chapters 10, 11 & 12

2-**Characteristics** (10:1)
- a--True
- b--To cover a long time (ASV translates "even a great warfare")--Either are true
- c--**To be understood**
  - --NOTICE--This whole matter was **intelligible in advance** of its historical verification

3-**Recipient**--Daniel; known also as Belteshazzar
- --Now **past 90** years of age (About 92?)
- --No longer "in the forefront" of leadership in Babylon & Medo-Persia
- --**Unable to return** with the Remnant
  - a** Advanced **age**
  - b** Detained **to pray** (a very GRAND OPPORTUNITY of the aged and infirm)
  - c** Detained **to receive** one more prophetic fore-view

4-Daniel's **MOURNING** AND **FASTING**
- --Delicacies & "Normal food" given up for a 21 day period
- --**Not** an **unusual** proceedure for the godly in a time of prayer & soul-searching
- --Matt. 9:14--"Then came to him (Jesus) the disciples of John, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not?"
- --**WHEN** was this fast?
- --Immediately **after** the **Passover** season $1\frac{1}{2}$ years following the Return to Jerusalem
- --**WHY** this mourning & self-affliction???
  - ** Perhaps because of some **violations** of the Passover ritual just seen
  - ** Perhaps because of the **spiritual bankruptcy** of the Jews who did not choose to return to Jerusalem
  - ** MOST LIKELY due to the reports of **factious oppositions** offered the returne remnant in their attempt to rebuild t Temple according to Ezra 3-6.

BUT there was **NO IMMEDIATE ANSWER**... ...so..... Daniel **goes on PRAYING.**

good lesson!

C.-Our Message----"LOOKING BEHIND THE SCENES":

1-Deals with the beginning of a long vision in Chs. 10-12

2-First sermon on it:
- --THE VISION (10:4-9)
- --THE VISITATION (10:10-14)
- --THE VERIFICATION (10:15--11:1)

3-Prop: To "look behind the scenes" of what goes on in this world, and see the unseen forces at work in our world to make things turn out as they do.

We need to

THEN → To be instructed in the matter of our own spiritual warfare, so that we may war "after the Spirit, and not after the flesh"

I.-THE VISION---(Dan. 10:4-9):

A.-The Person Seen (10:4-6):

1-Appearance is minutely described
- --10:4-6
- --Garments are similar to those of the High Priest in Israel (Ex. 39:27-29)
- --Pre-figuring of the appearance of Rev. 1:13--"And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle"

2-Personage distinguished--From DANIEL--10:7-8
- --From AN ANGEL--10:15*
- --From MICHAEL--10:13, 21

3-THEOPHANY or CHRISTOPHANY
- --Def.--"A theophany is a manifestation of God in visible and bodily form before the incarnation." John F. Walvoord
- --Visible appearance of Christ
- --Dan. 8:15--And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man."
- Genesis 18 and 19 To Abram + Lot
- Exodus 3:1-6 and 13-14 To Moses
- Joshua 5 To Joshua at Jordan River ?

4-WHY was this "Certain Man" seen here ??

5-To Give
- Encouragement to Daniel
- Authority to the vision of Chapters 10-12 as his final ministry in the office of a Prophet

B.-The Person Seeing (10:7-9):

1-Daniel alone "SAW the vision"

2-Companions--"Saw not the vision"
- --Quaking fell upon them
- --Ran to hide
- --Must have heard something, but not the WORDS which Daniel heard intelligibly

3-ILLUS--Paul on the Damascus Road
- --Paul alone heard the VOICE in intelligible sounds
- --Companions heard a SOUND, but saw nothing

--Acts 9:7--"And the men which journied with him stood speachless, hearing a voice (Gr. phone=="a sound"), but seeing no man."
--Acts 22:9--"And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice (Gk. "articulated words") of him that spake to me."

4-**TREMENDOUS EFFECT** on Daniel
--10:7-9
--"**No strength**" 10:8 (twice), 16, 17
--Comeliness="**vigor**" was **GONE**
--Faint & pale with terror
--**Daniel** alone **both** heard and **SAW** this "Certain man"
--**Exhausted him** totally (10:9)
X-Parallel with **John's experience** on Patmos
--Rev. 1:17--"And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And He laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, FEAR NOT; I AM THE FIRST AND THE LAST"

II. THE VISITATION ——— (Dan. 10:10-14):

A. An Encouragement (10:10-11):

1-**Angelic being** is sent to minister to Daniel
2-Heb. 1:14--"Are they (angels) not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"
3-**PHYSICAL encouragement**
--10:10
--A **hand of help** from this angel
--"Touched me"; SUPPORT
--**Lifted Daniel** up from his face
--This is not "new" to us, for we know that angels **strengthened Christ** also
-Matt. 4:11--"Then the devil leaveth **Him**, &, behold, angels came and ministered unto Him"
4-**VOCALLY encouraged**
--10:11
--**WORDS** can help or hinder; **BUILD** or **BREAK**
--**Reassurance** of God's love toward Daniel & his standing in God's sight
-"O Daniel, a man **greatly beloved**"
5-**COMMANDS GIVEN**--"Understand"---**MENTAL**
--"Stand upright"--**PHYSICAL**
6-**EFFECTS** produced in Daniel--10:11c--"And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling."
7-We see that Daniel's alarm is **not yet subsided**

B. An Explanation (10:12-14):

1-**Delay in answers** to prayer
--From beginning of Daniel's afflictions, mourning & prayer
--**Until** the **answer** came 21 days later
--**CONTRAST** with Dan. 9:20-21
--Angelic response was immediate
--This ought to **inform** & **encourage** when we pray but no immediate answer comes---**KEEP ON !!**

--BE ASSURED, "thy words were heard,"

2-BUT--10:13

--Ellicott (Deane)--"Perhaps no single verse in the whole of the Scriptures speaks more clearly than this upon the invisible powers which rule & influence nations." (P. 390)

--Without a revelation on this we might expect that God IMMEDIATELY directs all world affairs without any intervening means

--Spirit beings CARRY OUT GOD'S PURPOSES

** In the natural world--Ex. 12:23; 2 Sam. 24:16

** In the moral world--Lk. 15:10

** In the political world--Dan. 10:13, 20

3-ILLUS--

--Jud. 5:20--"They (the angels) fought from heaven; the stars in their courses fought against Sisera."

--2 Kings 6:16-17--"And he (Elisha) answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them. And Elisha prayed, & said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see. And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha."

--Isa. 37:36--"Then the angel of the LORD went forth, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians a hundred and fourscore and five thousand: and when they rose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses."

--I Chron. 21:1--"And Satan stood up against Israel, and provoked David to number Israel."

4-Spiritual champions--Israel has MICHAEL (10:21)

--Persia has spirits (10:13)

--Greece has spirits (10:20)

--These NATIONAL SPIRITUAL CHAMPIONS of the other nations are demons

5-Satan has his DOMINION

--His dominion is organized

--Eph. 2:2--"...in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to THE PRINCE OF THE POWER OF THE AIR, the SPIRIT THAT NOW WORKETH in the children of disobedience."

--2 Cor. 4:4--"In whom THE GOD OF THIS WORLD hath blinded the minds of them which believe not,.."

-Various levels of organization by Satan

--Eph. 6:12--"For we wrestle not against flesh & blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high (heavenly) places."

--It was NO FALSE CLAIM when Satan offered Christ all the kingdoms of this world if he would bow down & worship him (Mt. 4:8-9)

6-Do you find this difficult to 'swallow' ??

7-Clipping from FATE magazine, July, 1968

8-"WITHSTOOD ME"--21 day battle between the forces of light and of darkness
--Ellicott--"This verse implies that the spiritual powers attached to Persia were influencing Cyrus in a manner that was prejudicial to the interests of God's people. It must be borne in mind that the vision occurred at the time of the Samaritan intrigues with the Persian court in opposition to Zerubbabel."(390)
--Angel PLUS Michael brought victory

9-Parallels: PAST--Jude 9--"Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring a railing accusation, but said THE LORD REBUKE THEE."
FUTURE--Rev. 12:1-9

10-Dan. 10:14--Understanding is brought
--Relates to "THY PEOPLE" (Israel)
--Time is "in the latter days", which would be the time of fulfillment of Dan. 9:24-27
--KEY to all of chapters 10, 11 & 12

III.-THE VERIFICATION---(Dan. 10:15--11:1):

A.-Daniel's Reaction (10:15):

1-Dan. 10:15
2-Not fear (for this was banished in 10:12), but reverence for the ONE in his vision
3-CALVIN--"By becoming prostrate on the ground, he manifested his reverence & by becoming dumb displayed his astonishment."
4-Doubtless also a GRATITUDE for answers to his prayers (10:2)

B.-Daniel's Recovery (10:16-19):

1-"No strength"--10:8, 16, 17 (4 times)
--This place of WEAKNESS is the place of BLESSING
--2 Cor. 12:9--"And He said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness."
2-Recovery of SPEECH--10:16a
3-Recovery of STRENGTH--10:18-19
4-Reassuring words--"O man greatly beloved"----POSITION
--"Fear not; Peace be unto you----PORTION
--"Be strong, yea be strong--PRACTICE
--Spoken by the angel for Christ
5-Result--"And when he had spoken unto me, I WAS STRENGTHENED"
6-Therefore Daniel wants to hear more of GOD'S WORD to him--"Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me"

C.-Daniel's Reassurance (10:20--11:1):

1-"FIGHT"--Will be the experience of the people of God

--Will be going on "BEHIND THE SCENES"
* With Persia's princes
* With Greece's princes
--Spiritual warfare IS ON

2-"BUT"--10:21
--Need to know what the Scripture of truth says
--Don't despair because one persecuting empire succedes another
--Don't despair because you go from one problem to the next problem

3-WHY NOT DESPAIR /????
--God is not dead !!
--God's providence is still at work
--God's purposes will not be thwarted
--Rom. 8:28--"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."
--ILLUS--GOD is at work in the story of the Book of Esther, providentially caring for His own, though GOD is not even referred to once in the 10 chapters and 167 verses. His NAME is not mentioned, BUT HE IS THERE!

4-How can Daniel be reassured??
--FOREWARNING, so as not to be surprised. Parallel for us in Christ's words: "Lo, I have told you before..."
--MICHAEL, who has come to Israel's aid with the evil powers moving Persia, will still be their champion as regards Greece.
--Historical example of PROTECTION of Israel under Darius the Mede when he came to power in 538 B.C. according to Dan. 11:1
--That "PERSONAL TOUCH" of the angel's words given twice to Daniel--10:11, 19--"a man greatly beloved"

CONCLUDING LESSONS:

A.-From The Passage:
1-Delays are not denials to prayer; KEEP ON PRAYING.
2-Spiritual warfare is going on all the time & all about you
--Unseen, but not UNREAL
--Learn Eph. 6:10-12
3-God's purposes are SURE, though fought by all the demons of hell and by Satan himself. We are ON THE VICTORY SIDE
4-"Beloved Ones" of God will be met and ministered to
--By the angels of God (Heb. 1:14)
--By Christ Himself (1 John 2:1)

B.-From The Message:
1-Have you put your case in His hands?
2-He's never lost a case
3-Are you now able to "LOOK BEHIND THE SCENES" ...and see??

WESTBRAE--2/8/70--#165--Lead On,O King Eternal
#428--God Will Take Care Of You
#166-A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
Chorus-Isn't The Love Of Jesus Something Wonderful

KBC-10/26/86

INTRO: **A.-Review Of Dan. 10:1—11:1:**

LAST OVERLAY OUTLINE

1-Outline:

I-THE VISION ** The Person Seen.
** The Person Seeing

II-THE VISITATION ** An Encouragement
** An Explanation

III-THE VERIFICATION ** Daniel's Reaction
** Daniel's Recovery
** Daniel's Reassurance

2-Lessons--Delays are **not denials** to prayer
--**Spiritual warfare** is going on all the time & all about us:
** Unseen, but not unreal !
** Learn Eph. 6:10-12
--God's purposes are **SURE**, though fought by all the demons of hell
--"Beloved ones" of God are **met** & **ministered to** by the holy angels

B.-Foreview Of Daniel 11:

1-**Our passage** passage
--Chs. 10, 11 & 12 are **all one** continuous /
--**Longest** prophecy in Daniel & the whole Bible
--**MOST DETAILED** foreview of history to be found anywhere
--This is PREWRITTEN history given by Revelat'n

2-Deals with **"THE TRUTH"** (10:1; 11:2)

3-An unrolling of the "Scripture of truth"(10:21) concerning **the future**
--11:2-35 is **NEAR** history to Daniel, prophesied concerning **"his people"**
--11:36-45 is **FAR** history to Daniel, prophesied concerning **"his people"**
--**LONG GAP** between 11:35 and 11:36
--Comparable to **GAP** between 69th & 70th weeks of Daniel 9

NEW OVERLAY OUTLINE

C.-The Truth Concerning The Future:

1-Truth Concerning **PERSIA** (11:2)
2-Truth Concerning **GREECE** (11:2d--4)
3-Truth Concerning **KINGS OF THE NORTH AND OF THE SOUTH** (11:5-35)
4-PROP: This is a **part** of **"all Scripture"**
--2 Tim. 3:16-17
--Therefore it is **PROFITABLE** to the Spirit-taught child of God
- --**Accuracy** of fulfillment in the past
- --**Confidence** of fulfillment in the future

--GOD IS TRUSTWORTHY !! !

