

Lesson 8: Destruction

Today's Bible Story

King Nebuchadnezzar was troubled by dreams, but none of his advisors could help him. So, God's servant Daniel was brought before the king. "Can you tell me my dream and what it means?" the king asked.

Daniel answered: "Your Majesty, not even the smartest person in all the world can do what you are demanding. But the God of heaven can explain all mysteries. God was showing you what will happen in the future.

"Your Majesty, what you saw in your dream was a huge statue, shining brightly. Its head was made of gold, its chest and arms were silver, and down from its waist was bronze. From there to its ankles it was iron, and its feet were a mixture of iron and clay.

"As you watched, a stone was cut from a mountain and was thrown at the feet, completely shattering the statue. The iron, clay, bronze, silver, and gold were crushed and blown away without a trace. But the stone became a tremendous mountain that covered the entire earth.

"This is what the dream means. You, O King, are the head of gold. After you are gone, another kingdom of silver will rule, but it won't be as strong, followed by a kingdom of bronze. Then, a kingdom of iron will come to power, crushing and shattering everything.

"This fourth kingdom will be divided — it will be both strong and brittle, just as you saw that the feet and toes were a mixture of iron and clay. This kingdom will be the result of a marriage between kingdoms, but it will crumble, just as iron and clay don't stick together.

"The God of heaven will set up an eternal kingdom that will never fall — like the stone that was cut from the mountain, the stone that crushed all the kingdoms. God has told you what is going to happen."

Then the king said, "Now I know that your God is above all other gods and kings, because he gave you the power to explain this mystery."



From Daniel 2:26-47

Bible Rhyme

The king of Persia dreamed a dream
but did not know what it might mean.
Daniel came to speak for God
about the dream that seemed so odd.

"You saw a statue, Majesty,
made of metals rare to see.
"With many levels, they stood tall,
until a great stone broke them all.

"These are kingdoms; one by one,
when they fall, another comes.
"But like the one great rock that crashed,
God's kingdom will forever last!"

The King's Dream of the Statue and the Stone
Look up Daniel 2:31-45 to complete this puzzle.

What the Statue's
Parts are Made of:

What Kingdoms
They Represent:

Fill in the blank letters on the four parts of the statue to name the materials they are made of; then use these same letters to fill in the name of the kingdoms listed on the far right.

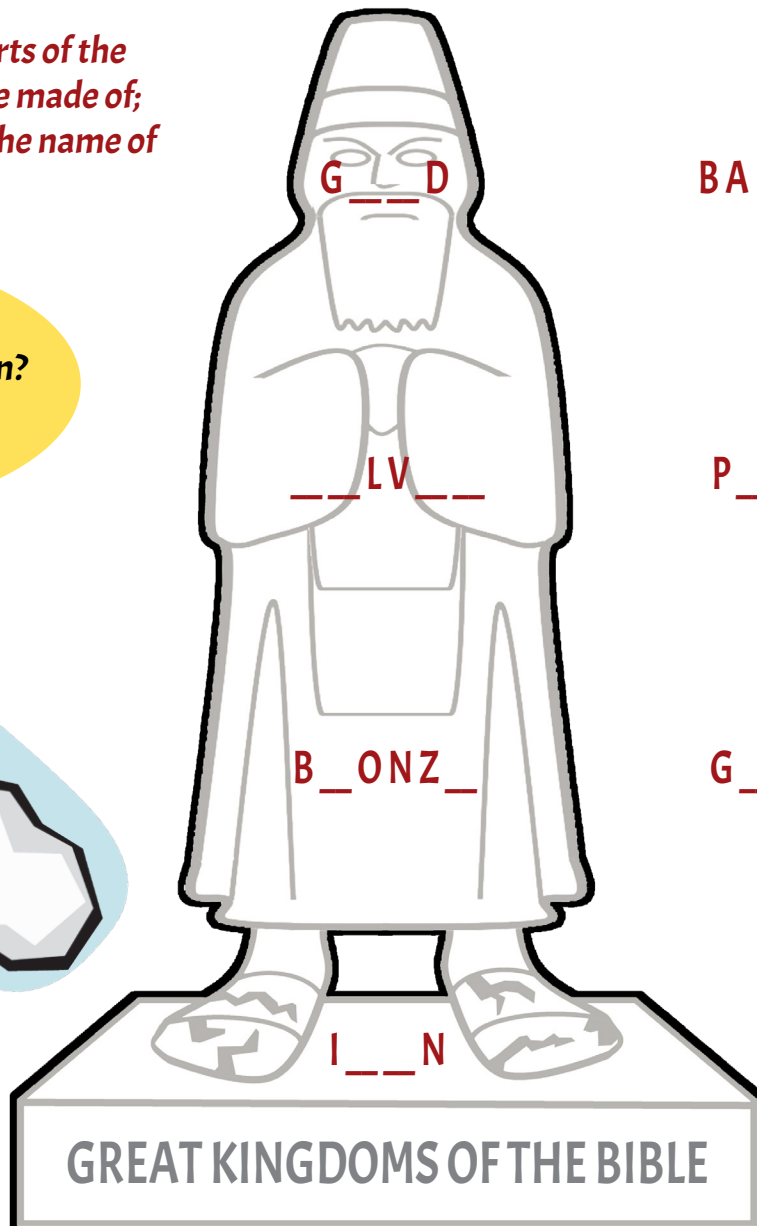
But what about the Rock
that came down from heaven?

___ NE = CHRI ___

Discussion Questions:

1) Which of the three kingdoms
existed before Jesus was born?

- 2) Which great empire ruled the Holy Land at the time Jesus was born? _____ (Luke 2:1-2)
- 3) In the dream, what did the stone do to the statue? _____ (Luke 20:17-18)
- 4) What Kingdom did Jesus Christ come to usher in? The _____ of _____ (Mark 1:14-15)
- 5) Discuss the conversation that Jesus had with the Roman governor Pontius Pilate in John 18:33-38:
- a) What did Pilate want to know? b) Answering Pilate, what did Jesus say about his kingdom?
- b) Why Jesus did not take the world by force? What did Jesus use to fight against the world?



BABY _ _ N

P _ _ _ _ A

G _ _ _ _ C _

_ _ _ ME

GREAT KINGDOMS OF THE BIBLE