

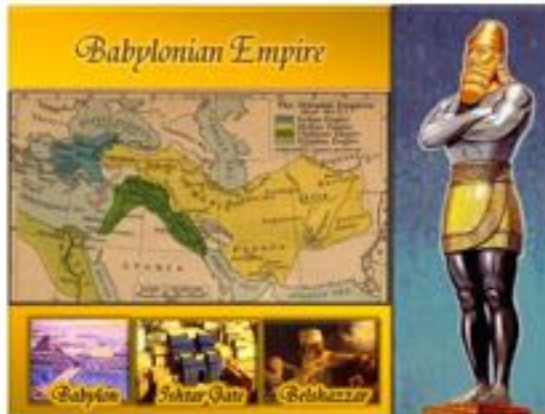
Daniel 10 – Marduk’s Bronze Loins: Hellenism

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Daniel 22f



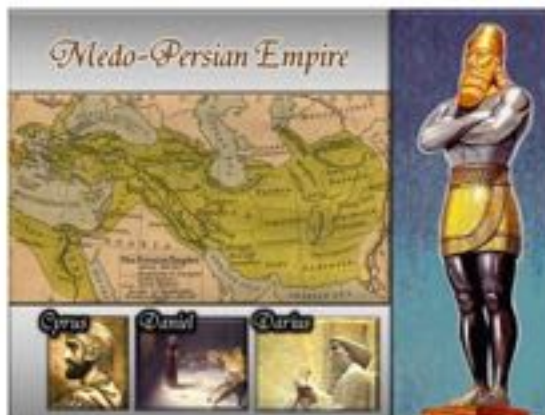
Head of Gold: Never Tarnishes

- Head controls body with 4 of 5 sensory inputs; interface of body and soul; Christ the head (1Co 1:18)
- Head unifies the diversity of the body; the interface between world and you
- Bridge of Ante- and Post-Diluvian worlds; seeding all civilizations
- God-given laws over man (Le 12:1-5)
- Babylonia pinnacle of Mesopotamian culture but mixed with idolatry, i.e.; asebeia (1Co 28:18)



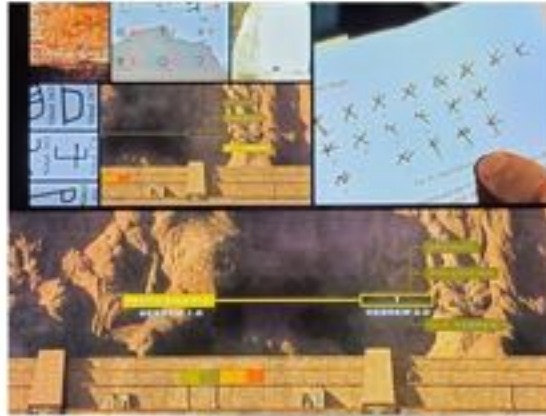
Chest of Silver: Tarnishes Black

- Chest is Persia with arms being Media and Persia
- Arms for writing, with roads, to spread God’s knowledge
- First Japheth empire, Egypt descended from Ham; God of Shem hiding, presaging coming Diaspora of today
- Spirit of God, life of the body; Air and water, blood (1Co 12:13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100)
- Cyrus only ruler anointed of God (Lungs/heart)



Alphabet Disperses

- Alphabet developed by Joseph, translating Egypt’s hieroglyphics into 24 easily learned letters, sounds
- Traveled with Hebrews to Canaan, Israel, to Tyre
- From Phoenicia it influences Aramaic, Greek, etc.
- Greek will be language of commerce and learning
- Ushers in the next level of Marduk – Bronze



Grecian Empire



Loin/Thighs of Bronze: Green Patina; Alluring

- Alexander defeats Greece, Persia and Egypt; makes himself god (Ammon-Zeus)
- Single empire becomes two warring kingdoms with Judah torn by their conflicts
- Seeds world with Hellenism: man measure of all truth
- Rationalism masks fleshy passions AEB violence (ps 220-24)
- Used of God preparing for Christ’s gospel (ps 13-15)

