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Dani'el Interprets the King's Dream 2: 36-45

ADONAI begins to reveal to Dani'el the initial revelation regarding the Times of the Gentiles (see **Ao – The Times of the Gentiles**)**. He provides an initial overview of the four empires that will govern this period. As the book progresses, God's revelation becomes increasingly specific, reaching their climax in Chapter 12.**



This **far eschatological prophecy** provides the interpretation of **Nebuchadnezzar's dream**. This passage covers the first of several revelations concerning **the times of the Gentiles** in **Dani'el**. As a reminder, this period began with the Babylonian Captivity (see the commentary on **Jeremiah Gu – Seventy Years of Imperial Babylonian Rule**), and will continue until the return of **the Messiah** at the end of the Great Tribulation. During this time, **the Gentiles** have had, and will continue to have, domination over **the Jewish people**. **Four Gentile empires** will rule the world. Then, **a stone** will destroy the last of them and will turn into **a mountain** of global significance (see **Bg – The Fifth Empire: The Kingdom of God**).

In **Chapter 7, Dani'el** elaborated on the four **Gentile Empires** that were seen in the statue of **Chapter 2**. We can compare these chapters in three ways. *First, they*

are visionary. In **Chapter 2** the visionary was a pagan king, **Nebuchadnezzar**, but in **Chapter 7** the visionary was **Dani’el himself**. *Secondly, we can compare the interpreters.* **Dani’el** was the interpreter in **Chapter 2**, but an angel was the interpreter in **Chapter 7**. *Thirdly, we can compare the two perspectives.* **Dani’el 2** gives us the perspective of **the times of the Gentiles** from a human viewpoint as something majestic, but **Dani’el 7** gives us the perspective from **God’s** viewpoint as something dreadful. There were **four empires**, pictured as **four beasts**.