"Yours to count on"

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

I.-THE TRUTH CONCERNING PERSIA --(Dan. 11:2):

A.-Persian Empire Map: ← MAP OVERLAY

B.-Succession of Persian Kings:

1-Cyrus was then (534 or 533 BC) on the throne (10:1) when Daniel received this Vision

2-4 future kings described
- --Dan. 11:2
- --# 1--Ahasuerus (Ezra 4:6)==Cambyses
- --# 2--Artaxerxes (Ezra 4:7)== Pseudo-Smeridis
- --# 3--Darius (Ezra 4:24)== Darius Hystaspes
- --# 4--Xerxes
- --N.B.--Not said that the 4th Persian King would be Persia's last king

3-Xerxes, the 4th Persian king
- --Far richer than his predecessors
- --Strength (militarily) because of his riches
- --Stirs up against Greece
- --Invaded Greece across the Hellespont with $2\frac{1}{2}$ million men under arms

4-No further word here, but more in Dan. 2, 7, & 8

II.-THE TRUTH CONCERNING GREECE --(Dan. 11:2d-4):

A.-Greek Empire Map: ← MAP OVERLAY

B.-Revelation Concerning Greek History:

1-GAP of 133 years between 11:2 and 11:3

2-"MIGHTY KING"--Dan. 11:3
- --Alexander the Great — out of GRECIA named in 11:2
- --Revenge on Persia by crossing the Hellespont to invade Persia
- --GREAT DOMINION
- --Daniel 8:5-8 READ
- --Authoritative interpretation found in Dan. 8:21 READ
- --Alexander moved "according to his will"
- --Alexander died at age 33

3-Death & Division for the Greek Empire
- --Dan. 11:4
- --Alexander only "stood up" for a short 9 years of rule
- --Alexander died at age 33 in Babylon of malaria
- --Kingdom "divided toward the four winds"
- --"Not to his posterity"
  - ** Alexander had 2 sons, Hercules & Alexander
  - ** BOTH were slain
  - ** One died before & the other died after the death of their father, Alexander
  - ** Therefore, the kingdom did not pass to either
- --"Nor according to his dominion which he ruled" indicates there was no one successor who UNITED ALL of the empire into one nation

III.-THE TRUTH CONCERNING THE KINGS OF THE NORTH AND OF THE SOUTH—(Dan. 11:5-35):

OVERLAY OUTLINE

A.-Background Historically:

1-Seen the EMPIRE of Alexander
2-Read the **prophecy** of its being "**divided** toward the four winds" (11:4)
3-**Historically fulfilled** under Alexander's four Generals:--Syria under the Seleucids (1) H.Q. in Babylon
--Macedonia under Cassander (2)
--Egypt under the Ptolemies (3) included Palestine
--Asia Minor under Lysimachus (4)
4-Also **predicted** in Daniel **8:21-22** (READ)

Scr. is CONSISTENT when we compare it.

B.-Perspective Biblically:

1-Alexander's empire split into **4 parts**
2-**ONLY TWO** are thereafter **mentioned** in Scripture
--The King of the **NORTH**===**SYRIA**
--The King of the **SOUTH**===**EGYPT**
--QUESTION:-----**WHY** ONLY THESE **TWO**??????
3-**ANSWER--Deut. 32:8-12**
- FACT--Deut. 32:8
- REASON--Deut. 32:9
- **HISTORY**--Deut. 32:10-12

4-**Macedonia & Asia Minor** not followed because they do not relate **to ISRAEL**
5-Kings of **North** & **South** are followed because they **do relate to ISRAEL**
6-ILLUS--Israel, God's land, is **like a kernel of grain ground between** the upper and lower **millstones** of Syria & Egypt

C.-Conflicts Prophetically:

1-**REMEMBER**, this was written as PROPHECY, before the **actual occurrences**
2-**Note** the extreme amount of **DETAIL**
3-Realize that all of Dan. 11:2-35 has been **FULFILLED LITERALLY**
4-Look at the details verse by verse

READ + Comment →
--11:5-20 ** **Back & forth battling** between the **Syrian & Egyptian** forces with Palestine as a battlefield
--11:21-35 ** From **312 BC** to **175 BC** over **137 yrs**

Handle in later message →
--11:21-35
** Antiochus Epiphanes of Syria is before us as THE prominent personage
** From 175 BC to 164 BC
--Go verse by verse down this.

CONCLUSION:

A.-LESSONS are CLEAR:

1-**Prophecy**--is detailed
--is accurate
--is sure
--is profitable
--**1 Kings 8:54-61** (esp. **8:56**)

+ 8:61 which sets forth the RESPONSE God expects

2-FAITH is strengthened by such clear evidence of the SOVEREIGNTY of God

3-No wonder the DENIERS OF THE FAITH hate the Book of Daniel

4-You can have CONFIDENCE:
- --In the "Scripture of Truth" (Dan. 10:21)
- --In the God of the Word
- --In the future which God controls, for these words were for Daniel and for us to understand what would happen to HIS PEOPLE "in the latter days" (10:14)

5-Remember--2 Pet. 3:9--"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."
- --Have YOU come to repentance???

Have you come to a DECISION of your will to:

"Let your heart therefore be perfect with the LORD our God, to walk in His statutes and to keep His commandments, as at this day." 1 Kings 8:61

Westbrae OKBC 11/16/86

"The Bible Stands" Chorus
"Holy Bible, Book Divine" #460
"How Firm A Foundation" #325
"Only Trust Him" #189

"DANIEL IN THE CRITICS DEN" Between Dan. 11:20 & 21

INTRO: **A.-Familiar Story:**
1-Daniel in the **LIONS' DEN**
2-Daniel 6 for the story
3-Miraculous **deliverance** from devouring because of Divine **intervention**

B.-Parallel Story:
1-"Daniel in the **CRITICS DEN**"
2-Writings of many men concerning the Book of Dan.
3-**Widespread viewpoint** today that this work IS **NOT** THE WORK OF **THE DANIEL** of history, but of a later date by a forger
4-**PUSEY** has well said: "The Book of Daniel is especially fitted to be a **battle-ground** between faith and unbelief. It admits of no halfway measures. It is either Divine or an imposture." (P. 75, Daniel)

C.-Our Message:
1-**Why** raise this problem **now**?
2-**Right in the middle** of the LONGEST, MOST DETAILED of all of Daniel's prophecies.
3 chapters
--10:1--11:1--Looking Behind The Scenes
--11:2-20--The Truth Concerning The Future (Ptolemies & Seleucids)
--11:21-35--Antiochus Epiphanes And The Jews
--11:36-45--The Wilful King
--12:1-13--Trouble In The End Time
3-With the content of this prophecy **so detailed** as to be **almost** an "EYEWITNESS ACCOUNT" in accuracy, and **yet** to be **presented** as **a PROPHECY**, or History pre-written, we need to know if it is, indeed, the **VERY WORD** OF GOD.
4-Outline: --The CRITICS And The Book Of Daniel
--The BIBLE-BELIEVER And The Book Of Dan.
5-**PROP:** To **see the truth** concerning this much embattled Book of the Bible, so we are **SURE in our faith.**

I.-THE CRITICS AND THE BOOK OF DANIEL:

A.-The Assumptions Of The Critics:
1-There is not a **liberal** theologian in the world, past or present, **who accepts** the authenticity of the **Book of Daniel**
2-They ALL **DENY** its integrity, authenticity & authority
3-Declare it to be a **PIOUS FORGERY** written by a Jew of the Great Synagogue about B.C. **165**
4-**WHY** THIS VICIOUS ATTACK?
5-Basic underlying **assumptions** of the unbelieving:
They say → @ --**Nothing MIRACULOUS** is **possible**, **BUT**
** Vision given to Daniel (2:19)
** 3 Hebrews delivered from fiery furnace (3:26)
** Conversion of Nebuchadnezzar (4:34)

** Handwriting on the wall interpreted (5:26-28)
** Lions mouths shut to preserve Daniel (6:22)

And Also (b) -Nothing PROPHETIC is possible, BUT..
** Dan. 2--Image Vision
** Dan. 5--Hand Vision
** Dan. 7--Beasts Vision
** Dan. 8--Diverse Beasts Vision
** Dan. 9--Seventy Weeks Vision
** Dan. 10-12--Longest Vision

6-No wonder the unbelieving critics are **out TO DESTROY** the **Book of Daniel**, for visions & miracles in Daniel are presentations of deeds and facts that **only God** could know & bring to pass

B.-The Ancestry Of The Critics:

1-**No doubts** among the ancient **Jews**, for they put it in the O.T. **Canon** from the days of Ezra on — About 458 B.C.
2-**No doubts** in the **early Church**
3-**PORPHYRY** was the **first attacker** of the Book of Daniel
--Born **233 A.D.** in Tyre, Syria
--**Studied under ORIGEN**, in Caesarea, Palestine
--May have professed to be a christian, but proved otherwise
--**Studied** in Rome under world famous **Neo-Platonic** philosopher **PLOTINUS**, of whom he became a disciple & a popularizer of his philosophy throughout the Empire
--**Diligent student** of great learning and research
--Felt that the GREAT ENEMY of Neo-Platonists was **Christianity**
--Wrote **15 books** which he entitled "**Against** The Christians"
--Gained a reputation of being "the **most rabid and wicked** of all the enemies of the faith" (W.A. Criswell, Daniel, P. 19)
--**Purported** that the Book of Daniel was **not** written in the Exile (B.C. 606-536), **but** by some unknown Jew who lived about **165 B.C.** during the Maccabean period and that all the events of which he wrote had **already come to pass BEFORE IT WAS WRITTEN.**
--**WHY** did Porphyry believe this? Because he believed "**PREDICTIVE PROPHECY IS IMPOSSIBLE**" (Young, Intro., P. 362--quoting from Jerome's Commentary, which quotes Porphyry)
4-Porphyry's allegations
- **Answered** by many apologists in his own day
- **Condemned** by Christian councils
--His works publicly **burned** by Emperor Theodosius II in AD 448

5-**NO MORE** such criticism for **hundreds of years** — 450 to 1850 AD
6-Modern **German RATIONALISM**
--**Denial** of supernatural & miraculous in the Bible
--Outgrowth of **humanism**
--Vicious **attacks** upon Book of Daniel
--Rise of German **HIGHER CRITICISM**
--Satan has **no new inventions**, just his old devices

re-dressed in modern garb

7-Invasion of men schooled in German Rationalism into teaching positions in theological seminaries began CORRUPTING

8-Denials authored by Porphyry have become universally accepted among all liberal-minded theologians of our generation

9-DEMISE of Bible faith in the old line Denominations as a direct result

C.-The Attacks Of The Critics:

1-HOW can the unbelieving critics mount an attack on Bible prophecy when one passage states the prophecy, & another passage records its historic fulfillment??

2-HOW can they deny? HOW can they destroy ??

3-They do it by "EXPLAINING AWAY" the miraculous out of the Bible because they begin with a denial of the supernatural

4-EXAMPLES:

Red Sea

a-Miraculous passage of 2 to 6 million Israelites out of Egypt thru the RED SEA. They add a few letters to the Hebrew words of Exodus and maintain that the people actually waded thru a swampy area known as the REED SEA, and so nothing miraculous occurred. They, of course, fail to answer how Pharoah's army was destroyed in the same place.

Manna

b-Phenomena of the MANNA in the wilderness by which these 2 to 6 million Israelites were sustained 40 years. They maintain this was nothing but a common sap oozing from a desert plant & that it was nutritious enough to sustain life. No I believe you've got to be QUITE A SAP to believe that such an "ooze" (1) flowed for 6 days each week but not the 7th day, (2) flowed in a double amount on the 6th day so there would be enough for the 7th day (3) would spoil so as to stink if kept overnight for any of the first 5 days of the week, but on the sixth night would not stink of kept overnight, (4) that this ooze came only for 40 years & never has been known before or since, (5) and that it came in sufficient quantities to feed a multitude of 2 to 6 million people. Indeed, some folks will go a long way to avoid a miracle.

Fire on Carmel

c-Fire that fell from heaven when Elijah had his contest with the prophets of Baal on Mt. Carmel, so that their sacrifices were not burned, but Elijah's sacrifice of animals--and the barrels of water he poured over them--were all burned up. The critics call this a CHANCE BOLT OF LIGHTNING that "happened" to strike the sacrifice at that particular moment. I wonder what the mathematical odds are on that... but you can go to great lengths to deny when you disbelieve the revelation of God in the Scriptures.

