

"THE BOOK OF DANIEL"

Chapter Two

Review:

Nebuchadnezzar challenges his magicians, sorcerers, et al, to tell him both the dream and its interpretation, and they are unable - Daniel 2:1-13;

God reveals the secret of the dream to Daniel in a night vision - Daniel 2:14-23;

Daniel praises God for wisdom and for making known to him the King's dream - Daniel 2:20-23;

Daniel approaches the king and explains that God has made known to him both the dream and its interpretation - Daniel 2:24-30;

Daniel then tells the dream, and gives the interpretation of it, to the amazement of Nebuchadnezzar - Daniel 2:31-49;

The king had seen a great image.

4 Metals Statue

Gold

Silver

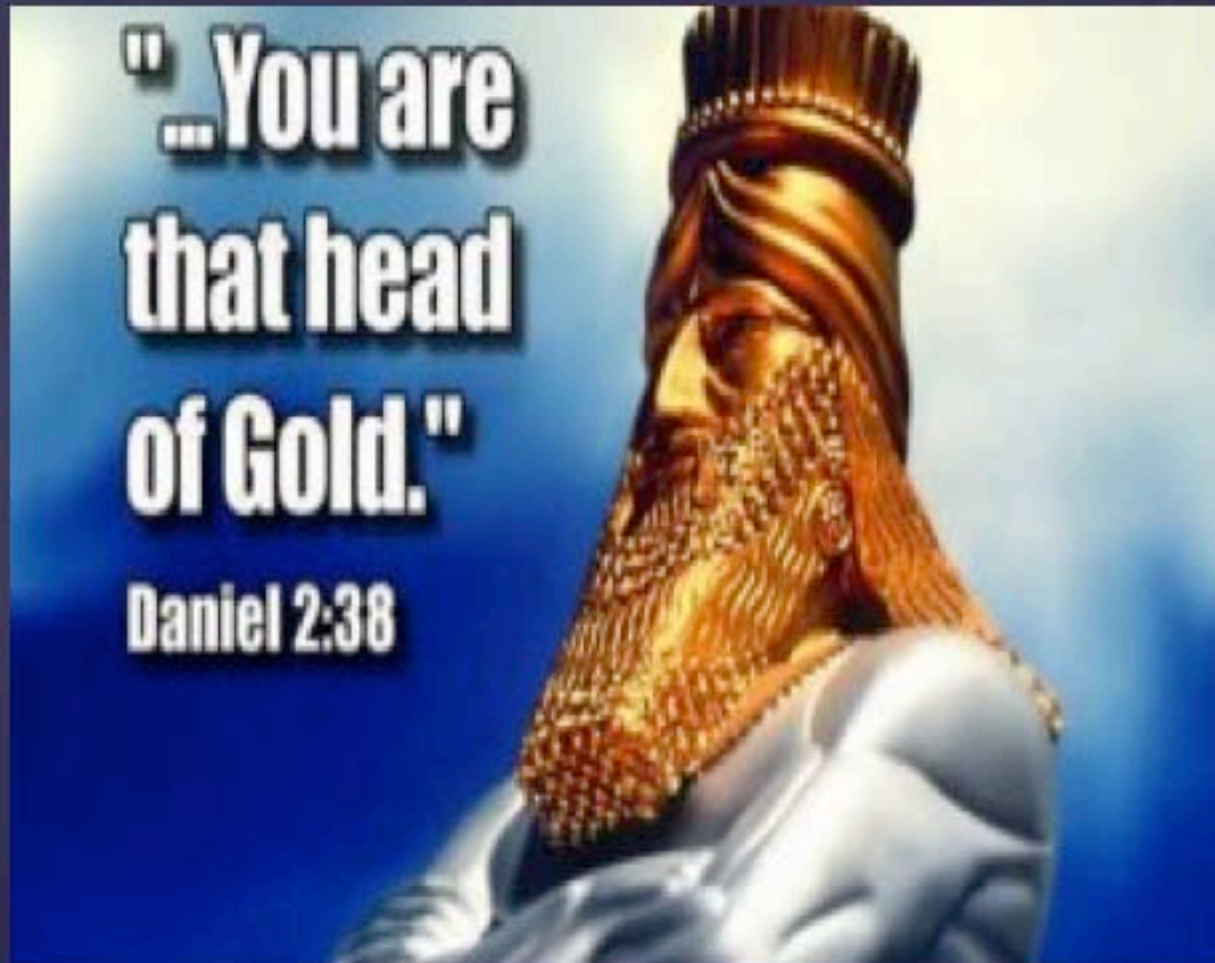
Bronze

Iron



**Christ
the
Stone**

With head of gold



BABYLONIANS

With chest and arms of silver



MEDIO - PERSIANS

With belly and thighs of bronze



GRECIANS

**With legs of iron, and feet mixed with
iron and clay**



ROMANS

The Great Image

606 to 561 B C
Nebuchadnezzar's
Reign

Head of Gold
Kingdom of Babylon

538 B C
Fall of Babylon
Under Cyrus

Arms of Silver
Medes & Persian
Kingdom

330 B C
Alexander
The Great