Greece in the Old Testament

- There is little mention of Greece (Hellen) in the Old Testament due to its scant influence on Israel/Judah before Alexander’s, the Great, conquests
 - We will pass over passages in Daniel until we reach that area in our study; however, Greece (Javan) is identified by the Table of Nations (ps 107-8, Gen 10)
 - God through **Isaiah** says He will send True Jews among them as witnesses calling them to salvation; this was presaged in the New Testament primarily by Paul in his second and third missionary journeys in Acts (ps 18-19)
 - God through **Zechariah** says He will defeat Greece (Javan) via the recalled True Jews when He restores them to the land; future to us; coming of Christ (ps 112-13)
 - God through **Ezekiel** speaks of Tyre’s (Phoenicia) vast trade network which included Greece; most valuable gift: alphabet (ps 27-30-32)
 - Jewish **tradition** claims Alexander visited Jerusalem on his way to defeat Egypt; he met no resistance because of Daniel’s prophecies (in later chapters) (Myth)

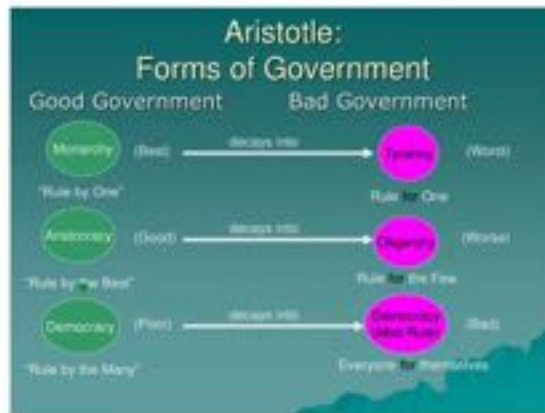
Plato's Government: Tyranny of Philosophy

- Plato's perfect ruler is philosopher-king who rules only by reason; i.e., philosophy (Marcus Aurelius of Rome)
- Warriors protect elites from workers & enemies, easily corrupted by wealth and power; patriotism is love
- Workers support top tiers; their rule: oligarchy (rule of the few) devolves into democracy (tyranny of the majority) swayed by fleshly appetites, easily distracted
- Though modern people depict Greeks as heroes of democracy, Greeks feared democracy as did all learned people; hence, a republic oligarchy is modern answer to philosopher-king autocratic rule



Aristotle: Disciple of Plato and Teacher of Alexander

- Disputed Plato's perfect forms concept; perfection can be attained in the here
- Natural philosopher seeks absolute truth in nature (Science: failure to find truth)
- Believed rule of one over rule of the few: Alexander
- Democracy worst form of government: Mob Rule
- Embarrassed by Alexander's conquests and excesses



Alexander: Redneck Greek Made Good

- Alexander was from Macedonia, considered backward by Greek city-states Athens and Sparta
 - Alexander developed and used horse cavalry as an armed maneuver force: this enabled him to defeat the Greek phalanx formations, unmaeuverable
 - Alexander led by example, exposing himself to danger to inspire his troops to win; most battles won by cavalry when enemy broke first
 - Alexander used unconventional tactics/strategies that confused his static foes
 - Alexander lenient with defeated populations; merciless with mercenary Greeks
 - Alexander smitten by Persian and Egyptian cultures; declared himself a god, combination of Libyan and Greek: Ammon-Zeus
 - Largest empire to date but died thereafter in a drunken stupor; kingdom divided among his four generals; only two are significant in the Bible: Ptolemy (Egypt) and Seleucus (Mesopotamia) (We will study them later in Daniel)

Greek Philosophy Leads to Allegory: Think Plato's Forms to Yields Gnosticism

- **Allegory**: Greek approach to interpreting their gods' tales, our mythologies, to find the truth amongst the fantasy (Jefferson's approach to Bible truths)
- **Pherecydes**: Father of allegory as he wrote his cosmology in prose, factual, rather than poetical form; reader to understand true meaning from the written form
- **Theophrastus**: Developed allegorical understanding of Homer's epics influencing subsequent readers who sought the true forms hidden in the poems' imageries
- **Plato**: His approach to knowledge, forms, elevated the invisible, perfect, above the visible, imperfect; only the philosopher could apprehend the perfect while most were trapped in the cave, content with the imperfect and trivial
- Allegory assigns meanings to concrete terms based on whatever system the author defines, often arbitrary and broken when convenient
- Alexandrian Hebrews used allegory to explain why they were not masters of the world as they believed Scripture taught (Poor Eschatology) (Eisegesis)