Bodily Resur.

d-Concerning the bodily resurrection of Christ we find the Bible-denying critics alleging that instead of the miracle of the Savior raised from the dead, the disciples were "victims of hallucinations." BUT these were EYEWITNESSES who gave their lives & their deaths

because they believed in the ONE whom they saw alive from the grave

Saul & -When it comes to the RADICAL CHANGE in the life of Saul due to his conversion confrontation with Jesus on the Damascus Road, it is explained by some that he had an epileptic fit, & by others that he suffered a sunstroke. BLESSED SUNSTROKE!! That's just not good enough to explain his changed life & lifelong ministry.

X 5-The same pre-disposition is evident when we come to the Book of Daniel

--They think the Book of Daniel is "vulnerable" and "full of errors"

NB --If DANIEL STANDS, then the miraculous & the prophetic are vindicated, for ONLY GOD can both predict and bring to pass!!

--Example is their interpretation of Daniel 2.

** Postulate 165 BC date of authorship, so it is written as history, instead of prophecy in 603 BC

** Make the 4 Empires of the Image be BABYLON, MEDIA, PERSIA & GREECE

** Rip apart Media from Persia, when they were ONE empire in history, not two empires

** Discount Rome as the 4th Empire because it only began to arise in 165 BC, so such an anticipation would be prophetic

-HOWEVER ** Rome DID FOLLOW As a world empire

*** Daniel 2 predicts ONLY FOUR empires & then a 5th which was to be the kingdom of the Smiting Stone when Messiah comes TO RULE

** Therefore, the critics evade the facts

6-In fact, one is forced to believe the unbelieving critics ARE NOT HONEST!! One by one their arguments have been disposed of; disproved thru archaeological discoveries, BUT THEY CLING to their preconceived theory in the face of the facts to the contrary.

II.-THE BIBLE-BELIEVER AND THE BOOK OF DANIEL:

A.-Anticipatory Prophecy:

1-Prophecy in advance of fulfillment in history is everywhere in & around the Bible

--Not co-incidental or peripheral

--But central and essential

2-Prophecy "flows" thru like a mighty stream from Genesis to Revelation and in virtually every book

--2/3 of the Bible was prophetic when written

--1/2 of that has been fulfilled literally

--1/2 of that is yet to be fulfilled

3-Predictive prophecy is UNIQUE TO THE BIBLE

--Not found in the Koran

--Not found in Confucious

--Not found in the Vedas of the Hindus

--ONLY GOD knows the future & foretells it

4-Jesus words before the cross--Jn. 14:29--"And now I have told you before it come to pass, that, when it is come to

pass, you might believe."

5-Deut. 18:19--22:
--Moses' words tell **how to differentiate** the false prophet from the true
--The **true** prophets' words are **fulfilled**
--The **false** prophets' words are **not fulfilled**
--That was THE WAY to distinguish !!

6-ILLUS--**Jer. 28:1-17**
--Hannaniah **prophesies** of **freedom** from Babylon (28:2-4)
--Jeremiah agrees he'd like to see that 28:5-6
--But Jeremiah reminds that **for a prophet to prove** his message is "of God" it must come to pass (28:9)
--Hannaniah rebukes Jeremiah 28:10-11
--Jeremiah is given a message to Hannaniah that **contradicts** his words of **PEACE** (28:12-14)
--Specific **words** to Hannaniah (28:15-16)
--Specific **fulfillment** within a year (28:17) — **Death**

7-Such **anticipatory prophecies** are seen repeatedly in Daniel 2, 7, 8, and 9

8-These prophecies are **explained** in **2 Pet. 1:21**--"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

9-Predictive prophecy is a part of most books, but predictive prophecy is a **major part** of Daniel, so that explains the attacks against it.

B-Answers To The Critics:

1-Written **before Antiochus Epiphanes** (who died in 164 B.C.) because the Book of Daniel was **included in the LXX** which was comprised of the **canon** made up by Ezra (458 +/-) and **translated** into Greek in **285 B.C.**

2-Written before 165 BC because copies of Daniel have been **found** among the **MSS of the Essenes** of the Qumran community among the DEAD SEA SCROLLS along with copies of Isaiah & Habakkuk. These scrolls are **dated no later than 200 B.C.**

3-Historian **Josephus** (AD 80) wrote of Jewish history from Abraham to the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD under Titus. He is known for his **outstanding accuracy**, and he **dates** the **authorship** of Daniel **408 years ahead** of Antiochus Epiphanes, or at **573 B.C.**

4-**Josephus** records **Alexander** the Great being **shown the Book** of Daniel **in 332 B.C.** and his attention being drawn to prophesies of himself (8:1-8, 15-22) by the High Priest Jaddua. Rather than raising Jerusalem, as was his expressed intention, Alexander the Great **responded by sparing the city** and worshipping at the temple.

5-**Ezekiel mentions Daniel** three times (14:14, 20; 28:3) and there is no argument about the fact that Ezekiel was exiled in Babylon and wrote after being taken captive in B.C. 597. Daniel, therefore, was known as **Ezekiel's CONTEMPORARY**

6-Our Lord **settles the case**:
--Speaks of "Daniel **the prophet**" in Matt. 24:15
--Not "Daniel, the forger" or "Daniel, the deceiver"
--**If** the visions of Daniel are past history clothed in the garb of prophecy & palmed off 400 years later as Daniel's, **then Daniel** was **no prophet** !?

--BUT, Jesus said Daniel was "a prophet"
--I'll take Jesus' word above the denials of the critics.....won't you ??

7-Sir Isaac Newton--"...to reject Daniel is to reject the christian religion"

8-Dr. A. C. Gabelein once compared the destructive critics of God's infallible Word to CRICKETS. He said, like the crickets, they are little creatures, black, living in the dark, & making a loud noise." And so they are!!

9-Then, Gabelein added: "...the Book of Daniel is either Divine or it is a colossal forgery & imposture. No middle ground is possible." (Daniel, P. 7)

CONCLUSION:

A.-Vindication Of Prophetic Truth:

1-Critics allege fraud & forgery
2-Facts show truth & triumph for God's infallible Word !

B.-Vitality Of Prophetic Truth:

1-Go to LK. 24:13-48
--24:27, 44, 45
--Christ proved His Messianic ministry out of the OT prophets
--This was Christ's method of preaching
--He said HE WAS THE FULFILLMENT OF PROPHECY (Lk. 4:16-21)

2-Apostles' preaching also
--Acts 3:24--"Yea, and all the prophets from Samuel and those that follow after, as many as have spoken, have likewise foretold of these days
--Acts 10:43--"To Him give all the prophets witness, that thru His name whosoever believeth in Him shall receive remission of sins
--Acts 26:22, 27--"Having therefore obtained help of God, I continue unto this day, witnessing both to small and great, saying none other things than those which the prophets and Moses did say should come....King Agrippa, believest thou the prophets?"

C.-Validity Of Prophetic Truths:

1-If these prophecies are not true, then christianity is not true !!
2-To destroy the prophets is to DESTROY CHRIST
3-But---Rev. 19:10--"...the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."
4-Daniel had the spirit of prophecy and spoke--OF JESUS + wrote
--Of the centuries to come
5-And we may believe firmly on the WORD OF GOD as the foundation of our faith, + when we do so believe,

We have an adequate foundation for our SURENESS of faith!

Westbrae 2/22/70
OKBC 11/23/86

Dare To Be A Daniel 456
How Firm A Foundation 326/325
Thy Word Have I Hid 158
The Old Book + The Old Faith 162
I Know I'll See ~~Jesus~~ 488

BOORUM & PEASE "NoTEAR" ®

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEBOOK" ®

"THE RISE AND RUIN OF ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES" Dan.11:21-35

INTRO:

A.-Last Message--"Daniel In The Critic's Den":
1-Saw Daniel subject to unbeliever's attacks
2-**TWO AREAS**--The miraculous (1)
--The prophetic (2)
3-**BOTH** are extremely **prominent in Daniel**
4-Vindication--Of HISTORICITY of detail
--Of PROPHETIC character
--Of MIRACULOUS deliverances
--So, Daniel **survives** & **triumphs** over the critics

(1)

B.-Key To Our View:
1-**1 Kings 8**
--Dedication of the Temple for worship(8:1-11
--Solomon's sermon (8:12-21)
--Solomon's prayer (8:22-53)
--Solomon's blessing (8:54-61)
--Sacrifices & rejoicing (8:62-66
2-**Look CAREFULLY** at 1 Kings **8:54-56** READ
--Solomon believed the promises of God
--Solomon says God kept His Word
--**NO FAILURE** in any part
--**Literal, historic, accurate** fulfillment
3-Prophecy fulfilled in Dan. **11:2-20** (Ptolemies & Seleucids)
4-Prophecy fulfilled in Dan. **11:21-35** (Antiochus Epiphanes) 175–164 B.C. IV
IV
OUTLINE
--The RISE of Antiochus Epiphanes
--The First Egyptian Campaign
--The Second Egyptian Campaign
--The RUIN of Antiochus Epiphanes
5-PROP:: --**Demonstrate** the historical accuracy of predictive prophecy, and its fulfillment
--**Reinforce** our firm faith that "Thy Word is TRUTH"(Jn. 17:17) "which is noted in the scripture of truth" (Dan. 10:21)

I.-THE RISE OF ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES:

A.-His Rise To The Throne (Dan. 11:21):
1-Rose **to replace** Seleucus Philopater, Ruler of Syria after Seleucus was poisoned to death by his Prime Minister (11:20)
2-"**A VILE PERSON**" — Called by some THE ANTICHRIST OF THE OLD TESTAMENT
As a RULER and As a MAN
--Quite an accurate epitaph
--Took the name Antiochus Epiphanes, which means Antiochus THE MAGNIFICENT
--Some wag of his day changed one letter (Epimanes), so he was called, behind his back, Antiochus THE MAD
3-Not the **LEGAL HEIR** to follow Seleucus Philopater
--Came in "**peaceably**" & "**by flatteries**"

--"PEACEABLY" refers to Antiochus Epiphanes making a league with both the Jews & with Egypt's Ptolemy Philometer. BUT Antiochus Epiphanes proved false to each after he gained power, as God said he would (11:22-24)

--"BY FLATTERIES"=="BY INTRIGUES" indicates that Antiochus Epiphanes took a regal dignity which was not his by birth. The kingdom should have passed to Seleucus Philopater's eldest son, DEMETRIUS SOTER. By flatteries Antiochus Epiphanes won over the Kings of Pergamus to his cause & the Syrians gave in peaceably.

2

B.-His Rise To Military Power (Dan. 11:22-24):

1-Master of the "DOUBLE-CROSS"
- --Of Egypt
- --Of the Jews

2-Forces of Egypt were overthrown when he made a foray with "a small people"==a commando raiding party

3-Therefore Antiochus Epiphanes came into the "fattest places" of Egypt to scatter, take prey & to spoil (=richest)

4-In this way his ascendancey as a military power was built so as to launch

II.-THE FIRST EGYPTIAN CAMPAIGN:

A-On The Battlefield (Dan. 11:25-26):

1-Previous foray was not a full-scale military campaign

2-Antiochus Epiphanes got up "his power & his courage" thru a sneak attack so as to mount a real offensive

3-Two mighty armies met

4-"But he (Ptolemy Philometer) shall not stand"

5-"For they shall forecast devices against him" means that his own sons & servants betrayed Ptolemy Philometer to the armies of Antiochus Epiphanes

6-As a result--11:26
- --Underlings caused the downfall of Egypt's ruler
- --Antiochus Epiphanes' army spread to every corner of Egypt
- --Many were slain

B-In Peace Negotiations (Dan. 11:27):

1-What a farce these "Peace negotiations" were when these two rascals sat down together:
- --Their hearts planned "mischief"
- --They both "spoke lies"

2-Each promised permanent peace while not intending for a moment to keep the peace treaty

3-These were "peas in a pod" and they DESERVED EACH OTHER !

C-With The Spoils (Dan. 11:28):

1-Antiochus Epiphanes plunders Egypt, so he gains "great riches"

2-Manifestation of his ANTI-SEMITISM in "his heart shall be against the holy covenant" — HATRED of Israel.

WHY? Because Jews rejoiced at a false report of Antiochus' death

3-"He shall **do** (**exploits**)" indicates his **prowess** on this military adventure

4-"**And return** to his own land"

--As a conquering **HERO**

--To re-group for further exploits

(3)

III.-THE SECOND EGYPTIAN CAMPAIGN:

A.-Armies Sent South (Dan. 11:29a):

1-Antiochus Epiphanes determines **to return against Egypt**, because Egypt is now "**PLAYING FOOTSIE**" with the rising power of **ROME**

2-Therefore Antiochus Epiphanes & his forces "**return**, & come **TOWARD** the **south**."

--Notice, they are **moving** in the direction of E.

--But they **don't actually get there**

B.-Armies Stopped Short (Dan. 11:29b-30a):

1-"BUT" indicates a change of plans!!

2-"It shall **not** be **as the former** (commando raids into Egypt) **or the latter** (the full-scale occupation of Egypt)"

3-**WHY NOT??**

--"For the **ships of Chittim** shall come against him..."

--**ROME** occupied the Isle of **Cyprus** & sent an expeditionary force against Antiochus E.

