Daniel Chapter 2: Part 3 – Antiquity to Eternity



Past > Present > Future



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PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE.

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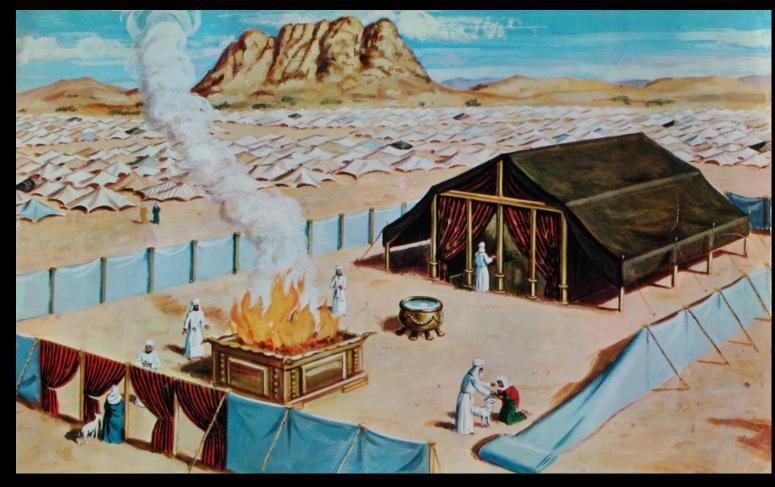
Enter The Ark of Hope

The Great Controversy between God and Satan is primarily over "WORSHIP" Who will you Choose?









And let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them. – Exodus 25:8

Psalms 77:13



Health Snippet – Hydrotherapy

The benefits of hydrotherapy

Studies show that aquatic exercise is more beneficial & efficient than land exercises for those who have obesity. "Obesity usually comes with joint pain". Using aquatic exercise can help burn more calories with less fatigue.

Conditions and illnesses that hydrotherapy can help treat:

Acne, Arthritis, Colds, Depression, Headaches, Joint problems, Muscle disorders, Multiple sclerosis (MS), Obesity, Stress, etc... **Different Techniques of Hydrotherapy:**

Hot Foot Baths: Local immersion of the feet and ankles in water at a temperature of 102-112 degrees F for 10-30 minutes. Hydro-massage: It involves the use of warm water, which applies chemical, mechanical and thermal massage to the body. This helps to improve the circulation of blood, relieving pain and tension while relaxing the muscle. It is also used to treat insomnia, tendinitis, and multiple sclerosis. In addition, hydromassage is also used to relieve and manage stress. Baths & Showers: A hot bath or shower can encourage relaxation, reduce stress and flush out toxins. Adding essential oils or herbs to the bath can enhance the therapeutic benefits.

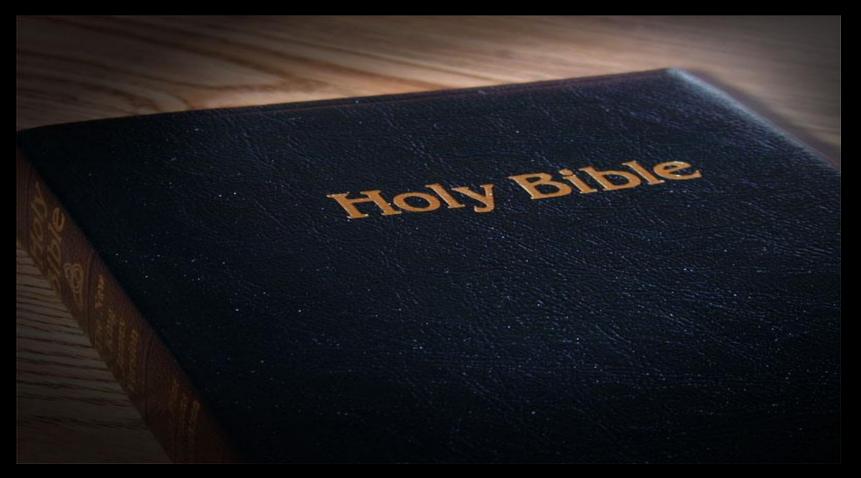
• When in doubt or have health issues, check with a Physician.

INDICATIONS

Relaxation

- Detoxification
- · Assist wound healing
- · Stiffness of whole body or limbs
- Menstrual irregularities
- · Increased swelling of the extremities
- · Muscular problems: muscle spasm, weakness etc
- Bony or skeletal problems: Arthritis, post fracture stiffness etc
- Neurological problems: paralytic conditions
- Treatment of burn

Can We Trust Bible Prophecy?

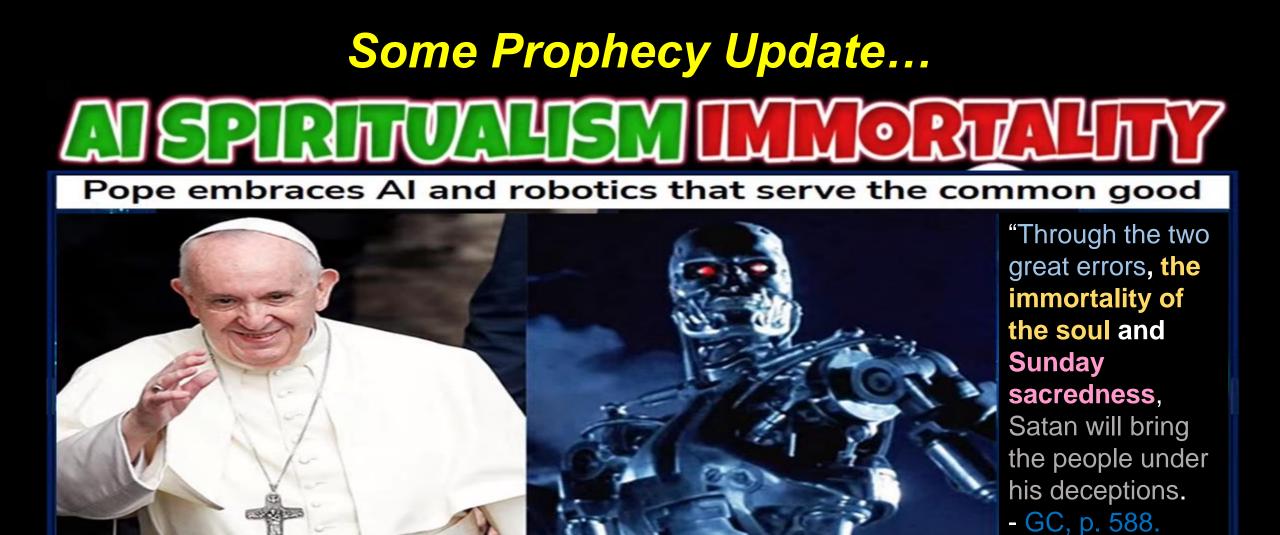


Yes we can

Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation.

