

Nebuchadnezzar's Vision of the Image (Daniel 2)

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Water of Life Bible Class

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INTRODUCTION

DATE-STAMPS WITHIN DANIEL

Daniel 1:1	The third year of Jehoiakim	605 BC	1
Daniel 2:1	Nebuchadnezzar's second (accession) year	603-602 BC	2
Daniel 5:31	Darius conquered Babylon	early 539 BC	<u>5</u>
Daniel 7:1	First year of Belshazzar	553 BC	3
Daniel 8:1	Third year of Belshazzar	551 BC	4
Daniel 9:1	First year of Darius	late 539 BC	6
Daniel 10:1	Third year of Cyrus	536 BC	<u>8</u>
Daniel 11:1	First year of Darius	late 539 BC	7

CHIASM IN DANIEL 2-7: A REASON FOR A NON-CHRONOLOGICAL ARRANGEMENT

DANIEL 2:	Neb's vision: A sketch of prophetic history
DANIEL 3:	Punishment for worshipping the Lord: The fiery furnace
DANIEL 4:	Humiliation of Nebuchadnezzar
DANIEL 5:	Humiliation of Belshazzar
DANIEL 6:	Punishment for worshipping the Lord: The lions' den
DANIEL 7:	Daniel's vision: A sketch of prophetic history

THE VISION ITSELF (2:1-3)

Nebuchadnezzar's dreams in his second year troubled him into insomnia (2:1)

Chapter 2 likely occurred prior to the end of Daniel's 3-year training (chapter 1)

Nebuchadnezzar called his wise men both to tell him his troubling vision (2:2-3)

Wise men (2:12 etc.)	Magicians	prob. means "scribes"
	Astrologers	prob. means "necromancers"
	Sorcerers	prob. means "ones making incantations"
	Chaldeans	the southern Babylonian political elites

THE KING'S WISE MEN PROVED NOT TO BE UP-TO-THE KING'S ORDER (2:4-13)

The wise men asked him to tell the dream; he refused (2:4-6)

2:4b-7:28 is in Aramaic

Neb said he would reward one who told & interpreted it or kill them for failure (2:5-6)

The wise men insisted that the king tell them the dream; He refused (2:7-9)

The wise men made another plea; the king gave a final decree (2:10-13)

DANIEL'S DECLARATION THAT HE WOULD INTERPRET THE VISION (2:14-16)

DANIEL RECEIVED REVELATION FROM GOD (2:17-23)

Daniel told his companions; they prayed that God would spare their lives (2:17-18)

God revealed the secret to Daniel, who then praised Him (2:19-23)

DANIEL RETOLD AND INTERPRETED THE VISION FOR NEBUCHADNEZZAR (2:24-45)

Daniel told Arioch to spare the wise men; he would tell the king's dream (2:24-28)

Daniel told the king that God revealed the dream to him, so he could tell it (2:29-30)

Daniel revealed it: (1) a golden head, (2) silver upper-torso, (3) bronze belly/ thighs, (4) iron legs & iron/clay feet & (5) the stone that became a mountain (2:31-35)

Daniel's interpretation: the golden head is Nebuchadnezzar (Babylon), whom God has granted a kingdom (2:36-38)

Daniel's interpretation: the upper (silver) and lower (bronze) torso are second (Media-Persia) and third (Greece) imperial kingdoms (2:39)

Daniel's interpretation: The strong-and-brittle fourth imperial kingdom (Rome) will take power (2:40-43)

Daniel's interpretation: The never-to-be-destroyed fifth imperial kingdom [of Messiah], the stone uncut by hands that become a mountain, will conquer (2:44-45)

DANIEL HONORED BY NEBUCHADNEZZAR (2:46-49)

CONCLUSION