--A "mandate" or ultimatum was issued **not to attack Egypt**, which had appealed to Rome for protection.

4-POPILUS LOENUS was at the head of the Roman army that **confronted Antiochus** Epiphanes. Popilus demanded that Antiochus **cease interferrence** with the Egyptians. ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES **asked time** to consider the terms. Popilus thereupon **drew his sword** & traced a circle in the sand around where Antiochus was standing & **demanded a decision before** Antiochus **stepped out** of the circle.

5-Having **no alternative**, Antiochus Epiphanes made a pledge of peace toward Egypt

IV.-THE RUIN OF ANTIOCHUS EPIPHANES:

A.-Violence Against The Jews (Dan. 11:30-32a):

1-As an act of "**licking his wounded ego**", Antiochus Epiphanes returned northward & **attacked Palestine**

2-**PERSECUTION** (11:30)

--Broke a covenant of peace with the Jews

--"Have intelligence with"=="have regard for(ASV) =="MAKE COMMON CAUSE WITH" those that are **forsakers of** the **Jewish faith**

--In this way, "...he **took the city** (Jerusalem) without fighting, those of his own party opening the gates to him." (JOSEPHUS, Ant.,Book 12, Chapter 5)

--"And when he had **pillaged** the whole city (even

Against the PEOPLE of God and Against the WORSHIP of God

stripping the Temple bare of it s ornaments), some of the inhabitants he slew, & some he carried captive, together with their wives & children, so that the multitude of those captives that were taken alive amounted to about ten thousand." (JOSEPHUS, Ibid)

3-POLLUTION of the Sanctuary
--11:31
--By sacrificing a SOW on the altar of God
--By erecting an IDOL on the altar & raising altars of pagan worship in every city with swine to be sacrificed daily
--This is a historical case of an ABOMINATION in God's sight
--Antiochus Epiphanes had the Greek god ZEUS erected & then said that HE WAS ZEUS --in effect declaring himself DEITY & worthy of worship.

4-PERVERSION--11:32a
--Antiochus Epiphanes compelled the Jews to forsake their true worship & to adore him
--"Many Jews there were who complied with the king's commandments." (JOSEPHUS, Ibid)

The Jew-hater Antiochus IV Epiphanes is history's foremost TYPE of the ANTICHRIST. He was the first person in history to persecute a people exclusively for their religious faith. Always before a conquered people was required to accept the god of the conqueror, or the god of the conquered people was added to the list of other gods already worshipped. But the malevolence of Antiochus IV is truly unique. The Jews called him "THE DEVOURER, THE UNJUST ONE IN PURPLE, THE CRUEL, THE REJECTOR OF LIGHT."

A big group of faithful Jews were caught in a cave observin the Sabbath. The entrance was sealed and fires set to suffocate them. Two mothers had circumcised their infants. They were paraded about the city with the infants tied to their breasts & finally thrown over the wall. Eleazae, an aged scribe, was put to death for refusing to eat swine's flesh....These are examples of the horrors perpetuated upon the Jews by Antiochus, who murdered with abandon.

2-STRENGTHENING--11:32b
--Historic fulfillment in the Maccabees
--Their strength was SPIRITUAL
--Judas Maccabeus exhorted his men to be of good courage and "to place their hopes of victory in God."
--They did marvelous exploits
--HOW ?---Because they knew their God !!
--"Judas cast their enemies out of the country & put those of their own country to death who had transgressed its laws, & purified the land of all the pollutions that were in it." (Josephus)
--REGAINED ** Liberty of worship
** Liberty of self-government

--Purified the TEMPLE 3 years to the day after its desecration by Antiochus Epiphanes

--Maccabees were called "THE HAMMERS OF GOD" because these men were used of God to break the power of these foreign invaders & idolators

(5)

3-SUFFERING--11:33-34

--Tremendous sufferings during those 3 years of Antiochus Epiphanes' foreign army occupation of Palestine

--MANY died by the sword & in captivity

--But many were PRESERVED

4-WHAT OF ANTIOCHUS ??

--2 Macc. 9:4-12--"Then swelling with anger he thought to avenge upon the Jews the disgrace done unto him by those that made him flee. Therefore commanded he his chariot-man to drive without ceasing, & to dispatch the journey, the judgment of God now following him. For he had spoken proudly in this sort, That he would come to Jerusalem, & make it a common burying place of the Jews. (5) But the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, smote him with an incurable & invisible plague: for as soon as he had spoken these words, a pain of the bowels that was remedieless came upon him, and sore torments of the inner parts; (6) And that most justly: for he had tormented other men's bowels with many and strange torments. (7) Howbeit he nothing at all ceased from his bragging, but still was filled with pride, breathing out fire in his rage against the Jews, and commanding to haste the journey: but it came to pass that he fell down from his chariot, carried violently; so that having a sore fall, all the members of his body were much pained. (8) And thus he that a little afore thought he might command the waves of the sea, (so proud was he beyond the condition of man) and weigh the high mountains in a balance, was now cast on the ground & carried in an horselitter, showing forth unto all the manifest power of God. (9) So that the worms rose up out of the body of this wicked man, & whiles he lived in sorrow and pain his flesh fell away, & the filthiness of his smell was noisome to all his army. (10) And the man, that thought a little afore he could reach to the stars of heaven, no man could endure to carry for his intolerable stink. (11) Here therefore, being plagued, he began to leave off his great pride, & to come to the knowledge of himself by the scourge of God, his pain increasing every moment. (12) And when he himself could not abide his own smell, he said these words, 'IT IS MEET TO BE SUBJECT UNTO GOD, AND THAT A MAN THAT IS MORTAL SHOULD NOT PROUDLY THINK OF HIMSELF, AS IF HE WERE GOD.'"

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--Josephus--"...he was confounded, and by the anxiety he was in fell into a distemper, which, as it lasted a great while, and as his pains increased upon him, so he at length perceived he should die in a little time; so he called his friends to him, and told them that his distemper was severe upon him; and confessed withal, that this calamity was sent upon him for the miseries he had

brought upon the Jewish nation, while he plundered their temple, and contemned their God: and when he had said this, he gave up the ghost." (Antiquities, Book 12, Chapter 9:1)

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** Indeed, God does have the LAST WORD
** Surely, "Thy Word is Truth"

5-SIFTING--11:35
--Trial & purging were their lot then
--Trial & purging has been the lot of the Jews thru many succeeding centuries
--WHY ??---"To make them white"=="PURIFIED in God's sight"
--HOW ??--Willing to turn & to trust in the BLOOD of the Savior, Jesus Christ

6-Gap between 11:35 and 36 for the reference is to "the time of the end."

CONCLUSION:

A-His Good Promise:

1-1 Kings 8:56--"...according to all that he promised: there hath not failed one word of all his good promise, which he promised..."
2-Daniel projects by prophecy
3-History has recorded the detailed fulfillment
4-1 Kings 8:56 again
5-SO, you can have implicit confidence in all of God's truth

B-His Glorious Promise:

1-Dan. 11:32b
2-EXPLOITS--God did them thru Judas Maccabeus
--God can still do them thru us as well
1 John 5:4--"For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."
3-HOW ABOUT YOU ??--Do you KNOW your God ??
--Are you claiming His promise??
—Are you believing God "to the FULL"?
—Are you living the OVERCOMING LIFE ?

(1) 27 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"
Westbrae--3/22/70 (2) 332 We Have An Anchor
OKBC - 11/30/86 (3) 192 - He Is Able To Deliver Thee
(4) 28 - There's A Wideness In God's Mercy
(4) 171 - Faith Is The Victory

"THE WILFUL KING OF THE NEAR FUTURE" Dan.11:36-45

INTRO: **A.--Background Regarding The Near East:**

O.T. World MAP

1-**RUSSIA**
--Long in need of **outlet** on the **Bosphorous** (a straight leading out of the Black Sea)
--Year around **port** is IMPERATIVE
--Turned east under the Tsars
--Trans-Siberian Railroad
--Russo-Japanese War; Russia beaten
--1917 Bolshevick Revolution
--Expansionist USSR that **controls** (or) **influences** every person on earth
--W.W. II--Saved by USA Lend-Lease & then allowed to occupy Berlin & to enter the Pacific war at the end

2-**FRANCE**
--**1854** De Lessups; Engineering dream of **SUEZ**
--Personal finances failed; bailed out by Brit.
--85 mile ditch brought to a head the "**HOT SPOT** character of "THE NAVEL" where 3 continents come together
--**Continuing interest** in the Near East today, even though a 3rd rate power

3-**BRITAIN**
--Attempted in W.W. I to sieze the **Dardennelles**; **FAILED**
--**Balfour Declaration** for National Jewish Homeland on **Nov. 2, 1917**
--Turned totally to **rely** on **Suez**;
--Abandoned hopes in Bosphorous area
--British **MANDATE** over Palestine during between the wars era.
--**Expelled from Egypt** & other EMPIRE areas following W.W. II — Sun finally set on British Empire

4-**JAPAN**
--After fall of Singapore in **1942** Admiral **Yamamoto controlled ALL** of the Pacific & Indian Oceans
--Yamamoto moved **3 fleets** into the Indian Ocean & neutralized 2 important bases on Ceylon
--Nearly in a position **to RULE** THE **OCEANS** of the world
--Britain **withdrew** her little fleet behind the isle of Madagascar
--Japan set sail with **3 full Navy fleets** & a full merchant fleet loaded with supplies & crack troops **HEADED FOR SUEZ** & a rondéveaux **with Rommel's troops** in North Africa.
--**Nothing** could have **stopped** Japan then
* --**EXCEPT** that after this fleet was enroute, Adm. **Yamamoto withdrew** them **for** a **WEST COAST STRIKE** beginning with Midway, Dutch Harbor & Pearl Harbor.
* --Japan's **CODE was broken** on this & this fleet was **intercepted at MIDWAY**, and our 4 aircraft carriers **turned the tide** in the Pacific.

5-**NORTH AFRICA** --A **see/saw** back & forth in the desert
--Rommel vs. Montgomery

- ?? WHY would Britain surrender Singapore, but not Suez ??
- ?? WHY the effort of Britain to "win over" the Arabs?!
- Russia saw this & began planting AGENTS in Arab lands in 1943; Exploiting Pan-Arab League
- BLUNDER on the part of Britain at the end of W.W. II in turning from the Israelis to the Arabs----Gen. 12

6-EGYPT--King Farouk expelled & abdicated the throne

--NASSER rises
- ** Gains control of Egypt
- ** Intense NATIONALISM fomented
- ** Instigation of 3 wars against Israel
- ** IMPLACCABLE HATRED of the Jews

--Operation "Amilkar"
- ** 1956 Franco-British-Israeli invasion of Egypt
- ** Concieved by France's De Molle
- ** French military aid to Israel pulled it off
- ** Britain was involved thru only 2 men; Eden & Foreign Minister
- ** TIMING: Revolt in Hungary; Hoped Russia's hands would be tied
  - US National Elections of 1956
- ** 3 day mobilization of 1/4 of Israel's population without a security leak
- Forced withdrawal thru Pres. Eisenhower in 1956

--1967 Six Day War
- ** Who started it, really? ?
- ** No one really knows, though it was propagandized by Egypt
- ** Who finished it; ISRAEL
- ** Fighting goes on, & will go on!!

+ Sadat
+ Mubarik

B.-Power Blocks Effecting The Near East:

1-NORTH=Russia & her sattelites
2-SOUTH=Egypt & Arab allies (Very uncohesive force of 110 Million)
3-EUROPE--Britain, France, Germany, etc.
- --Include the USA in this camp
- --Well aware of the STRATEGIC VALUE of the near east
  - ** Navel of the earth
  - ** "Powderkeg of the nations"
  - ** Trade & oil area

4-EAST--China, Japan & India, Indo-China
- --Background "rumble" from these underdeveloped areas, but we never dare forget that they are there

5-ISRAEL--Before 1967 she had less than 8,000 sq. miles
- --Now over 24,000 sq. miles
- --Population 2,200,000 in 1963
- --Population 3,500,000 now, plus 2 million Arabs

Israel Map 1967

C.-Prophetic Foreview:

1-Daniel 11:36-45
2-Definite break
- 11:21-35; Antiochus Epiphanes
- 11:36-45; Future Leader; Nothing in Antiochus that resembles this; Antiochus died in Persia
- Break in thought recognized by Paragraph division in ASV + NASB

3-"THE KING"--Now introduced as a THIRD PARTY
--Up til now we had a King of the North & a King of the South
--These are still there, but a NEW PERSONAGE is added, & he is distinct
--"THE KING", "HE", & "HIM" in every case in this passage refer to the joint headship of the 2 BEASTS of Rev. 13; Sometimes the one & sometimes the other---Antichrist & his False Prophet are in view, but no one else

NB

4-Eschatalogical timing is PROMINENT !!
--That means this relates to "the last times" when Jesus will soon return to rule & to reign
--10:14--"In the latter days" (beginning of Ch.10-12 in one vision)
--11:36--"Till the indignation be accomplished"--Indignation is used frequently of the wrath of God & sometimes of the Great Tribulation (Isa. 26:20)
--11:40--"At the time of the end" a battle is predicted as imminent & this term is used in connection w/ the establishing of the Messianic Kingdom
--12:1--"And at that time" is linked in succeeding verses with the resurrection of the dead, the Great Tribulation & the final reward of the righteous

5-OUR MESSAGE---"THE WILFUL KING OF THE NEAR FUTURE"
I-His IDENTIFICATION
II-His DOMINATION
III-His OPPOSITION
IV-His TERMINATION

6-PROP:--To see these prophecies in some detail
--To understand the sovereign hand of God
--To awake to righteousness in the SHORT TIME we have left and really serve Him in this time!