Isaiah 12:3 KJV





"ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE is at the heart of the epochal change we are experiencing,"... "Robotics can make a better world possible if it is joined to the common good. 6 November 2020

People of future will have microchips implanted in their 07/20/21 'brains' says World Economic Forum boss The BL



As internet corporations like Facebook experiment with "BRAIN-READING" technology, Klaus Schwab predicts BRAIN MICROCHIPS are fast becoming a reality. The Great Reset leader and World Economic Forum executive chairman, predicts Big Tech firms will increasingly pursue IMPLANTED MICROCHIPS and other "TRANSHUMANIST" technologies. "At first we will implant them in our clothes,"... "We could imagine that we will IMPLANT THEM in our brain, or IN OUR SKIN. In the end, maybe there will be A DIRECT COMMUNICATION between our brains and the DIGITAL WORLD." He believes it will soon be possible to phone someone WITHOUT NEEDING A PHYSICAL GADGET. The user only needs to say, "I want to connect with anyone now." The phone call, will begin moments later.

Will We Ever Cheat Death and Become Immortal With Mind Uploading? Dec 07, 2021



Humans have always been fascinated with the concept of immortality but WHAT SEEMS TO BE EVEN MORE EXCITING to some is the thought of using technology to make IMMORTALITY A REAL-WORLD APPLICATION. A movement called TRANSHUMANISM is even devoted to using science and technology to augment our bodies and OUR MINDS, and to allow humans to MERGE WITH MACHINES, ERADICATING old age as a cause of DEATH. So the big question is — CAN WE REALLY EVADE DEATH? What is MIND UPLOADING and how it works? MIND UPLOADING describes a hypothetical process of separating a person's consciousness (which involves their emotions, thought process, experiences, and basically everything that makes a person unique), then converting it into a DIGITAL FORMAT, and finally transferring the DIGITAL CONSCIOUSNESS into a different substrate, like A MACHINE.

H+ 3: Radical Life Extension? Cybernetic Immortality? Or Resurrection of the Body? JANUARY 22, 2022 patheos



TRANSHUMANISM — also known as HUMANITY PLUS OR H+ — plans to solve all human problems with advances in AI (ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE). One H+ goal is TO CURE DEATH. Without the threat of DEATH, WE COULD ELECT TO LIVE FOREVER. Either in your body or in disembodied form. Are you interested?... TRANSHUMANISTS define DEATH as a DISEASE. Like other diseases, MEDICAL SCIENCE will cure DEATH. Then, we can live in our present bodies indefinitely. The aim of the <u>CYBERNETIC PROLONGEVISTS</u> is to dislodge OUR CONSCIOUSNESS and our intelligence from our biological substrate and UPLOAD IT INTO A COMPUTER. As long as THE COMPUTER BATTERY REMAINS CHARGED, we will live in a disembodied electronic cloud virtually FOREVER. IMMORTALITY can be attained here by uploading the information stored in our brain, a process called whole brain emulation

No death and an enhanced life: Is the future transhuman? Sun 6 May 2018 Guard



The aims of THE TRANSHUMANIST MOVEMENT are summed up by Mark O'Connell in his book TO BE A MACHINE,.. "It is their belief that we can and should eradicate ageing as a cause of death; that WE CAN and should USE TECHNOLOGY TO AUGMENT OUR BODIES and OUR MINDS; that WE CAN and SHOULD MERGE WITH MACHINES, remaking ourselves, finally, IN THE IMAGE OF OUR OWN HIGHER IDEALS." TRANSHUMANISM envisage a day when humans WILL FREE THEMSELVES of all corporeal restraints... THIS TURNING POINT will be reached around the year 2030, when biotechnology will enable a UNION between humans and genuinely intelligent computers and AI SYSTEMS. The resulting humanmachine mind will become free to roam a universe of ITS OWN CREATION, uploading itself at will on to a "suitably powerful computational substrate". We will become gods,

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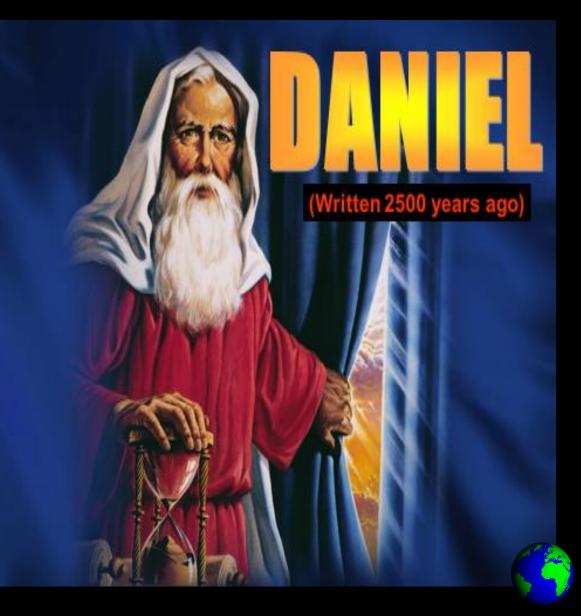


Introduction

Today, books generally arrive in stores fully formed, but when Charles Dickens was writing in the mid-1800s, those tales appeared in magazine instalments.

