

## I. Three Lessons From the Book of Daniel

- A. How should a believer live in the "times of the Gentiles?"
- B. What will be the central features of the "times of the Gentiles?"
- C. What will Israel experience in the "times of the Gentiles?"

## II. Prophecies to the Nations - Daniel 2-7 (Recorded in Aramaic)

### A. Outline

- 1. Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the giant man (Daniel 2)
- 2. Four stories of the domination of God over the kings (Daniel 3-6)
  - a. Central truth of the whole section (Daniel 4:17b)

*In order that the living may know that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind, and bestows it on whom He wishes and sets over it the lowliest of men.*

- 3. Daniel's dream concerning the devouring beasts (Daniel 7)

### B. Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the giant man.

- 1. The history of the world from man's perspective
  - a. A glorious man
- 2. Key features of the vision
  - a. The progressive history moves down the body
  - b. The metals are of increasing strength
  - c. Note finally that the entire image is destroyed by the rock that grows into a mountain. The mountain is permanent.

## Assignment:

*Read Daniel 8-12*

**\*Please note that we will resume meetings on January 5th 2015.**

- C. Four pictures of the control of God over the kings
  - 1. Nebuchadnezzar's image
    - a. The Lord is with His faithful servants in the furnace
    - b. The Lord protects His servants
  - 2. Nebuchadnezzar's insanity
    - a. Babylon's greatness must be attributed to God
  - 3. Belshazzar's feast
    - a. Belshazzar's dishonors the things of God and is judged
  - 4. Daniel in the lion's den
- D. Daniel's dream of the devouring beasts
  - 1. The course of history from God's perspective
    - a. Cruel beasts
  - 2. Key features of the vision
    - a. Occurs by a troubled sea in the night - A picture of mankind
    - b. Four beasts come out of the sea
    - c. No beast is natural but they become progressively more unnatural
    - d. The last beast is extremely strong
    - e. When the Ancient of Days holds court, the nations are judged and the saints of God take over the earth permanently

### **III. Lessons from the section**

- A. God already knows the whole scheme of history
- B. The seeming progress of men is actually corruption and degeneration
- C. When God establishes His permanent kingdom it is separate from the other kingdoms