I.-THE WILFUL KING—HIS IDENTIFICATION (Dan. 11:36-39):

A.-In Attitude (11:36):

1-Absolute monarch or DICTATOR
--Not held in check by a parliament or congress
--Not even the 10 Kings under him will dare interfere
--Revived Roman Empire's HEAD is "wilful" !
--ILLUS.-Adolph Hitler or Benito Mussolini

2-Self-Exaltation--Magnifies himself above all deities
--Speaker of marvellous things; PROPAGANDA
--Blasphemous words against THE GOD
--Seems to know no bounds for his pride

3-Yet, his end is sure, as we'll see later

B.-An Atheist (11:37):

1-Obviously he is an apostate
--Some think apostate from JUDAISM
--Others think apostate from christianity
--Since he rules over Europe, it is more likely he is apostate from Christianity

2-No regard for "The Desire of women"
Term used for MESSIAH

--Because godly Jewish women longed for the honor of being **mother** to **IMMANUEL**
--So, he rejects both **Christianity** as a religion and **Christ** as a Person

3-In fact, **no regard** for "**any god**", indicates complete **ATHEISM**

4-Rather, a **self-magnification** "above all"
--Wants not just power
--But also **WORSHIP**
--To this end he demands worship to himself thru an **IMAGE** set up in the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem
--Rev. 13:8--"And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world

C.-A Militarist (11:38-39):

1-Read in **R.V.**--"But in his place shall he honor the god of fortresses; and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honor with gold, and silver, and with precious stones & pleasant things. And he shall deal with the strongest fortresses by the help of a foreign god: whosoever acknowledgeth him he will increase with glory; and he shall cause them to rule over many, & shall divide the land for a price."

2-**God of FORCE** will be his banner; "**MIGHT** will make **RIGHT**" in his views--"**Forces**"=="**Fortresses**", indicating warfare
--Not a man for arbitration & conferences
--But for the **imposition** of **his will**
--MILITARILY
--**Great sums** will be spent **on weapons**
--No force will be able to stand against him
--**Rule** will be "**meted out**" to those who join with him as his power spreads & enlarges

D.-In Power (11:38-39):

1-Seems to be a **two-fold source**

2-FIRST--**Religiously**, he is **empowered**
--"Aand a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honor.."
--God of his fathers is the **Christian God** for a European leader
--This god of his alliance seems to be **APOSTATE CHRIST-ENDOM** seen in the Ecumenical Movement
--Confirmed in **Rev. 17**

2-SECOND--The Power "**behind the scenes**"
--Satan is the empowering force
--2 Cor. 4:4--"the god of this world"
--Rev. 13:2--"..and the dragon gave him his power & his throne, & great authority."
--Remember **Mt. 4:8-9** where Satan offered "all the kingdoms of this world", and they were under his control to deliver them

Union of Romanism w/ other religions + Papacy as the TOP DOG.

II.-THE WILFUL KING--HIS DOMINATION (11:40-43):

A-The Enemies (11:40):

1-**Kings**--Of the **South**==EGYPT
--Of the **North**==RUSSIA (according to Ezek. 38-39)
--Remember, **directions** in Scripture are always in relation to the land of **Palestine**

2-WARFARE is initiated
--"Push at" in Heb. means "make war" or "attack"
--"Come against" indicates a military maneuver
--North & South come against "him" as he has his power base in Israel thru his COVENANT with them (Dan. 9:27)
3-Tremendous military arms seem to be involved
4-Both a land & an amphibious assault against Israel & the Roman Ruler

B.-The Extension (11:40b-43):

1-Our curiosity is NOT SATISFIED here as to just what happens or to just why, but it is clear that the Roman Wilful King prevails
--Glorious land (Israel) is in his possession
--Many countries fall to him
--Reaches south even to Egypt, Libya & Ethiopia (Sudan)
2-What happened to Egypt & Russia????
3-No Biblical answer about Egypt, except that the occupation of their land indicates that they are overrun & defeated by the Roman Ruler's armies
4-But what of MIGHTY RUSSIA??
--No word of a battle fought
--Yet they must be defeated
--WHAT OCCURS ???
--Ezek. 38:18--39:5
- Divine intervention (Earthquakes, Pestilences fire from heaven, etc.)
- Internal strife among allies
- Only 1/6th survive & they retreat to Russia
--DEFEATED at the middle of the 7 year 70th Week of Daniel

C.-The Exceptions (11:41):

1-Three exceptions are listed--EDOM, MOAB & AMMON (Descendant of ESAU; Descendants of LOT)
2-All are ARAB countries
3-Why not invaded??
4-Don't know, & speculation won't clarify it
5-It would seem this Roman Ruler "Has it made",... "BUT"

III.-THE WILFUL KING--HIS OPPOSITION (11:44-45a):

A.-The Enemies (11:44):

1-Always note such words as "BUT" in Scripture, for they are often very significant
2-General Orientation
--OVERLAY---2 parts
--7 years between the RAPTURE and the RETURN
--3½ years of the Roman Ruler's PROMINENCE
--3½ years of Roman Ruler's DOMINENCE
--The world seems secure in his iron fist
--and then.... "BUT" (11:44)
3-Troublesome tidings out of the EAST
--Pan Asiatic block is rising against his reign
--Rev. 9:13-16; 16:12 (200,000,000 man army.)
--Not much said, but expansionist hordes of

manpower seem to converge from the East towards Israel

4-Troublesome tidings out of the NORTH
--Russia defeated 3 to 3½ years before on Israel's mountains
--Russia again begins to rouse & rumble & the portent of trouble threatens this Wilful King

B.-The Encounter (11:44b):

1-Seems there is a battle, or a series of them
2-Appearance is that this Wilful King is VICTORIOUS again
3-I know of no passage of Scripture that gives details

C.-The Encampment (11:45a):

1-Apparently he is successful in defeating these armies, or at least in AMALGAMATING them under his leadership
2-Plants his "tabernacles" (General Headquarters) in Israel
--"Between the seas"==Between Mediteranean & Dead Seas
--"In the glorious holy mountain"==In or near Jerusalem

IV.-THE WILFUL KING——HIS TERMINATION (11:45b):

A.-Where Will This Termination Be?:

1-OVERLAY of Israel with geographic features
2-Armageddon & Plain of Jezreel
--NOT the place of the "last battle"
--Rev. 16:15-16
--But rather the "staging area" for the battle
3-Battle will be at JERUSALEM
4-Zech. 14:1-2

O.T. Palestine
445-001
(3) + (3-1)

● Zech 14:1-2 — Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, & thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; & the city shall be taken, & the houses rifled, & the women ravished; & half of the city shall go forth into captivity, & the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city."

B.-With Whom Will This Battle Of

1-"ALL NATIONS" will be involv
--Zech. 14:2
--Joel 3:2--"I will als
bring them down into t
plead with them there
--Mt. 25:31-32
2-These will come to fight

● "...
sa...
ho...
sha...

of His glory: And before Him shall be gathered all nations: & He shall separate them one from another as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats."

C.-When Will This Termination

1-Right "ON SCHEDULE" accor
2-Mt. 25:31 again
3-Dan. 11:36--"And the King
tion be accomplished; for
done."
4-At THE END of the Tribula
5-Dan. 11:45b--"...yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him."

D.-How Will This Termination Occur?:

1-Not told in Daniel — Messiah appears / fights / Stands on Olivet / WINS
2-Zech. 14:3-4
3-Rev. 19:11-20
4-Note 5 Key Thoughts related to Christ's Return

acc. to Rev. 19

IN A BOOK published many years ago by the Moody Colportage Association, this table is related: "A camel once came to the door of a tent and thrust in his nose. Not being resisted, he stuck in his feet. There being no hindrance, he entered halfway. Still finding no opposition, he was soon completely inside. It was then that the nomad who resided in the tent finally realized his uncomfortable plight. Giving the camel a good kick, he commanded, 'Get out! This place isn't large enough for both of us!' To that the camel defiantly replied, 'Then **you** had better leave! This is now **my** tent!' "

This is only a tale, but it points up a vital truth. Experience teaches us that any sin which is allowed to come into our life, if it is not soon resisted, eventually takes over entirely. The person who permits such a thing to happen becomes the victim of his own evil indulgence. How many there are today who have a "camel of sin" in their tent. They begin by taking just a few drinks. Before they know it, they find themselves crushed by the unwelcome intruder called "alcoholism." Catering to the baser sins of the flesh they soon discover that they are completely dominated by their lusts. Some puff away on cigarettes and, in spite of the warnings issued by both doctors and ministers, continue to indulge themselves until life itself is threatened by the aftereffects of tobacco. They engage in a few so-called innocent bets and are gradually overcome by the evils of gambling. We might go on and on; but whatever the vice or error, when you invite it into the "tent of your life" and cater to it, you soon find it taking full possession.

Beware of the "camel of sin"! —R. W. D.

From "little sins" we practice
Much misery can accrue,
So root them out with patience

REMEMBER that when all of this breaks on earth, we'll be safe with the Savior in the clouds of heaven

4-UNSAVED.....?.....Get your salvation settled NOW!

Westbrae--4/5/70--# 80--"Like A Mighty Sea" (3)
168--"Hold The Fort" (4)
OKBC - 12/7/86 # 482 - "Face To Face" (2)
499 - "Wounded For Me" (1)

PLEASE "NOTEAR" ®

-In active witness
burning"
3-LET US--BELIEVE that our time is short!
--RESOLVE to live for God apart from complacency or compromise
--TELL OTHERS of Jesus, the mighty to save

A GENTLEMAN offered a lady a Gospel tract with a word of testimony and was severely reprimanded by her. With a withering glance she said sharply, "Why don't you mind your own business?" "That's exactly what I'm doing, Madam," he replied; "as a servant of the Lord, **my business is to get out the Gospel to every creature!**"

Note how the "fruitful tree" of those who faithfully witness keeps sending out "branches": Richard Gibbs, an old puritan doctor, wrote *The Bruised Reed*. A copy fell into the hands of a boy named Richard Baxter, resulting in his conversion. In later years Baxter authored a large number of tracts and books. His *Saints' Rest* and *Call to the Unconverted* were translated into many languages. By them multitudes of sinners were led to Jesus—including Philip Doddridge who became a famous preacher, hymnwriter, and the president of a theological seminary. Doddridge wrote the well-circulated book *The Rise and Progress of Religion in the Soul* which proved a rich blessing. William Wilberforce read it, was convicted of sin, and as a consequence came to the Savior. After being instrumental in freeing a great number of slaves in the British colonies, Wilberforce penned *A Practical View of Christianity*. This changed the life of Leigh Richmond who became a world-famous writer of tracts which influenced thousands to seek the Lord. And so we could go on, showing that the "fruit of the righteous" is a spiritual "family tree of converts" which keeps branching out to encompass others.

Have you ever sought to rescue a lost sinner? Remember, "he that winneth souls is **wise**"!

—H. G. B.

When we stand before the Savior
On that glad eternal Shore,
Heaven's glory will be brighter
If we've brought the man next door!

—Anon.

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

INTRO:

A.—"Doomsday" Writers & Speakers:

1-Some speak or write of "THE END OF THE WORLD" as if it were close upon us

2-The **times are troubled** — Domestic affairs; Foreign affairs; Economy; Deficits; Balance of Payments

3-Depair is widespread

4-**Confusion** is on every hand

5-People **NEED SOLID ANSWERS**

- --What is next?
- --**When** will **Jesus come** again?
- --What about our current **social** problems?
- --Is there really any **resurrection hope**?
- --**Does God reward** truth & righteousness? ?
- --Are we "on the **verge**" of Christ's coming?
- --**Will a millennium** of righteousness ever really come?

6-Daniel gives **GOD'S ANSWERS** !!

B.—Orientation To This Message:

1-Daniel 10-12 are all **one vision**

- --Longest in Daniel
- --Longest in whole Bible
- --Deals with ESCHATALOGICAL picture
  - ** 10:14
  - ** 11:35
  - ** 11:36
  - ** 11:40
  - ** 12:1

Related to ISRAEL, not the Church

2-Daniel 12 deals with the TRIBULATION's **climax and beyond**

Overhead →

3-this is the time of **Antichrist's DOMINENCE**

4-Outline --I.-Charateristics of The Time Of The E
II.-Contents Of The Time Of The End

5-**PROP:** --**Clarify** the future thru the WORD
--Reassurance to the saints
--**SHAKE** the unbelieving — NEAR to the "Time of the end"

I.-CHARACTERISTICS OF "THE TIME OF THE END":

A.—Characteristics Related To Israel (12:1):

1-**Angelic activity** will heighten (12:1a)

- --**Michael** is named as **Israel's** WARRIOR **DEFENDER** (10:13, 21; 12:1)
- --Called the **Archangel** in Jude 9
- **Rev. 12**:7-10 ** **War** in heaven against Satan
  ** **Defender** in Israel's behalf

Dragon cast out of heaven

- --PRELUDE to earthly trouble for Israel
- --Middle of the tribulation
- --**Blessing** in heaven, **but** on **earth**.....