The Old Curiosity Shop was a tale by Charles Dickens published in serial form. Ships from London carried magazines with the chapters to New York. As the story's popularity grew, it is reported that dockworkers greeted arriving ships with cries of "Is Nell well?" or "What news of Nell?"

The second chapter of Daniel tells a story that's actually more gripping than most novels, even one by Dickens. Written 600 years before Jesus' day, it dared to suggest what would yet happen. Even more, its predictions have largely come to pass, with an accuracy that would make a carnival psychic green with envy.



Introduction (cont'd)

Yet, like the Dickens novels, the action of Daniel 2 unfolds in instalments, in sequence. The timeline of this story lasts far longer than we might normally have patience for in any other book. Some could lose faith that we'll ever see the conclusion.

But even that is predicted: In the end times, some will believe that "my Lord delayeth his coming" (Matthew 24:48) and miss out on His return.

For those sensitive to the leading of God the Holy Spirit, however, we can know that our Father keeps His promises. Jesus will return, the earth will become new, and heaven a reality. Someone who wants to know how Dickens's stories turned out might well be truly thrilled to learn how the history of this world will finally, happily, wrap up.

One point should, by now, be very clear regarding our study of Daniel 2, and that is—it is, in many ways, a historical study. Though some of the prophecy leads into our time and beyond, its foundation is based in history.



/ESTERN EUROPE

Introduction (cont'd)

This prophecy begins in antiquity and follows a continuous sweep of world history that extends unto "the time of the end" (Daniel 12:9); that is, beyond us and into the future world of God's eternal kingdom. More than anything else, these verses reveal, too, the method for how we should interpret the prophecies in Daniel. Daniel 2:37-44, by interpreting the dream, contains the key to understanding the prophecies, because the texts themselves interpret the prophecies.

This proves that the historicist approach to interpretation (of which Adventists remain almost alone in still adhering to) is what the text demands. The historicist approach teaches what Daniel 2 teaches, that these prophecies follow the sweep of human history from antiquity to eternity and that they are not focused solely on events in the far past or solely on events in the future but cover the scope of world history from the past into the future. Thus, in the first prophetic section of Daniel, we are given the key to understanding its prophecies.

And he said, go thy way Daniel: For the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. - Daniel 12:9



Recap of the Study so far...

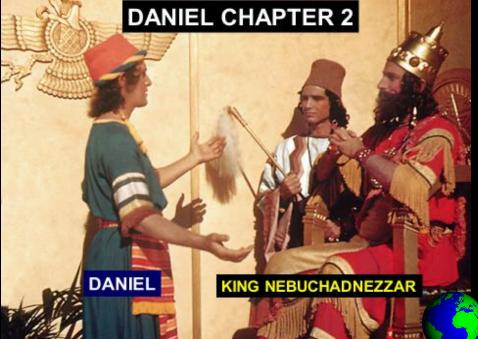
The dream describes world history from the Babylonian time till the end of the world. The image consisting of different metals represents earthly kingdoms/empires.

- 1. Head of Gold Babylon (606–538 BC)
- 2. Chest & Arms of Silver Medo-Persia (538–331 BC)
- 3. Waist & Thighs of Bronze Greece (331–168 BC)
- 4. 2 Legs of Iron Rome (168 BC–AD 476)
- 5. Feet of Iron-clay Western Europe (476–end of the world)
- 6. 10 Toes of Iron-clay The ten divisions of Rome:

Anglo-Saxons – Great Britain Burgundians – Switzerland Alemanni – Germany Franks – France Sueves – Portugal Visigoths – Spain Lombards – Italy Herulians – destroyed Ostrogoths – destroyed Vandals – destroyed

7. The Stone cut out without hand (today's study)





Recap of the Study so far (cont'd)...

The iron and clay are much more than just the divided kingdoms. Whilst looking back through this prophecy, all the metals have been representative of kingdoms/nations/states. In Jeremiah 18:6 and Isaiah 64:8 we find that God's people, which are His church, (Acts 7:38) are likened unto clay. But this is miry or dirty clay, which means a dirty or apostate church. Daniel 2 shows to us that there is to be a uniting of church and state during the time frame after the Roman Empire. But God also shows to us that church and state should not be united together for the very fact of that, iron does not mix with clay, it is not God's system to mix the two together they are to remain separate.

• We will study more of this here.

The old power struggle for the control of western Europe continues unabated. The fateful words of the prophet, "they will not hold together", are as accurate a description of the fragments of ancient Rome today as they were fifteen centuries ago. Modern political technology has found no way to fuse the iron and clay of Nebuchadnezzar's image together.





Recap of the Study so far (cont'd)...

To some extent Rome continues to live on in the subsequent nations.

It is a divided kingdom, and no longer a world empire.
It still contains some of the hardness of iron.

<u>Mingle themselves with the seed of men</u> - Even though the kingdoms were divided, the monarchies of different countries tried to unite them through marriage and thus gain the supremacy this way. The only thing it resulted in was family feuds between countries.

Many have tried to rule the world through military conquest. But all efforts have come to naught for the Bible is in opposition to them all, as it is written "they shall not cleave one to another", for clay does not cleave to iron and vice versa.

The climax of the prophecy is the stone. In the Old and New Testaments the stone is an image for God/Jesus (2 Samuel 22:2; 1 Peter 2:4–8; Matthew 21:42, 44). Our destiny depends on how we relate to Jesus Christ. He will return soon and establish His indestructible and eternal kingdom (Revelation 11:15). Labianca, Professor of History, University of Rome

"To the succession of the Caesar's came the succession of the Pontiffs in Rome.

REVELATION'S

Men tried to conquer the world but failed

Since the division of Rome, there has been conquest after conquest to unit the ten kingdoms under one rule. The efforts of rulers such as Charlemagne, Charles V, Louis XIV, Napoleon, Kaiser Wilhelm, and Hitler to unite these European nations under one head have all ultimately failed.

The prophecy says that these countries will never be permanently united: "They shall not cleave one to another." Even when the ruling monarchs tried marriage to unite their interests; it still did not work. This 2600 year history shows the accuracy of this Bible prophesy, and helps us to be certain that the last part of this prophecy will also be fulfilled.



