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Summary Statement about the Fourth Kingdom



In summary, **2:40-43** describes **the Fourth Gentile Empire**. This empire goes through several stages. First, there is **the United Stage**, strong as **iron** (**to see link click Bc – The United Stage**). Second, there is **the Divided Kingdom Stage**, which still has the strength of **iron** (see **Bd – The Divided Kingdom Stage**). However, the presence of clay shows that this stage is weaker than the previous one. Third, there is **the One World Government Stage** as is seen in **the ten toes** being composed of **iron** and **clay** (see **Be – The One World Government Stage**). Part of this stage will be strong and part will be weak and brittle. The lack of cohesiveness is especially evident in **the toes**. Unity is impossible, and **ten** different kingdoms occur because the different rulers cannot unite. **The Fourth Gentile Empire** differs greatly from the previous empires. **It** totally crushes and subdues all that came before **it**. **It** is this empire that is especially emphasized when dealing with **the Times of the Gentiles** (see **Ao – The Times of the Gentiles**).[96] We will discuss **the Fourth Kingdom** in more detail when we get to **Chapter 7**. **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, where **four kingdoms** are pictured as **four beasts**.