2-**TROUBLE** without parallel

- --12:1--"..and there shall be a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time..."
- --**UNPRECIDENTED** Time of affliction for Israel

--Mt. 24:21-22--"For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days had been shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the Elect's sake those days shall be shortened."

Many in Israel will line up in support of the Antichrist

--"The tribulation the GREAT one" (Gk)

Read--Jer. 30:3-7 ** Time of TRAVAIL (30:6)
** Time of TERROR (30:7)
** Time of TRIUMPH (30:7)

Centers on PALESTINE

--Mt. 24:29-30--"Immediately after the tribulation of those days shall the sun be darkened, & the moon shall not give her light, & the stars shall fall from heaven, & the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: and then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, & they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power & great glory."

--SATANIC activity of TROUBLE for Israel while he has yet time.

--Rev. 12:12--"Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabiters of the earth & of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time."

3-National deliverance

NEVER yet has this been fulfilled for Israel

--In spite of the worst Satan can do, God's redemptive program will go on

--12:1--"..and at that time thy people shall be delivered every one that shall be found written in the Book"

--Trouble & refining------YES !!

--BUT ALSO spiritual deliverance

--Rom. 11:25-27

B.-Characteristics Related To Resurrection (12:2):

1-If this verse were our only text on Resurrection

--The doctrine of physical resurrection of the body would be clear & sure

--But we'd not know any details

--Amillennial & Postmillennial teachers get a "GENERAL RESURRECTION" out of this verse because they fail to distinguish its parts & because they fail to compare with more explicit verses in the N.T.

2-Note the DETAILS--"Many" shall awake to life, but not all

--"Some" will rise to shame & judgment

--KJV doesn't make clear any time differential or sequence

--TREGELLES translates: "And many from among the sleepers of the dust of thearth shall awake; these shall be unto everlasting life; but those (the rest of the sleepers) who do not awake at this time, shall be unto shame

& everlasting Contempt"

3-Stages of the Resurrection (3) ?
- 1 Cor. 15:22-24 (ALL READ IN UNISON)
  - What does "every man in his own order" mean??
  - OVERLAY on Resurrection Stages
  - 1000 years of millennium bound up in a comma in Dan. 12:2
- Rev. 20:4-6; Resurrection of the Saved OT Saints
- Rev. 20:11-15; Resurrection of UNSAVED at G.W.T.

4-So, this resurrection of Dan. 12:2
- Is FRACTIONAL, not total
- Is related to ISRAEL
- Is timed "at that time" at the end of the "time of trouble" for Israel
- Is NOT, then, a general resurrection as the Amillennialist & Postmillennialists teach

C.-Characteristics Related To Rewards (12:3):

1-R.V. renders "And they that be wise" as "And the TEACHERS that be wise"

2-Indication of those who TEACH THE GOSPEL in that time
- The 144,000 from the 12 tribes of Israel (Rev.7)
- The 2 Witnesses (Rev. 11)
- These will SHINE with a glory like the stars!
- TURN many to righteousness
- What an encouragement to SOUL-WINNING in any age
- [redacted]

3-THEIR GOSPEL
- Gospel of the KINGDOM from John & Jesus
- Gospel of the GRACE OF GOD (Acts 20:24) from Paul & Apostles & from us in Church age
- Gospel of the KINGDOM again in the Tribu.
  - ** Mt. 24:14--"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."
  - ** Message of the IMPENDING coming of the KING
  - ** Not a text to be used for Church age missionary challenge

4-REWARD for teaching this "good news"
- Dan. 12:3
- 1 Th. 2:19--"For what is our hope or joy or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming?"
- CROWNS as a victor for Christ.- Showing our faith

D.-Characteristics Related To "SIGNS Of The TIMES"(12:4):

1-Book of Daniel "SHUT" & "SEALED"
- UNTIL "the time of the end"
- Some parts cannot be fully understood until then (such as 12:11, 12)
- THEN it will all be clear
- Contrast with Revelation which is an UNVEILING of X.
- Rev. 22:10--"And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand."
- The N.T. makes many of these O.T. prophecies much more clear.

2-**Signs** are to be true **in** the **TRIBULATION**
--"Many shall run to & fro" **TRAVEL**
--"And knowledge shall be increased" — **INFORMATION**
--Certainly coming into focus for us at the present
--Events & conditions **CAST THEIR SHADOWS** before them !!
--**NOT YET** in the time of the Tribulation
--But the "stage is clearly being set"

Pember translates: "Many shall search it thru + thru + the Knowledge of it shall be increased"

3-**How is it today?!**
--**TRAVEL**
** Globe-trotters abound
** Jet-Setters scurry from place to place
** Even the "**common folks**" like us **TRAVEL**
--KNOWLEDGE ** **Secular** knowledge EXPLOSION
** Advanced study very widespread
** **Saving** knowledge is also widely available for the one who is "seeking"

FEINBERG, P. 186--"There is an important principle to be seen here. As the time for the fulfillment of God's prophecies draws nigh, He grants to men greater insights into them than was formerly possible. This explains the oft-repeated question, Why is it that our grandparents' generation did not occupy itself more with matters of prophecy? We infer from this passage that we are living closer to the hour of their fulfillment than they did. Even they grasped more of the prophetic Scriptures than did their predecessors; so we witness the progressively greater understanding of the events of the end time as the day of their fulfillment approaches."

the OATH

(Christ)

s

ice,
st

ever" (God)
--"For a time, times, & a half" = **3½ years**
--Same as in **7:25**--"And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, & think to change times & laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time & times & the dividing of time."

5-**What will happen** in that **3½ years**???
--"**Wear out** the saints of the Most High" (7:25)
--"**Scatter** the power of the holy people" (12:7)
--Agrees with **12:1** as the time of great **affliction & persecution** for Israel
--Agrees with the **whole of Scripture** in this point; both in the O.T. & the N.T.

B.--Delay (12:8-9):
1-**Daniel is PERPLEXED** --12:8
--Questions because of his **lack of understanding** of all this
--Not alone in not understanding from this vantage-point
--**1 Pet. 1:10-12** Read

Overlay on 2 Mountains Of Prophecy

2-Daniel is **REASSURED**--12:9 "Closed up ... sealed"
--**Not** to be **understood** clearly until "the time of the end"
--**A DELAY**, therefore, is to be expected for Daniel's people

C.-Details (12:10-12):

1-Scofield's margin--"A prophecy describing the moral state of the world from Daniel's day to the time of the end"
2-**Contrast** is evident--**MANY** are purified, made white & tried
--**WICKED** are doing wickedly
--Wicked lack understanding
--Wise shall understand — Clarity at that time!
3-**TWO NEW DATES** revealed
--**12:11**
--**1290 days** dated from mid-Tribulation (**30 extra**)
--**Extention** beyond the Tribulation
--**No explanation** here
--MAY be related to **JUDGMENT** of living Jews (Ezek. 20:33-44) & living Gentiles (Mt. 25.31-46)
--**12:12**
--**1335 days** dated from mid-Tribulation (**45 more** extra, for a total of 75 days beyond the Trib.)
--Again **no explanation** here
--MAY be related to **RESURRECTION & REWARD** of O.T. saints to prepare for the Millennial kingdom
NB → --**Can't prove** these 2 suggestions,
--But **both are predicted** as being accomplished **before** the **Millennium**
--Somewhat concerned in...

D.-Daniel's Promise (12:13):

1-**Reassurance** to a **faithful servant** ← Tender Touch at end of this revelation
--At an age, now, of **95** or **96** years
--Daniel is shown that his future, immediately, is death
--**UNTIL** his **divine summons** for his EXODUS from the grave
--"**Rest**" until that appointment
--Then "**Stand** in thy lot" in **resurrection** before the Lord
--Repetition that Daniel's resurrection, along with all the other godly Israelites (12:1, 12) will be **at "the end of the days"**
--See clearly a **POST-Tribulation resurrection for Israel**
2-Promise of **HOPE** for the future
3-God does have **GOOD THINGS** in store.

CONCLUSION:

A.-Recapitulation:

1-**CHARACTERISTICS** of "The Time Of The End"
--Related to Israel (12:1)
--Related to the resurrection (12:2)
--Related to rewards (12:3)
--Related to the "Signs of the times" (12:4)
2-**CONTENTS** of "The Time Of The End"
--Duration of $3\frac{1}{2}$ years
--Delay in full understanding of all of this

consummation of the times of the Gentiles. Daniel tells us how Gentile

--Details of 2 extra time periods
--Daniel's promise of resurrection (PERSONAL)

6

B.-Reassurances Out Of Daniel 12:

1-God **IS on the Throne**
--His control is **sure**
--His promises are good
--His power is **sufficient**
--Earth's program is "on schedule" according to God's timetable

2-Angels--Their **presence for Israel** is made clear
--**Also** for **believers today**
--Heb. 1:14--"Are they (the angels) not all ministering spirits, sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation?"
--BUT REMEMBER that the presence of angels **does not deliver us** from problems
--**Rather**, the angels bring us **divine help** in our circumstances !!

3-**Promise** for **the Church**--Not found in Daniel 12 NB
--In fact, the Church is not found in Daniel AT ALL !!
--Rather in **Rev. 3**---Ch. of Philadelphia
--Rev. 3:7-13
--Rev. 3:10 is **OURS** !
--**Warning** to any who are wavering; Rev. 3:11-13

4-Makes our hearts join with Daniel's in asking:
"HOW LONG" ??

5-But----------**Are you ready?** ?
--The unbelievers--those who have not placed their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ--**cannot understand** these prophecies. God revealed them only to His own people. **God's final message** to Daniel (12:13) is one of **HOPE**!!
--God has a **special place** for **Daniel**, as well as for all who die in the Lord.
--God has **no pleasure** in the wicked at any time, BUT HE OFFERS SALVATION TO ALL in this life
--God's invitation should **not be lightly cast aside.**

2 Cor. 6:2- "NOW is the accepted Time, NOW is the day of salvation!"

My friend, I beg of you, if you have not been "washed in the blood of the Lamb," if you have not made your peace with God, if you have not renounced the world, and the flesh and the devil, delay no longer, "for in an hour ye think not, the Son of Man cometh." If you have not accepted Him, and received the light of salvation, all the knowledge that you gain of the things that have been and are to be will but increase your condemnation. Draw near to God, put your faith in Him, let His blood wash you whiter than snow. Then you will be among that blessed company to arise in the clouds to be forever with the Lord!

It was a sad and tragic accident which caused the blindness of William Montague Dyke when he was only 10. Still, because of his brilliant intellect, he won universal honor and social stature. Although he could not see, Dyke fell in love with one of England's most beautiful women, the daughter of Captain [illegible]

related how the king of Persia was
continuous prophecy. Verses 1 to 36
In the eleventh chapter, we have one
rific struggle between the nations.
Daniel in that vision of the last ter-
tenth chapter. Details were given
the prophet Daniel began with the
great prophecy which God gave to
going to end. We found that the last
dominion commenced, and [illegible]

#116 What

Westbrae--4/19/70--#137--"One I
OKBC--12/14/86 #131--"Chris
#90 Like

(#3 In Prophecy Series)

INTRO:

A.-Despair Epidemic:

1-Back in the 1940's right after World War II I recall Walter Reuther once saying, "Science will bring paradise to earth by the year 2000."

2-But the MOOD HAS CHANGED!!!

--N.Y. TIMES columnist C. L. Sulzberger is shaking with despair. "So terribly much has happened; so terribly much is happening, and all with such terrible speed, that it is difficult to foresee where we are headed. The men who fancy themselves in control of events are no longer really in control." (TIME, Spet. 29, 1961)

--One Brithish author has questioned whether man can actually make it to 1985----He maintains it will take a miracle if man is to survive that long.

--A notable journalist says: "For us all the world is disorderly, dangerous, ungoverned and ungovernable."

--Another writes: "Our world is beleaguered with insoluable problems."

3-CAUSES of despair--FEAR of the future
--IGNORANCE of the unknown
--INABILITY TO CONTROL events that shape our scene and influence our lives
--AND this has not been lessened by a Nuclear Test Ban Treaty or by the Armistice in Viet Nam or collapse of the USSR

4-Unbelievers have NOTHING BUT UNCERTAINTY!!