They tried inter-marriages but failed

Queen Victoria had nine children and 42 grandchildren. Eventually, seven of them sat on **European thrones in** Russia, Greece, Romania, Britain, Germany, Spain and Norway-and all would take sides during World War I with disastrous consequences. "If Queen Victoria is considered the grandmother of Europe, **Prince Philip is the uncle** of Europe," said Vassilis Koutsavlis, president of the Tatoi Koyal Estate Friends Association.



Tried to unite through Marriages but failed



Men still trying to unite Europe

On 29th October 2004 the new European Union constitution was signed in Rome- in the same room where the Treaty of Rome had been signed to establish the EU in 1957. There had been a long fight over whether or not to include mention of Europe's Christian roots in the constitution. In the end they agreed not to mention it.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Treaty_establishing_a_Constitution_for_Europe

Today there is great success in the Unification of Western Europe.



EU PASSPORT

REPUBBLICA ITALIANA

PASSAPORTO

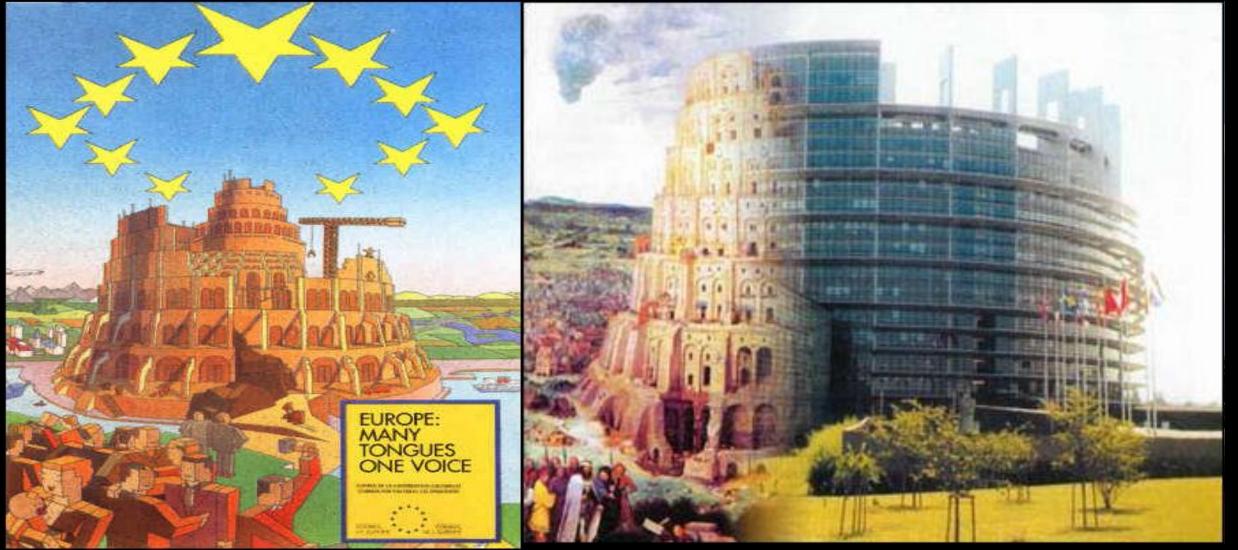
EU FLAG

NO BORDERS

7077

EU ANTHEM

EU PARLIAMENT



European Parliament Strasbourg, France



"The Abduction of Europa"

... and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, ... Revelation 17:3

Men still trying to unite Europe

Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Croatia, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

> opean Union with pary, Slovatia, Slo

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Indeed, the New Europe's feel good factor and figures are im VISION

Rashmee Z Ahmee

by intensely transparent commor aws on human rights, working di ectives and democracy.

Cut to the crunch though, and bliss was it in that dawn to b alive, but to be Estonian was very heaven. know it now, for this is stored country to the avery to all coming TT autors aver it up against. This ting, heavily forested country, marooned on Europe's Baltic rim and formerly a nections. All its educational institutions are on broadband.

Some 80% of all its banking transactions are electronic. It is net hotpoints, at petrol stations, pubs, libraries and cafes, most of them for free. It is far ahead of old Europe, say prantice and Italy, with bile phones, Drivers in the capital ralling pay for parking by sending an SMS to a central parking office. Earophanic for snakes on computer families of snakes on computer families of snakes on computer

So they have English, e-commerce is an organic lived reality and Estonia may be the West's tech capital of tomorrow. Hardly sur-

Men still trying to unite Europe

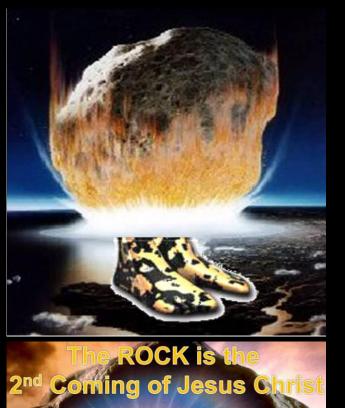


... and all the world wondered after the beast. - Revelation 13:3

Daniel 2: 44-45 - The Stone Kingdom

Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure. The focus of the dream is on what will happen in the "latter days" (Daniel 2:28). As powerful and rich as they may have been, the metal (and clay) kingdoms are nothing but a prelude to the establishment of the stone kingdom. Whereas to some extent metals and clay can be products of human manufacture, the stone in the dream comes untouched by human hands. In other words, although each of the previous kingdoms eventually comes to an end, the kingdom represented by the stone will last forever.



Nearing the Time of the End

In the days of these divided nations, in the days of the kings of the earth uniting with the church, the God of heaven is going to set up His kingdom which will never be destroyed but will stand forever. Revelation 17:1 shows the uniting of the kings/leaders of the earth with the church in the end of time; and we can already see this happening around us today, we are living in the days of when Christ is going to come very soon. This kingdom, that God is going to set up, is the everlasting kingdom that the saints will possess at the end of time when Jesus comes (Daniel 7:14, 27) for it is not left to other people but will be possessed by them throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity. And just as the stone cut out without hands breaks the image into pieces and consumes it and fills the whole world, so too does God destroy the wicked from off the face of the earth, and His kingdom shall encompass the whole world. For the wicked shall be as chaff to be taken away by the wind for the burning. (Psalms 1:4, Matthew 3:12)



Identifying The Stone

What is represented by the Stone that struck the image on its feet?

