



## *Hope Beyond the Terror*

- I. In the Bible in the book of Daniel, chapter two, we find a prophecy that gives us hope to live beyond the terror that we see all around us.
  - A. The Kings dream. Daniel 2:1-11
    - i. The king could not remember the dream.
    - ii. The wise men were called but were of no help
    - iii. The king issued a death decree. Daniel 2:12, 13
    - iv. Daniel and his three Hebrew companions sought the God of heaven in prayer. God revealed the dream to Daniel. Daniel 2:19, 20, 26-28
  - B. Daniel explained the dream to King Nebuchadnezzar.
    - i. The dream. Daniel 2:31-36
    - ii. The head of gold, Babylon. Daniel 2:37,38
      - a. Babylon was a golden city.
      - b. The hanging gardens of Babylon were one of the seven wonders of the ancient world.
    - iii. Arms and breast of silver, Medo-Persia. Daniel 2:39
      - a. King Cyrus overthrows Babylon in 538 B.C.
      - b. Isaiah 13:19-22 predicted that Babylon would become a heap, the habitation of the beasts of the desert. God fulfilled His word.
    - iv. Belly and thighs of brass, Greece. Daniel 2:39; Daniel 8:20,21
      - a. Under the leadership of Alexander the Great, the Grecian empire held control of the world when the Meds and Persians were conquered at the battle of Arbela in 331 B.C.
      - b. A historian said about Alexander: "I am persuaded there was no nation, city nor people then in being whether his name did not reach...there seems to me to have been some divine hand presiding both over his birth and actions." Historical Library, Book 17, Chapter 12.
    - v. Legs of iron, Rome. Daniel 2:40
      - a. In 168 B.C. at the battle of Pydna the brass empire of Greece crumbled and passed under the Roman rule.

- b. “The image of gold, or silver, or brass, that might serve to represent the nations and their kings, were successively broken by the iron monarchy of Rome.” Edward Gibbon, in his History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, Volume 3, p. 634.
  - vi. Feet and toes, part of iron and part of clay, Daniel 2:41,42
    - a. The loss of Rome’s strength and character.
    - b. The invasion by the Germanic tribes
    - c. Rome’s fall, 476 A.D.
    - d. The kingdom dived into ten parts:
      - a. The Alamanni-Germany
      - b. The Franks-France
      - c. The Burgundians-Switzerland
      - d. The Suevi-Portugal
      - e. The Vandals-Destroyed
      - f. The Lombards-Italy
      - g. The Heruli-Destroyed
      - h. The Ostrogoths-Destroyed
      - i. The Visigoths-Spain
      - j. The Anglo-Saxons-England
- C. Never again would the world be a united empire under one ruler. Daniel 2:43
  - i. Ever since the division of the Roman Empire man has been trying to reunite the world under one power.
    - a. Charlemagne-Holy Roman Empire-800 A.D.
    - b. Charles V-1364-1380 A.D.
    - c. Louis XIV-France-1643-1715 A.D.
    - d. Napoleon-France
      - a. “I wanted to found a European system, a European code of law, a European court of appeals: There would have been but one people throughout Europe...Europe would soon have become one nation.” “Watchman, Aug. 1941”
      - b. The deliverance of Europe from the dominion of Napoleon was effected neither by Russia, nor by Germany, nor by England, but by the hand of God.” Lectures on Modern History, by Arnold
    - e. Kaiser Wilhelm-Germany
      - a. World War I – All the kings and queens of Europe were related. It was a large family fight. “They shall mingle themselves with the seed of man.”
    - f. Adolph Hitler – Germany – World War II
      - a. Hitler’s proclamation in March, 1941, “To my people: we do not need anything from God. We do not ask Him for anything except that He may let us alone: we want to fight our own war with our own guns without God. We want to gain our victory without the help of God.”

- ii. As men have failed in the past to unite the world under one ruler, so will they fail in the future, for God's word declares that it is not going to come to pass.

II. The God of heaven will set up a Kingdom that never fails or falls. Daniel 2:44,45

A. When will the God of heaven set up His kingdom?

- i. God will set up His kingdom "in the days of these kings, that is, the days of England, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal and Switzerland.
- ii. God's kingdom will be set up when the stone "cut out of the mountain without hands" breaks the image to pieces; that is, at the second coming of King Jesus.

B. You are invited to become a citizen of the Kingdom of God.

Conclusion: If we believe in God and give our lives over to His safe keeping before His coming, our fear of any terror is groundless because we can have peace and hope in a life that never ends, one that is joyful and peaceful and lasts forever!