B.-Despair's Exempts:

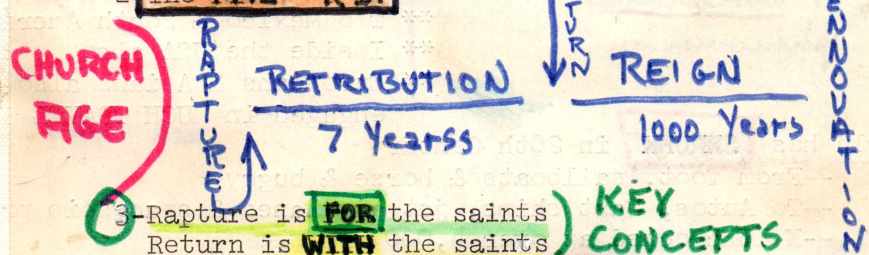
1-BELIEVERS are the only "exempts" from this despair
--Enjoying the present
--Confident of the future
--Expectant of Christ's soon-coming

2-How can this be?--Knowledge of the future thru knowledge of God's Word
--Realization that the NIGHT IS DARKEST just before the dawn!!

C.-Sequence Of Events:

1-Essential to get the "BIG PICTURE", and then fit in other details

2-The FIVE - R's:



3-Rapture is FOR the saints
Return is WITH the saints
KEY CONCEPTS

4-Detail concerning "RETRIBUTION" = Great Tribulation = Jacob's Trouble = Daniel's 70th "Week"

--Ten Nation successor to Roman Empire
--Covenant with Israel
--Destruction of Russia — The King of the North
--Undisputed power of a Roman Ruler (Antichrist) Over the revived ROMAN EMPIRE
--THEN Christ returns

D.-Signs Of Christ's Coming:

1-NOT related to the Rapture, but to His **RETURN**
2-A F T E R the Rapture that these "SIGNS" will culminate
3-------SO....When these signs are in evidence **NOW**, then the Rapture---which must take place **BEFORE** these signs culminate---must be very near.
4-**WHEN** for the Rapture" ?
--Date is not clear
--Drawing nearer all the time
--No more **UNFULFILLED Prophecies** before He comes
--"The Lord is at hand"
--Evidences that He's coming soon are multiplying
--Tremendous **changes IN OUR DAYS** which point to His return being soon
--**YET**, many people find these changes taking place in their environment & are not aware of change---or else they're in a "**CULTURE SHOCK**"
--ILLUS--**Frog** placed in a pan of cold water. Then the heat is turned on under him. Water comes to a **BOIL**. Frog is **cooked** without discerning any change in the temperature----even though he was free to jump out.
5-OUTLINE: I.-TRAVEL & KNOWLEDGE SIGN:
II.-PHYSICAL DISORDERS SIGN:
III.-MORAL DEGENERACY SIGN:
IV.-THE PEACE SIGN:
6-Prop--To DISCERN the signs of the times
--To REDEEM the time
--To EXPECT the Savior
) Learn these LESSONS!

I.-TRAVEL & KNOWLEDGE SIGNS:

A.-Increased Travel:

1-Dan. 12:4--"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."
--Speaks of unprecidented travel
--Specifically related to ISRAEL'S "time of the end"
--Such travel is **true today**
** To Europe
** To Israel
** To Far East
** T o Mexico & South America
** Inside the USA also
** Europeans & Asians also engaged in MUCH TRAVEL
to NEW ZEALAND
SOUTH AFRICA

A worldwide phenomenon.

2-World has "**SHRUNK**" in 20th Century
--From foot, sailboats & horse & buggy
--To Autos, fast ships, jet airplanes & spaceship probes
--X-15 clocked at over 4,000 MPH
--British-French CONCORDE has flown at 1400 MPH
--ILLUS--Back in 1960 I flew from Phoenix to Los Angeles

and according to the airline timetable, we were to land in L.A. 15 minutes before takeoff time from Phoenix---and we did it. (with the assistance of a 1 hour time zone change) (3)

3-**TODAY** we have both unprecidented TRAVEL & SPEED

4-ILLUS--It is a remarkable fact that **Sir Isaac Newton** (1642-1727), writing on the prophecies of Daniel, said that if they were to be fulfilled it would be necessary that **NEW MODES OF TRAVEL** would have to be invented, and that knowledge would advance to such a state that man would be able to travel at 50 MPH.

Voltaire, true to his spirit of skepticism, said: "Now look at the mighty mind of Newton, who discovered gravitation; when he began to study the Book called the Bible, it seems in order to credit its **fabulous nonsense**, he believed that the knowledge of mankind will be so increased that we shall be able to travel **50** MPH. THE **POOR DOTARD!**"

Today even a skeptic would have to say: "Newton was a wise philosopher; Voltaire a **poor old dotard.**"

B.-Increased Knowledge:

1-Dan. 12:4 again

--Concommitant of travel is increased **knowledge**

--ILLUS--Marco Polo's trip to CHINA brought back knowledge to Europe

--KNOWLEDGE EXPLOSION today !

--**But** not necessarily wisdom

2-"Since the Industrial Revolution of the 19th Century, our knowledge has increased as by a miracle."

--Hand sickle replaced by mechanized combines

--Ox teams followed by gang-plows

--Kites superceded by sattelites

--ETERNITY (May, 1972)

** **One half** of man's knowledge has been gained in the **past 15 years**

** Other half in the preceding **10,000 years**

** Number of scientists living & working today outnumbers the total of all previous years of man's existence

** JOURNALS OF SCIENCE:

++ 1750-----**10** Journals

++ 1830----**300** Journals

++ Today-----Nearly **40,000** Scientific Journals

** "Things are happening **so fast** that the individual scientist in his particular discipline is developing a feeling of lostness and a sense of futility at ever keeping up with moving, changing information."

3-Education Levels--**8th Grade** level was a good education at the turn of the 20th Century

--Today it requires a **COLLEGE DEGREE** even to be considered for many jobs, ---whether it is needed for that job or not. — **Missionaries' entrance**

--**Ph. D. graduates** of U.C. Berkeley

Lotta Graham

are being told to plan to return to school in no more than **10 years**, because by that time their educations will be **OUT OF DATE**

-Mankind is responding to the plea of the late John F. Kennedy--"Together let us explore the stars, conquer the deserts, eradicate disease, tap the ocean depths, and encourage the arts and commerce."

4-**So**, these words of Daniel 12:4 strike us today with INCREASING FORCE

5-In such **CHANGING TIMES**, the christian finds an ANCHOR in Jesus Christ (Heb. 13:8), Who is the same yesterday today and forever.

II.-PHYSICAL DISORDERS SIGN:

SEAL JUDGMENTS

A.-The Scriptures:

1-Matt. 24:6-8

2-**Parallel** in Rev. 6:5-8--Famine - Somalia
--Death - Herzegovina
--Earthquakes - CALIF / New Zealand
--Celestial phenomena - JAPAN
--Mountains moved

3-NOT YET in the times of these events

4-But I would suggest we're **in the "SHADOW"** of these events.

5-ILLUS-Man and shadow. We don't see the man first, but his shadow precedes him. However, when his shadow falls on us, the man can't be too far behind his shadow.

SO ALSO with our social scene, for events cast their shadows before them too.

B.-The Scene Today:

1-Physical disturbances in **WEATHER**

2-Increase in earthquake frequency--UP by 189% in last 100 years of being recorded according to the U.C. Seismology Center in Berkeley

3-Also--Famines - Droughts
--Hurricanes - FL, El Niño
--Floods - Power shortages
--Typhoons - WINTERS

4-ILLUS-Such a squawking & a screaming & a howling as there was, as birds of every kind gave forth their **warning cries**. Then the animals joined in, with monkeys chattering excitedly & Lions roaring as if in a frenzy of fear. Not for decades had there been such pandemonium at the **TACOMA ZOO.**

It happened all of a sudden, at the very moment that the earthquake struck Alaska. Before any word of the disaster arrived by radio or any other means, the birds and the beasts knew about it. **HOW DID THEY KNOW?** Who can tell? Are they on a "wavelength" of which we are unaware? Who is wise enough to understand all the mysteries of nature?

Long ago JEREMIAH (8:7) wrote of the intuition of the lesser creatures--"The stork in heaven knoweth her appointed times & the turtle & the craen & the swallow observe the time of

their coming; but My people know not the judgment of the Lord."-----In other words, in some respects the birds & beasts show MORE WISDOM THAN MEN. (5)

5-Maybe mankind needs to learn from the animal kingdom. Maybe we've become so engrossed in our own selfish plans & desires that we've gotten completely off the DIVINE WAVELENGTH OF COMMUNICATION.....But we can get back on by learning from God's Word---The "Signs of the Times"

III.-MORAL DEGENERACY SIGN:

A.-In History:

2-Reign of Terror--Period of anarchy & bloodshed in the French Revolution
--Countryside in grip of terror
--Violent measures by temporary rulers after fall of the Monarchy
--1793 to July 24, 1794
--Subjects were accorded the merest semblance of a legal trial
--Hatred for christianity
--Savagery of revolutionary actions
--Voltaire's body disinterred & almost deified
--Christianity abolished in France
--REASON was enthroned & worshipped
--Churches desecrated
--Pagan revelry & lasciviousness

Reverse these

1-Empire of ASSYRIA
--Symbol of VIOLENCE of the worst kind
--Jonah 3:8--"But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth; and cry mightily unto God: yea, let them turn every one from his evil way, and from the violence that is in their hands."
--Sennacherib's own description--"The...royal residence cities, togehter with 34 small cities of their environs, I beseiged, I captured, I destroyed, I devastated, I burned with fire....I cut their throats like lambs. I cut off their precious lives (as one cuts) a string. Like the many waters of a storm, I made (the contents of) their gullets and entrails run down upon the wide earth My prancing steeds harnessed for my riding, plunged into the streams of their blood as (into) a river. The wheels of my war chariot...were bespattered with blood and filth. With the bodies of their warriers I filled the plain, like grass" (D.D.Luckenbill, Ancient Records Of Assyria & Babylonia, Vol.II, Pp. 118, 127)

3-Our Own Day--Multiple Murders —— Assasinations
--Violent demonstrations
--Legalization of perversions
--Skyjackings BOMBINGS
--Civil War (Ireland) afghanistan, Jugoslavia
--Civil Strife (Pakistan/Bangladesh)
--Olympic Games Murders in Munich — 1972

-IRAN
-Explosives in planes
-IRAQ
-Los Angeles riots + burning
-MEXICO

4-VIOLENCE is not a new thing--Gen. 6:11--"The earth also was corrupt before God, and the earth was filled with violence."

5-Much more also today--Sexual revolution
- --Situation ethics
- --Drug scene
- --Alcohol & tobacco
- --Homes breaking down/DIVORCE
- --Abortion on demand
- --Homosexual ministers ordained
- --Homosexual churches now for the "GAY"

Venereal disease
Herpes
AIDS

(6)

B.-In Prophecy Of "THE LAST DAYS":

Mt. 24:37-39

1-2 Tim. 3:1-5--Perilous times are coming
- --Behavior all wrong
- --Opinion all wrong-
- --Affections all wrong
- --Yet this sounds like what we daily read in the newspapers, hear on the radio & see on TV
- --Description "FITS" our social scene
- --Lawlessness on the increase

2-Mystery of iniquity
- --Already at work in Paul's day (2 Thess. 2:7a)
- --To continue & grow until the Holy Spirit is removed (2:7b
- --That occurs at the RAPTURE
- --Then it will be like a flood of sin when the restraining dam is taken away
- --SATAN and HIS MAN OF SIN will run unchecked
- --2 Thess. 2:8-12

3-Much more could be said, but let's also look at...

IV.-THE PEACE SIGN:

A.-The Peace Hope:

1-General Douglas MacArthur in REMINISCENCES wrote: "Men since the beginning of time have sought peace."

2-BUT WAR has been man's chief legacy
- --Treaties of peace throughout history
- --Hailed as "on the road to a just and lasting peace"
- --Ink has scarcely dried on most of them before one party or the other has violated them
- --Guns sound for "THE NEXT ROUND"
- --Increasingly devastating weapons have been each said to be so horrible as to make further wars "IMPOSSIBLE"
- --But always there have been those willing to use force to enforce their designs and to enlarge their possessions

-Afghanistan
-Serbia-Hertzogovina
-Lebanon

3-Wars fill the history of every culture:
- --Babylon
- --Syria
- --Assyria
- --Egypt
- --Phoenicia
- --Greece
- --Rome
- --Europe of the Middle Ages

--France
--Great Britain
--United States
--World War I
--World War II---60 million lives lost
--TIME (Nov. 1965) reported that a Norwegian statistician recently used a computer to ascertain that in **5560** years of recorded history there have been **2.6135** wars per year for a total of **16,731** wars, and that only **10** generations of the human race have **not known war.**

4-Since World War II, according to U.S. News & World Report Dec. 25, 1967--12 limited wars
--39 Political assasinations
--48 Personal revolts
--74 Rebellions for independence
--162 social revolutions of a political, economic, racial or religious nature.