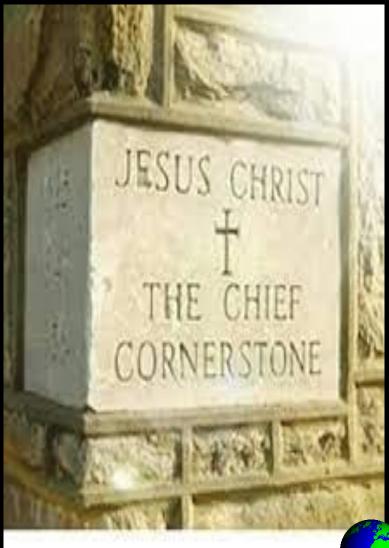
The answer is that in the Old Testament the stone clearly has messianic undertones as can be seen in Isaiah 28:16; 8:14, 15; Psalm 118:22. In the New Testament Jesus applied this stone terminology to Himself. (Matthew 21:42-44; Luke 20:18; Acts 4:11; 1 Peter 2:4-8)

The stone is placed in the mountain and the mountain is Zion.

"Wherefore also it is contained in the scripture, Behold, I lay in Sion a chief corner stone, elect, precious: and he that believeth on him shall not be confounded."- 1 Peter 2:6

Luke 20:18: "Whosoever shall fall upon that stone shall be broken; but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder."

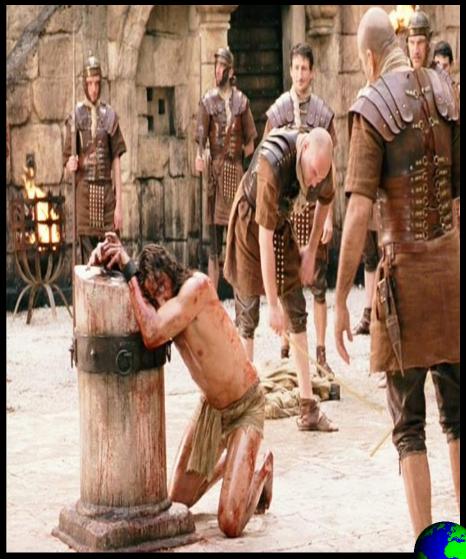
In this verse Jesus seems to be alluding to the prophecy of Daniel 2 and applying it to individuals.



Identifying The Stone (cont'd)

The metaphor of the rock, then, often symbolizes God (for example, Deuteronomy 32:4, 1 Samuel 2:2, Psalms 18:31), and the stone likewise may be a representation of the Messiah (Psalms 118:22; 1 Peter 2:4, 1 Peter 2:7). Thus, nothing is more appropriate than the figure of a stone to symbolize the establishment of God's eternal kingdom.

Some argue that the stone kingdom was established during Jesus' earthly ministry, and that the propagation of the gospel stands as an indication that the kingdom of God has taken over the entire world. Yet the stone kingdom comes into existence only after the four main kingdoms have fallen and human history has reached the time of the divided kingdoms, represented by the feet and toes of the image. This fact rules out the fulfilment during the first century, because Jesus' earthly ministry took place during the dominion of Rome, the fourth kingdom.



Identifying The Stone (cont'd)

But the stone gives way to a mountain. That is, "the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth" (Daniel 2:35). A mountain such as this evokes Mount Zion, the place where the temple stood, the concrete representation of God's earthly kingdom in the Old Testament times. Interestingly, the stone cut from the mountain becomes a mountain itself. This mountain, which according to the text is already in existence, most likely points to the heavenly Zion, the heavenly sanctuary, whence Christ will come to establish His eternal kingdom. And in the Jerusalem that will come down from heaven (Revelation 21:1-22:5), this kingdom will find its ultimate fulfilment. Daniel chapter 2 has been correct on all the kingdoms so far. Why, then, is it so logical and wise to trust its prophecy about the coming of the final kingdom, God's eternal one? Why is it so irrational not to believe the prophecy?





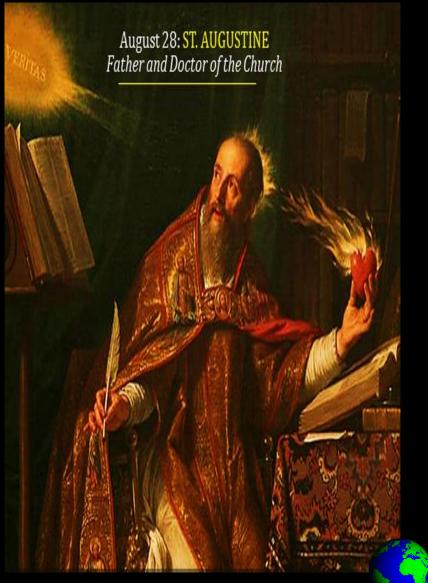
Not Made with Hands

What does the expression 'not with hands' mean? A comparison of Daniel 2:34; 8:25 and 11:45 indicate that the expression 'without hands' means 'without human intervention.' In other words, the end of human history will be brought about by the supernatural irruption of God into human history.

This is in contrast to the concept which was originated by St. Augustine and developed by Roman Catholicism where the stone represents the church taking over the world and establishing God's kingdom here.

Hebrews 9:11: "But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building;"

Mark 14:58: "We heard Him say: 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, [the body he received from Mary] and within three days I will build another made without hands [His supernatural resurrected body]."



