

## **“The Statue & the Stone” (2)**

**“The haughty looks of man shall be brought low, and the lofty pride of men shall be humbled, and the LORD alone will be exalted in that day.” (Isaiah 2:11)**

### **Dream & Interpretation**

**Daniel 2:36-45** – (36) “This was the dream. Now we will tell the king its interpretation. (37) You, O king, the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, and the might, and the glory, (38) and into whose hand he has given, wherever they dwell, the children of man, the beasts of the field, and the birds of the heavens, making you rule over them all—you are the head of gold. (39) Another kingdom inferior to you shall arise after you, and yet a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. (40) And there shall be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron, because iron breaks to pieces and shatters all things. And like iron that crushes, it shall break and crush all these. (41) And as you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom, but some of the firmness of iron shall be in it, just as you saw iron mixed with the soft clay. (42) And as the toes of the feet were partly iron and partly clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly brittle. (43) As you saw the iron mixed with soft clay, so they will mix with one another in marriage, but they will not hold together, just as iron does not mix with clay. (44) And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever, (45) just as you saw that a stone was cut from a mountain by no human hand, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold. A great God has made known to the king what shall be after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation sure.”

### **Reflections & Responses:**

#### **(1) Divine Direction of Human History (verse 37)**

**Daniel 2:21** – “He changes times and seasons; he removes kings and sets up kings; he gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding”

**Isaiah 45:1-4** – (1) “Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings, to open doors before him that gates may not be closed: (2) I will go before you and level the exalted places, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, (3) I will

give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places, that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. (4) For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me.”

### **Our Response**

**Psalm 56:10-11** – (10) “In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise, (11) in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?”

### **(2) Degenerative Downtrend (verse 39)**

**Luke 17:28-30** – (28) “Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, (29) but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all— (30) so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed.”

### **Our Response**

**Ephesians 5:7-8, 11** – (7) “Therefore do not become partners with them; (8) for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light... (11) Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.”

### **(3) Destructive Division (verse 43)**

**Matthew 24:10** – “And then many will fall away and betray one another and hate one another.”

**Mark 13:12** – “And brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death.”

### **Our Response**

**Ephesians 4:1-3** – (1) “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, (2) with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, (3) eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

**Colossians 3:12-14** – (12) “Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, (13) bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. (14) And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.”

(ESV used unless otherwise noted)

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