1945-1967 = 22 Years

5-**YET**--In Jeremiah's day men cried: "**Peace, Peace**; when there is no peace." (Jer. 6:14)
--From 1500 BC to 1860 AD more than **8000 treaties** of peace meant to be in force "**FOREVER**" were concluded, and they averaged about **2 years** each in force before broken
--Churches today are behind the "PEACE MOVEMENT" (N.C.C. and W.C.C.)
--President Nixon has stated his goal of a "generation of peace" — Didn't Last.!
--Presidential Advisor Henry Kissinger advised the world in October 1972: "PEACE IS AT HAND", only to find peace quite elusive...though it was followed by an armistice in January 1973
--It is as likely of fulfillment as a genuine "PEACE" as were **Neville Chamberlain's words** to Great Britain in 1939 after his capitulation to Adolph Hitler when he claimed to have negotiated "**PEACE IN OUR TIMES**"

B--The Bible Expectation:

1-The Antichrist (Beast of Rev.) will be an **ADVOCATE** OF **PEACE**
--Great leader of the Revived Roman Empire
--Perhaps he is living today
--**PEACE PLAN** to settle the Middle-East Arab/Israeli conflict
--He will be the "MAN OF THE HOUR"....for peace.

2-Scriptures--Dan. 8:25--"And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand."
--Rev. 6:2-4
--1 Thess. 5:1-3

3-**Crux** of the **Problem**--Wicked men make up wicked nations

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR" ®

--Both men and nations have REJECTED the Prince of Peace
--But **NO PEACE** available to mankind apart from the Prince of Peace.

4-**How** can **YOU** have peace???
--Only through Christ
--He "made peace through the blood of His cross, by Him to reconcile all things unto Himself..."
--**RECEIVE JESUS** as your Savior
--And as a part of the "package" you'll RECEIVE PEACE
--Won't you do it...

C- ...Now!!!

CONCLUSION:

OTHER SIGNS

1. **RELIGION**
   - Ecumenical Movement
   - Romanism's grip
   - Charismatic Movement
   - ISLAMIC FUNDAMENTALISM
2. **ECONOMICS**
   - European E.C.
   - Communism + TV
   - OIL
3. **ISRAEL**

A.-Social Scene Signs Of Christ's Coming:

1-Travel and Knowledge increase
2-Physical Disorders widespread
3-Moral Degeneracy grows
4-Peace not really with us
5-ILLUS--In 1860 the French Chemist, Marcellin Berthelot, said: "Within a hundred years man will know what the atom is. It is my belief that when science reaches this stage, **God will come down** to earth with His big ring of keys and keys and will say to humanity--
---"GENTLEMEN.....IT IS CLOSING TIME."!"

B-What Can We Do?:

1-Unsaved------**Trust** Jesus Christ TODAY!

2-Believers--Be prepared
--Be salt of the earth
--Be different for Jesus' sake

3-REJOICE, for this is **GOD'S TIME FOR US**, and we are privileged to be alive and to serve Him in this generation.

4-Let's do it FAITHFULLY !!

(1) Man is a **SINNER** before God (Rom. 3:23; 6:23)
(2) God **LOVES MANKIND** as a whole + each person individually (Jn. 3:16; Rom. 5:8)
(3) God **PROVIDED JESUS CHRIST** as our sin-bearing substitutionary sacrifice + Savior
(4) Man must **BELIEVE** in his heart this message (Rom. 10:9a)
(5) Man must CONFESS with his mouth his faith in the Lord Jesus.

Westbrae--4/29/73--#133--"He Is Coming Again" "Christ Returneth"
8/30/64 #139--"What A Gathering"
#140--"Will Jesus Find Us Watching?"

Hamilton Bible Ch, NZ - 6/22/92
Calvary Bible Ch, Wichita, Ks. - 1/17/93
Huntsville Bible Ch. 3/6/94
Faith Bible Ch, Hedgesville, WV - 3/5/95

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Dan. 12:4

#3 in PROPHECY SERIES

Intro: A.-Despair Reigns:

1-"New York TIMES columnist C.L.Sulzberger was shaken with despair. 'So terribly much has happened,' he wrote in Sept. 1961, 'so terribly much is happening and all with such terrible speed, that it is difficult to foresee where we are headed. The men who fancy themselves in control of events are no longer really in control. Meanwhile, the steady thud of nuclear explosions deafens the eastern atmosphere while spinning far beyond & trembling below the rocky formations of the West.'" TIME, Sept. 29, 1961

2-Despair rises from--ignorance of the unknown
--fear of the future
--inability to control events

3-Unbelievers have NOTHING but uncertainty.

And The Nuclear Test Ban treaty has not lessened this sense of despair

Other quotes given by Epp in article attached to sermon #2

ILLUS - These things taking place around us - we're like frog put in a pan of cold water & heat turned on, not aware of the change. Like a frog put in boiling water & heat turned on, he'll be killed without discerning the change.

B.-Exempts From Despair:

1-Believers only
2-Enjoying the present
3-Confident of the future
4-Expectant of Christ's soon-coming
5-WHY - Night is darkest just before the dawn

C.-Christ's Coming:

1-Date is not clear
2-Drawing nearer
3-No more UNFULFILLED promises before He comes
4-Evidences or Promises fulfilled NOW---

"The Lord is at hand"

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

(5) (6) Tremendous changes IN OUR DAYS which point to His Return

I.-SIGN NUMBER ONE--THE INCREASE IN KNOWLEDGE & TRAVEL IN THE LAST DAYS:

A.-Travel: "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, & seal the book even to the time of the end...

1-Dan. 12:4--"Many shall run to & fro"
2-specifically related to the "time of the end"
3-Today is an age of unprecidented travel
4-World has been "shrunk" by--sailboats, steam, electricity, trains, deisels, autos, fast ships, airplanes, jets, & now space vehicles. The X-15 over 3000 m.p.h.; X-11 @ 2,000 MPH for civilian use
5-ILLUS--Some time ago I took a jet from Phoenix to Los Angeles. According to the timetable of the airline, we were to land in L.A. 15 minutes before takeoff time from Phoenix.....and we did it!
6-Speed & usage--50 years ago 4/5 of U.S.A. population traveled by horse & buggy
--Cross the Atlantic now by Jet in 8 hours
--Highways are always jammed often
--Reservations on planes are generally full
7-Today is a time of unprecidented amount & speed of travel
8-ILLUS--It is a remarkable fact that Sir Isaac Newton, writing on the prophecies of Daniel, said that if they were true, it would be necessary that a new mode of traveling should be invented, for knowledge would be so increased that man would be able to travel at the rate of 50

miles per hour. Voltaire, true to the spirit of skepticism, said: "Now look at the mighty mind of Newton, who discovered gravitation; when he began to study the Book called the Bible, it seems in order to credit its fabulous nonsense, he believed that the knowledge of mankind will be so increased that we shall be able to travel 50 miles an hour! The poor dotard!" Today even a skeptic would have to say, "Newton was a wise philosopher; Voltaire a poor old dotard."

B.-Increase Of Knowledge:

1-Dan. 12:4--"And knowledge shall be increased"

2-concommitant of travel — As Marco Polo's travel brought knowledge,

3-Knowledge, but not necessarily wisdom

4-"Since the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century, our knowledge has increased as by a miracle"

- --hand sickle to mechanized combine
- --ox team to gang plow
- --horse & buggy to jets
- --kites to sattelites.

Knowledge is expanding so fast in our day that the quantity of knowledge is said to double every TEN YEARS

5-Eighth grade education used to be a GOOD EDUCATION

6-Today it requires a COLLEGE DEGREE to even be considered for many menial tasks — Out of date in TEN YEARS

7-ILLUS--Humble Oil Co. in Texas won't consider hiring anyone to pump gas in their stations who hasn't had at least 2 years of college.

8-Progress in fields of medicine, surgery, electronics, physics, astronomy, and even the WORD OF GOD

- --many are hearing the gospel
- --many truths previously obscured are now clear
- --prophecy is unveiling before our eyes

9-In these CHANGING TIMES the Xn finds an ANCHOR in Jesus Christ — (Heb. 13:8-) Who is the same yesterday, today + forever."

II.-SIGN NUMBER TWO--WORLDWIDE PREACHING OF THE GOSPEL:

A.-Biblically:

1-The gospel was preached to the ends of the then known world in the days of the Apostles

2-Vision & burden for souls was lost after the "wedding" of the church with paganism in the 4th century

3-Worldwide preaching promised during the Trib.--Mt.24:14

4-TOOLS must be in hand for that time

"And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, + then shall the end come."

B.-In Our Day:

1-Bible Translation work--largest push made in last 50 yrs.

- --Scripture is available in own language or trade language or 95% of the world's population.
- --proceeding at a phenomenal rate

2-Mass Media--Printed Page--Newspapers

- --Religious magazines
- --Tracts, booklets, books

--Radio--quickest & most economical

- --$1.00 reaches 1,000 people for 30 min.
- --about 20 missionary stations
- --even beaming behind the bamboo, iron, red, cane, & purple curtains
- --closed areas are being reached

--Television--USA & mission field

--Mass Evangelistic campaigns

3-Bible Training--Bible institutes

--Short-term inst

--Extension course

--Correspondence sc

--Seminaries

--C.E.F. classes

--Home Bible Classes

--Campus study groups

--Industrial plant bible classes

4-THUS, the tools are in hand & are in use. They will be expedited in the hands of the Jews in the Trib, but we will be held responsible for the use of them in the closing hours of this age of grace!

ticular service because it has been the one which has been used with classical church music and we wished to give jazz the same setting in this experiment," he said.

III.-SIGN NUMBER THREE--SPIRITUAL APOSTACY & DECLENSION:

A.-The Prophecies: Apostasy in some measure since Garden of Eden, but MORE so now in extent of departure in the face of widespread access to the TRUTH

1-Mt. 24:24

2-2 Thess. 2:3

3-1 Tim. 4:1-3

4-2 Tim. 3:1-13

5-2 Pet. 2:1-3 (and rest of ch. + 1/2 of Ch. 3)

B.-Present Day Facts:

1-Adult & Juvenile Delinquency

2-Lawlessness & ungodliness — "GODLESS Schoolmates"

3-Evolutionary hypothesis accepted widely

4-"The Surprising Beliefs Of Our Future Ministers" is the title of an article in the August 1961 issue of REDBOOK Magazine, which reported a survey of the beliefs of ministerial students from 8 seminaries. We quote. "Only 44% believe in the virgin birth of Christ. Only 29% believe there is a real heaven and hell. Only 46% believe that Jesus ascended physically whole into heaven after His crucifixion...Belief in the immortality of man ranks as a major tenet for only 2%. Only 1% areconvinced there will be a second coming of Christ."

5-This speaks for itself. It is late! Ours is the God-given challenge to "Earnestly contend for THE FAITH which was once delivered unto the saints" (Jude 4)

6-Jazz Ritual recently in Whittier

originating conference of Methodists in 1784, and which was adapted with only slight modifications from the morning prayer service of the Church of England. "We deliberately used this par-

7-Walter M. Horton (Can Christianity Save Civilization) comments on the truly world-wide scope of the present spiritual crisis: "All existing cultures are reaching for the stars in wistful dissatisfaction with their present divided and distracted condition. There has been no such unstable equilibrium of religions and cultures in world history since the time of Christ."

C.-Symptoms:
1-Neglect of God's Word — Who has time?
2-Denial of the supernatural
3-Worldliness IN the churches
4-Minimization of the sinfulness of sin
5-Formalism & ritualism
6-Lack of prayer & witnessing
7-Mt. 24:12--"And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold."
8-Ultimate form of APOSTASY in the Trib. & its dark days

IV.-SIGN NUMBER FOUR--PHYSICAL DISORDERS IN THE UNIVERSE:

A.-Scriptures:
1-Mt. 24:7--"For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there shall be famines and pestilences, and earthquakes in divers places."
2-Seal Judgments of Rev. 6--Famine, Death, Earthquakes, Celestial phenomenon, & mountains moved.
3-NOT YET in the times of these events
4-But, in the times of the "Shadow" of the events
5-ILLUS--Man & Shadow. We see not the man when first we see the shadow of the man. But, when we can see the shadow of the man, can the man be too far behind? So also with the "shadows of the events" of the Great Trib.

B.-Recent Phenomenon:
1-Red Chinese famine & cholera epidemic
2-Chilean earthquake; Alaska Quake on Good Friday
3-Hurricane Carla-------the most destructive ever recorded
4-Invasion of the heavens by USA & USSR
Typhoons in Hong Kong & Formosa

CONCL: A.-Signs Of The Times:
1-Increase in knowledge & travel
2-Worldwide preaching of the gospel
3-Spiritual declension & apostasy
4-Physical disorders in the world

B.-Signs Of The Soul:
1-ILLUS--While the last Prince of Wales was on a visit to the Midlands, he went to a certain workingman's home. Next day the workingman told his mates sadly: "I never expected him, nor did my wife. The house was untidy, and I hadn't shaved. We shall never forgive ourselves. If we had known he was coming, we should have been ready for him."..... THE PRINCE OF PEACE IS COMING AGAIN in power, to this earth of ours, & we know not the day nor the hour. .....The one question is: "ARE WE READY TO MEET HIM?"