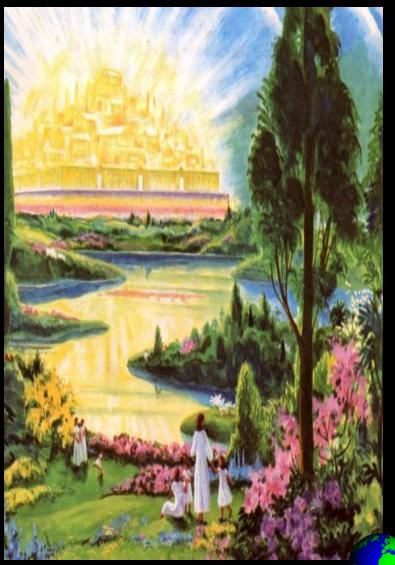
The Mountain that Fills the whole Earth

In Scripture mountains represent kingdoms: Revelation 17:9, 10 (Jeremiah 51:25); Isaiah 2:1-5

The mountain in Daniel 2 is symbolic of the everlasting kingdom that will fill the whole earth. This can be seen clearly by comparing Daniel 2:34-35 with 2:44:

Daniel 2:34-35: "Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth."

Daniel 2:44 And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.



The Final Call

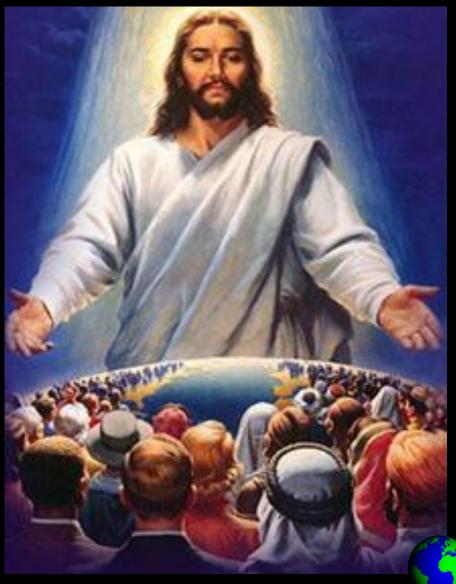
The Mountain is Zion which represents the everlasting kingdom of Jesus that will fill the whole earth (Isaiah 9:6, 7).

Whoever falls upon the rock and is converted will be broken but whoever does not will be ground to powder:

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

We must allow the Holy Spirit as fire to consume sin in us. If we don't allow the fire to consume sin then the fire will consume us:

Matthew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: 12 Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.



Daniel 2:46-49 -

Daniel 2:46 Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odours unto him.

47 The king answered unto Daniel, and said, Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret.

48 Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon.

49 Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

Sevenfold Result of the Revelation

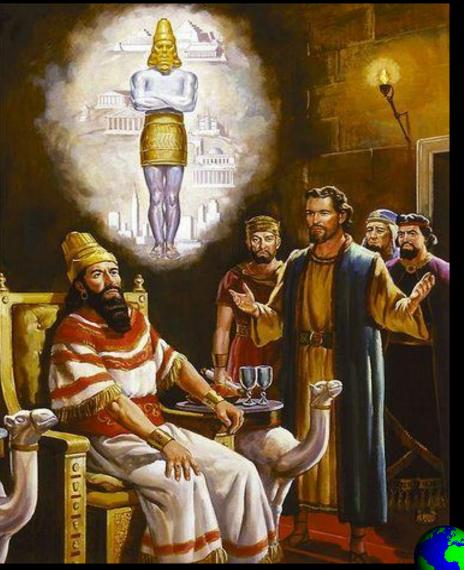
1. It had an overwhelming effect upon the king (Daniel 2:46).

- 2. It brought glory to God (Daniel 2:47).
- 3. It made Daniel a great man (Daniel 2:48).
- 4. It brought him many gifts (Daniel 2:48).
- 5. It made him ruler over all the province of Babylon (Daniel 2:48).
- 6. It made him chief of the wise men (Daniel 2:48).
- 7. It exalted Daniel's three brethren (Daniel 2:49).

Reactions of the king and Daniel

The king was overwhelmed with the accuracy of Daniel's exposition of the dream and interpretation. He exclaims that the God of Daniel is a God of gods, a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets because his God could reveal this matter to him. Nebuchadnezzar has a momentary conversion, but the seed that was planted into his heart was will become choked by his own pride and ambition, as we will see in the next chapter. Daniel was given many great gifts and promoted to the ruler over the whole province of Babylon and over all the wise men of Babylon. This was at the tender age of 22 yrs. But notice that Daniel does not forget his companions. He requests of the king that they be made to rule over the affairs of the kingdom of Babylon. Here, once again, do we see the unselfishness of the godly life of Daniel.

In some aspects Daniel's experience is similar to that of Joseph's. (Psalms 105:17-22)

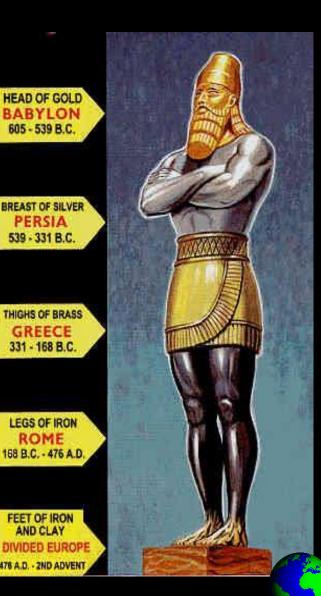


Understanding the Image

It is instructive to note that the image of Daniel 2 is made of gold and silver, which are metals related to economic power. The image is also made of bronze and iron, which were used for tools and weapons, and of pottery, which was used in the ancient world for literary and domestic purposes.

Thus, the image provides a vivid portrayal of humanity and its accomplishments. Most appropriately, the distinct anatomical parts of the image convey the succession of world kingdoms and the final disunity that will prevail in the last days of human history. The stone, however, is distinctly depicted as something not made with "human hands" (Daniel 2:45), a powerful reminder of the supernatural end that will come to this temporary world and all its human accomplishments.

Although "to the unaided human eye, human history may appear to be a chaotic interplay of forces and counterforces. Daniel assures us that behind all of this stands God, looking down upon it and moving within it to achieve what He sees best".



