

Elpis Israel

for Young People

Babylon the Great...

Building on last class (Elpis Israel pages 321-328)

Class 43

The Head of the Image - background

Background:

- In our last class we looked at the Kingdom of Men.... In Nebuchadnezzar's image

The Interpretation:

Daniel 2:36-38 *This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. **Thou art this head of gold.***

This was the king that had destroyed the Kingdom of Israel – and taken the “children of the kingdom” captive.

Daniel 1:1-2 *In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar **king of Babylon** unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which **he carried into the land of Shinar** to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.*

His kingdom had its beginnings right after the flood – it was Nimrod's Kingdom:

Gen 10:10-14 *And the beginning of his **kingdom** was **Babel**, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. Out of that land went forth Asshur, and builded Nineveh, and the city Rehoboth, and Calah, And Resen between Nineveh and Calah: the same is a great city. And Mizraim begat Ludim, and Anamim, and Lehabim, and Naphtuhim, And Pathrusim, and Casluhim, (out of whom came Philistim,) and Caphtorim.*

The people of Babylon had great designs:

Genesis 11:3-4 *And they said one to another, Go to, let **us** make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. And they said, Go to, let **us** build **us a CITY** and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let **us** make us a name, lest **we** be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.*

Who was building?

Genesis 11:5 *And the LORD came down to see the city and the tower, which the **children of men** builded.*

Babylon – the anti-kingdom of God

Babylon stands as the “anti-kingdom of God”

- It stands as a usurper to kingdom of God
- It is the KINGDOM OF MEN
- God is in control:

Daniel 4:17 *This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the **KINGDOM OF MEN**, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.*

Babylon was the “head” of the Kingdom of Men:

Daniel 2:37–38 *Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the **God of heaven hath GIVEN THEE A KINGDOM**, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. **Thou art this head of gold.***

- Nebuchadnezzar ruled from BABYLON –the GREAT CITY

Babylon was depicted as a beast in Daniel 7:

Daniel 7:2–4 *Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. And **four great beasts** came up from the sea, diverse one from another. The **first was like a lion**, and had eagle’s wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man’s heart was given to it.*

Daniel 7:15–18 *I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me. I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and **made me know the interpretation of the things. These great BEASTS, which are four, are FOUR KINGS, which shall arise out of the earth.** But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.*

Babylon – the destroying lion

The first of the KINGDOMS of MEN is BABYLON – depicted as a LION

- Notice how it is described....

Daniel 7: 4 *The **first was like a lion**, and had eagle’s wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as A MAN, and a MAN’S HEART was given to it.*

Babylon’s Treatment of Israel (CITE)

Jeremiah 50:17 *Israel is a scattered sheep; **The lions have driven him away**: First the king of Assyria hath devoured him And last this **Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon hath broken his bones.***

Character of Babylon:

Notice how it is described....

Daniel 7: 4 *The first was like a lion, and had eagle’s wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made **stand upon the feet as A MAN**, and a **MAN’S HEART** was given to it.*

What do you know about a Man’s heart?

Jeremiah 17:9 *The **HEART is deceitful** above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?*

Mark 7:21–23 *For from within, out of the **HEART of MEN**, proceed **evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness**: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man.*

These are the characteristics of FALSE RELIGION

- They are seen in the APOSTASY – the falling away from the truth

2 Thess 2:2–3 *That ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a **FALLING AWAY FIRST**, and that **MAN of sin** be revealed, the **son of perdition**;*

Falling Away: **646 ἀποστασία** [*apostasia* /ap·os·tas·ee·ah/] n f. Feminine of the same as 647; TDNT 1:513; TDNTA 88; GK 686; Two occurrences; AV translates as “to forsake + 575” once, and “falling away” once. **1** a falling away, **defection**, apostasy.
Little & Scott: Rebellion against God

- Perdition* **684 ἀπόλεια** [*apoleia* /ap·o·li·a/] n f. From a presumed derivative of 622; TDNT 1:396; TDNTA 67; GK 724; 20 occurrences; AV translates as “perdition” eight times, “destruction” five times, “waste” twice, “damnable” once, “to die + 1519” once, “perish + 1498 + 1519” once, and “pernicious” once. **1** destroying, utter destruction. 1A of vessels. **2** a perishing, ruin, destruction.
- 2 Thess 2:4** *Who **opposeth** and **exalteth** himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.*
- Opposeth:* **80 ἀντίκειμαι** [*antikeimai* /an·tik·i·mahee/] v. From 473 and 2749; TDNT 3:655; TDNTA 425; GK 512; Eight occurrences; AV translates as “adversary” five times, “be contrary” twice, and “oppose” once. **1** to be set over against, opposite to. **2** to oppose, be adverse to, withstand.
- Exalteth:* **5229 ὑπεραίρομαι** [*hyperairomai* /hoop·er·ah·ee·rom·ahee/] v. Middle voice from 5228 and 142; GK 5643; Three occurrences; AV translates as “be exalted above measure” twice, and “exalt (one’s) self” once. **1** to lift or raise up over some thing. **2** to lift one’s self up, be exalted, be haughty. **3** to carry one’s self haughtily to, behave insolently towards one.
- 2 Thess 2:7** *For the **mystery** of **iniquity** doth already work: only he who now letteth will let, until he be taken out of the way.*
- Mystery:* **3466 μυστήριον** [*musterion* /moos·tay·ree·on/] n n. From a derivative of *muo* (to shut the mouth); TDNT 4:802; TDNTA 615; GK 3696; 27 occurrences; AV translates as “mystery” 27 times. **1** hidden thing, secret, mystery. 1A generally mysteries, religious secrets, confided only to the initiated and not to ordinary mortals. 1B a hidden or secret thing, not obvious to the understanding. 1C a hidden purpose or counsel.
- Iniquity:* **458 ἀνομία** [*anomia* /an·om·ee·ah/] n f. From 459; TDNT 4:1085; TDNTA 646; GK 490; 15 occurrences; AV translates as “iniquity” 12 times, “unrighteousness” once, “transgress the law + 4160” once, and “transgression of the law” once. **1** the condition of without law. 1A because ignorant of it. 1B because of violating it. **2** contempt and violation of law, iniquity, wickedness.

2 Thess 2:7

And then shall that **Wicked** be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: Even him, whose coming is after the working of **Satan** with all **power and signs** and **lying wonders**, And with all **deceivableness** of **unrighteousness** in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them **strong delusion**, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

- These are all **Babylonian characteristics**

Lying:

5579 ψεῦδος [*pseudos* /*psyoo·dos*/] n n. From 5574; TDNT 9:594; TDNTA 1339; GK 6022; Nine occurrences; AV translates as “lie” seven times, and “lying” twice. **1** a lie. **2** conscious and intentional falsehood. **3** in a broad sense, whatever is not what it seems to be. **3A** of perverse, impious, deceitful precepts.

Wonders:

Miracles

This is BABYLON the GREAT

Remember what Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar:

Daniel 2:28

*But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar **what shall be in the latter days...***

Rev 17:1–5

*And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her **fornication**. So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a **woman** sit upon a scarlet coloured **beast**, full of names of **blasphemy**, having seven heads and ten horns. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of **abominations** and **filthiness** of her **fornication**: And upon her **forehead** was a name written, **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.***

What has she been doing?

Revelation 17:6

And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.

Is she part of Nebuchadnezzar's image?

Rev 17:18

And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.

Is she a deceiver:

Rev 18:23–24

*And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; And the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: For thy merchants were the great men of the earth; **For by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.** And in her was found the **blood of prophets, and of saints,** And of all that were slain upon the earth.*

END with slides...

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