Allegory and Gnosticism: Church Reintroduces Idolatry as Rational Truth

- Gnosticism, Platonism/Neo-Platonism, develops a hierarchical system of wisdom; that which is knowable is inferior to that which is divined or unknowable, except to the initiated or elite; Allegory used to discover truth
- Written words inferior to hidden spiritual meanings behind words
- Hebrews based their traditions on biblical allegory rather than search for biblical truths; Christ rebuked them for their traditions [Joh 10:1-14, 22-26](#)
- **Valentinus**: 2nd century theologian inject gnosticism into Christianity
- **Origen**: Enthralled with Pythagoras, Plato and Aristotle; he introduced allegory into Christianity in 3rd century in combination with a biblical form of gnosticism
- **Augustine**: Father of Roman Catholicism (RC), imported allegory/gnosticism into RC which contaminated Christendom belief systems even today (Eisegesis)

Failure of Greek Government: Constant War and Skulduggery

- How did Greek government-philosophy work in practice with all this man-centered knowledge? "You shall know them by their fruit" [Joh 15:18](#)
- Greece composed primarily of city-states that warred continually amongst themselves until conquered by the Greek redneck, Alexander
- When Athens gained ascendancy over others it ruled tyrannically without regard to higher truths or good of the people; it ruled for wealth and power
- Greeks did manage to defeat Persia but more due to Persian weaknesses than Greece superiority; this led Alexander to exploit Persia's vulnerability
- Greek government failed, even after Alexander; Greek culture was amazingly resilient and survived to form a common language of commerce and culture to rapidly spread the Gospel even more so than Persia
- Seeding of Hellenism sprang from allegory and gnosticism; Plato and Aristotle

Greek Influence on Modernism: Our Time

- Protagoras: One of the great sophists of Plato's day and Plato illustrate the lie inherent in Greek wisdom that infected Rome and continues today
 - Protagoras: "Man is the measure of all things, of the reality of those which are, and of the unreality of those which are not," and "As to the gods, I have no means of knowing either that they exist or do not exist"
 - Plato: "If what each man believes to be true... is true for him - and no man can judge of another's experience better than the man himself, and no man is in a better position to consider whether another's opinion is true or false than the man himself... then how, my friend, ... are we so ignorant that we should go to... him (Protagoras), if each of us is the measure of his own wisdom?"
 - Descartes: "Cogito, ergo sum" flows naturally from this since the measure of one's existence flows from one's own thoughts; i.e., from this rationalism sprang the French Revolution, socialism and postmodernism: Grecian violence of rule

Summary of Marduk's Loins of Bronze

- Bronze – judgment, war; secularization of religion that returned to religion as gnosticism via allegorical justifications permeating societies (25:107-114)
 - Greek influence profoundly shifted belief from God, and gods, to man vacillating with the whims of man; unstable as the sea (24:1-54)
 - Called rational, this hid covetousness, the heart of idolatry (24:35)
 - Rather than peace and contentment, its fruits are violence, division and degradation leading to death; fruit of sin (24:110-11, 21:4, 24:37-21)
 - Grecian wisdom trapped in the throes of Satan who is their father; they were the most powerless of all people though they claimed freedom (24:544, 42:25-26)
 - Greek wisdom valued power and truth though obtained via violence & idolatry
 - Short-lived Grecian empire quickly faded into fractional violence, dominated by the next empire that would exhibit even more power, less mercy; one that would murder truth and God, led by God's own people in the flesh: False Jews

Christianity Enmeshed in Grecian Error

- Christianity today is primarily allegorical gnosticism preventing proper hermeneutical exegetical interpretation of Scripture: Satan's Lies
 - Evangelical Christianity is succumbing to modern secular rationalism: social gospel, social justice and democratic socialism: Lies
 - People of the world seek power only to be powerless; elites who claim power die, like everyone else, to discover true powerlessness: God's judgment (24:211-15)
 - Arminianism, free will, rejects sovereignty of Christ only to discover one cannot do good except in Christ which makes a lie of free will (24:115-20)
 - Christians chase the wisdom of the world but discover only foolishness (24:124-25)
 - They are fools to the world; they find rest only in Christ who conquered the world (24:125-26, 103:18-19, 24:21)
 - Each of us will give an account of our life at His judgment seat; like Daniel (24:213)

Daniel 10 – Marduk’s Bronze Loins Syllabus

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