Need to be faithful like Daniel

- Because of Daniel's faithfulness and trust in the Lord, Nebuchadnezzar paid attention to the true God.
- We do not fully understand world history. We do not see what happens behind the scenes. We are tempted to regard history as a purely human enterprise in which God is not involved.
- Yet history has a goal and is moving toward Christ's Second Coming and the establishment of His kingdom.
- God is involved in human history. Even though humans make their free decisions, God still pursues His plans.
- As God guides human history, He is willing to guide my personal history and life and bring it to a good conclusion.
- Because God is the Lord of history we commit our lives to Him. We trust Him, and are looking forward to a marvellous future. When does He come to claim the world as His own? At His 2nd coming!



The true Christians need to stand up

We can see through the life of Daniel that it pays to stand for what is right and to seek the Lord oft in all matters. God can bless those who yield themselves to Him and walk in His ways. Let us strive to walk with the Lord more closely and to earnestly seek after His wisdom.

It is almost time for the Lord to come in the clouds of glory, are you willing to be prepared for His coming? Review and Meaning

- The world is not spiralling out of control. God sits on His throne and guides world events.
- Everything in this prophecy has been fulfilled precisely as God has announced and therefore we can be sure that the final event will also be fulfilled.
- We are in the toenails of human history.
- The next great event in history is the second coming of Christ.

I'm Fine with God... It's Christians I Can't Stand

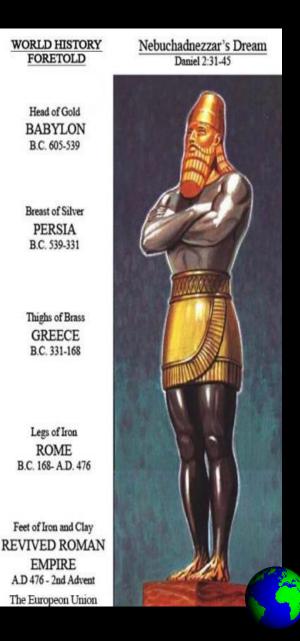
Would the Real Christians Please Stand Up!

> Stand therefore, having girded your waist with truth. EPHESIANS 6:14



Some Key Points

- 1. The Image makes you think of an Idol.
- 2. The world kingdoms are linked to Idolatry (paganism and false worship).
- 3. World kingdoms are completely destroyed (the false worship destroyed).
- 4. Christ's kingdom takes the place of the great world empires. God Is in Charge: (Daniel 2:44)
- A. God is all-powerful and all-knowing.
- **B. God loves each of us unfailingly.**
- C. God's plans will triumph amidst serious satanic counterfeits.
- Daniel 2 outlines the plan of redemption that God has for this world. Daniel's God is the same God we serve today. We can be sure that, through the coming of Christ in His indescribable glory, He will set up an everlasting kingdom.
- Since this chapter takes us to the greatest event in history, the 2nd coming of Christ, let's see how the Bible describes His coming.



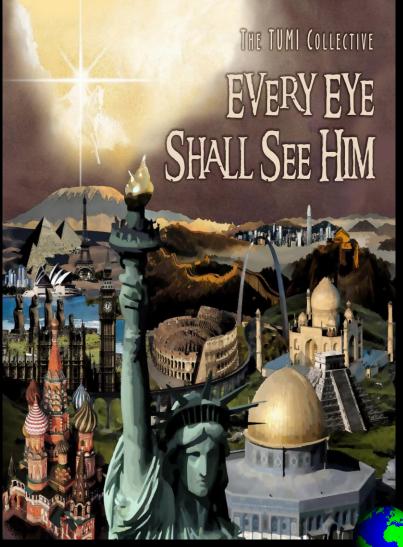
Prophecies of Jesus 2nd Coming

<u>Read Acts 1:8-11</u>: How did the Bibles say that Jesus was going to come? The Bible says that Jesus was taken up in a cloud. The angel said that Jesus would return in like manner.

Let's look at another text that helps us understand how Jesus will come the second time.

<u>Read Matthew 24:30</u>: Did you notice this passage tells us, once again, that Jesus is coming in the clouds but continues to let us know it will be with power and great glory! Jesus is coming as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He has purchased us with His own blood, on Calvary's tree, and longs to receive us into His kingdom. Notice how verses 25 – 27 describe His second coming.

<u>Read Matthew 24:25-27</u>: Did you see what Jesus was saying? If you hear it on CNN, or see it in Time Magazine, don't believe it! And don't go! The second coming of Jesus will be VISIBLE to everyone! Just like lightning! In our next passage of Scripture we continue to see just how visible His coming will be.



Prophecies of Jesus 2nd Coming (cont'd)

Read Revelation 1:7:

It will be very visible. How many eyes will see it? This includes you and me!

Jesus' coming will be very visible! Today some believe that Jesus is going to come quietly and secretly takeaway His people, but notice how the Bible describes this event.

<u>Read Psalms 50:3</u>: Are we catching a picture yet?

As Lightning, Every Eye shall See Him, God will not keep Silent! What does this tell us about the return of our Lord?

When Jesus came the first time, Satan had everyone looking for a king, with all its pomp and circumstance. But Jesus came humbly at His first Advent and was born in a humble manger, living a self sacrificing life, and died as our Saviour.

Now, when Jesus is going to return again the second time, Satan wants everyone to think it's going to be quiet and secret. Yet the Bible says that it will be an event that no one can miss! Jesus will not secretly steal away some of His people, but instead He will receive all of His people as their KING! Notice, our next passage of Scripture tells us who Jesus will take home to Heaven.

Prophecies of Jesus 2nd Coming (cont'd)

Read 1 Thessalonians 4:16-18: Jesus is coming to get all of His people, at the same time: Both the righteous dead whom He will resurrect, and the righteous living! He will come and take all of His people at the same time! When Jesus comes, there will be two groups of people, the saved and the lost. Let's look at them, starting with the wicked.

<u>Read Revelation 6:14-17</u>: The wicked are trying to hide from, "the Face of Him that sitteth on the throne," and from His glory. The Apostle Paul tells us in Hebrews 12:29, "Our God is a consuming fire." Sin cannot stand in the presence of a Holy God. Now, let's look at the righteous.

<u>Read Isaiah 25:9</u>: Jesus' second coming as King of kings and Lord of lords is very near. The Bible plainly tells us His coming will not be secret or silent! Every eye shall see and every ear shall hear Him. Do you want to make a decision today, to make sure that you are ready for this great event?



What does it mean for us Today?

A young man, struggling with questions about God, confronted a Christian and said, "I'll give you an hour to prove to me that God exists!"

The Christian, without hesitation, took him through Daniel 2. When he was finished, the young man confessed, "Now I know there is a God in heaven!"

Those who know Daniel 2 can understand what happened. Here was this book, written in the sixth century B.C., laying out the history of the world from Daniel's time through ours, and even beyond. It's hard to see how any rational person, after studying Daniel 2, could come away unimpressed by the prophecy and the God who has revealed Himself in it. The authenticity of Daniel is beyond question. First, it is part of the inspired Scriptures. Second, Jesus advised His disciples to pay heed to Daniel's prophecy as end-time events drew near (Matthew 24:15, Mark 13:14). If Jesus accepted Daniel as an inspired authority, should we do less?

~ PREPARE YOUR HEART ~ Look Jesus is Coming With the clouds And every eye Will see Him ... **Revelation 1:7**

Summary

Nebuchadnezzar felt that he could accept this interpretation as a divine revelation; for to Daniel had been revealed every detail of the dream. The solemn truths conveyed by the interpretation of this vision of the night made a deep impression on the sovereign's mind, and in humility and awe he "fell upon his face, and worshipped." 4BC 1169.1

Nebuchadnezzar saw clearly the difference between the wisdom of God and the wisdom of the most learned men of his kingdom. 4BC 1169.2

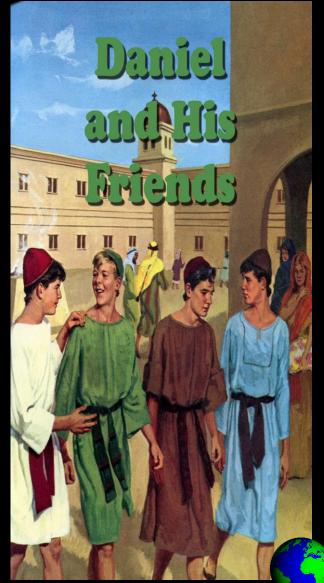
Through the Hebrew captives the Lord was made known to the heathen in Babylon. This idolatrous nation was given a knowledge of the kingdom the Lord was to establish, and through His power maintain against all the power and craft of Satan. Daniel and his fellow-companions, Ezra and Nehemiah, and many others were witnesses for God in their captivity. The Lord scattered them among the kingdoms of the earth that their light might shine brightly amid the black darkness of heathenism and idolatry. 4BC 1169.3





Summary (cont'd)

To Daniel God revealed the light of His purposes, which had been hidden for many generations. He chose that Daniel should see in vision the light of His truth, and reflect this light on the proud kingdom of Babylon. On the despot king was permitted to flash light from the throne of God. Nebuchadnezzar was shown that the God of heaven was ruler over all the monarchs and kings of earth. His name was to go forth as the God over all gods. God desired Nebuchadnezzar to understand that the rulers of earthly kingdoms had a ruler in the heavens. God's faithfulness in rescuing the three captives from the flames and vindicating their course of action showed His wonderful power. 4BC 1169.3 Great light shone forth from Daniel and his companions. Glorious things were spoken of Zion, the city of the Lord. Thus the Lord designs that spiritual light shall shine from His faithful watchmen in these last days. If the saints in the Old Testament bore such a decided testimony of loyalty, how should God's people today, having the accumulated light of centuries, shine forth, when the prophecies of the Old Testament shed their veiled glory into the future! 4BC 1169.4





Do you know the time? That we live:

- in the time of the feet of iron & clay of Daniel chapter 2.
- in the time of the little horn of Daniel 7&8 deadly wound about to heal.
- in the period known as "the time of the end"- 1798 onwards. Daniel 11:35, 40
- in the time when the King of the North (ROME) attacks the King of the South. (ATHEISM) Daniel 11:40.
- in the time of the 7th church, Laodicean church a people being judged.
- in the time of the 6th seal between the 13th & 14th verses of Revelation 6.
- in the time of the 7th trumpet which commenced blowing in 1844.
- in the time of the antitypical Day of Atonement.
- in the time when the mark of the beast & the death decree will come to pass.
- in the time when Michael is about to stand & the 7 last plagues fall.
- in the time when the stone is about to strike the feet of iron & clay.

"And that, knowing the time, that now [it is] high time to awake out of sleep: for now [is] our salvation nearer than when we believed." Rom 13:11

God has given all:

The Power of Choice

Revelation 12:12

"..... for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time."

Enter The Ark of Hope

And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

– John 10:16

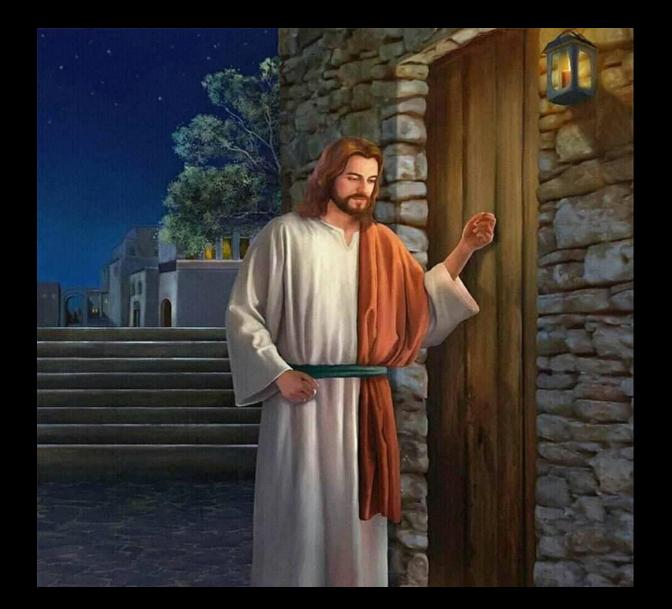
The Ark of the Covenant







Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me. – Revelation 3:20





ARE YOU READY TO MEET JESUS?