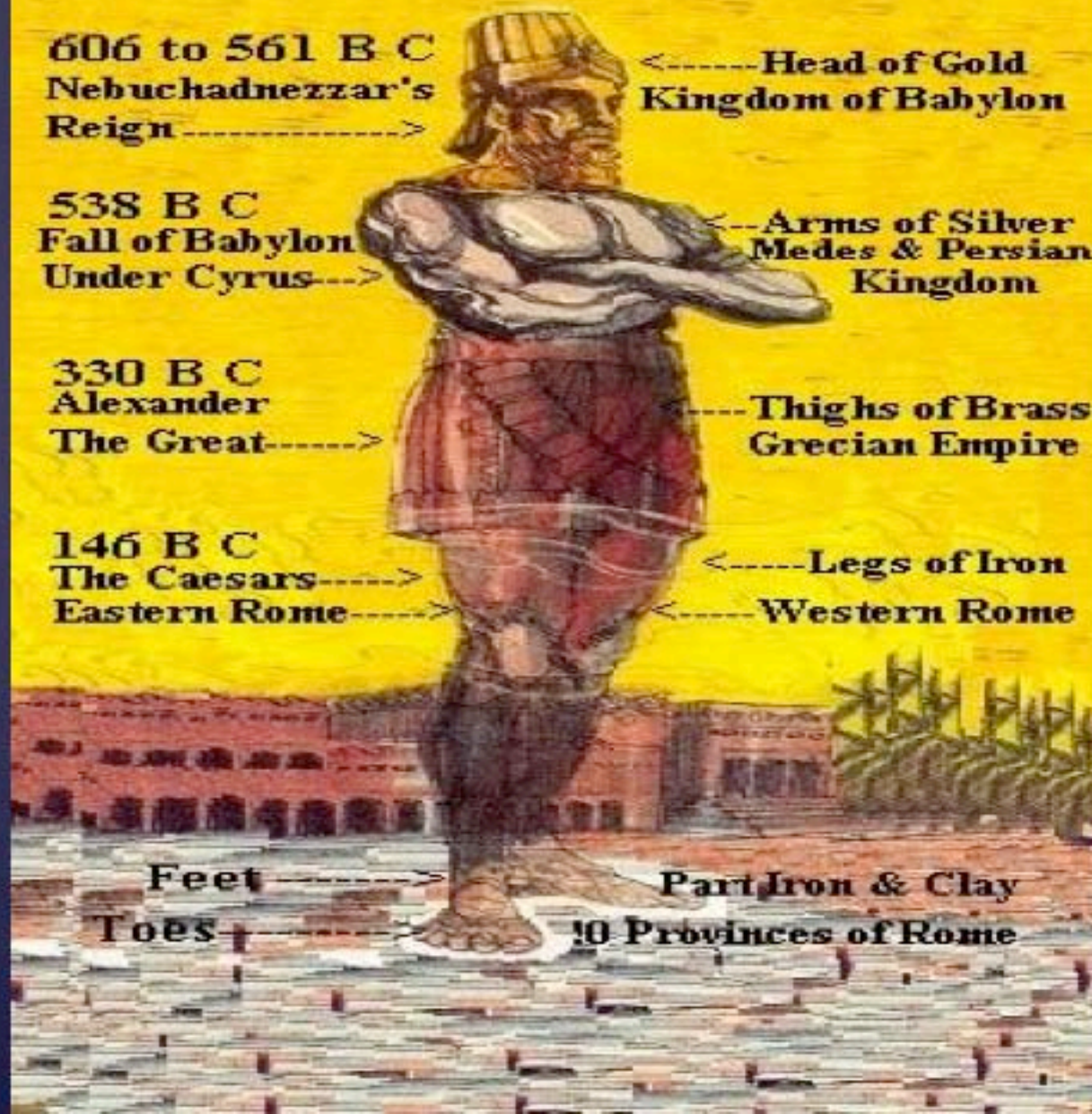
Thighs of Brass
Grecian Empire

146 B C
The Caesars
Eastern Rome

Legs of Iron
Western Rome

Feet
Toes

Part Iron & Clay
10 Provinces of Rome



Lesson Four -

I. THE PREPARATION FOR THE INDESTRUCTIBLE KINGDOM

A. Daniel 2:44 “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,”

1. Daniel describes the image as depicting four kingdoms which shall rise and fall.

2. The first one is definitely Babylon -

Daniel 2:37-38 “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, 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.”

3. With Babylon as the starting point, world history confirms that the next three kingdoms would be:

a. The Medo-Persian empire, represented by the chest and arms of silver.

b. The Grecian empire, represented by the belly and thighs of bronze.

c. The **Roman Empire**, represented by the legs of iron, with feet mixed with iron and clay.

4. Thus one could look for the establishment of the "indestructible kingdom" in the days of the **Roman Empire**

B. WHEN "THE TIME IS FULFILLED"...

The Babylonian would be succeeded by the Medo-Persian, that by the Macedonian, that by the Roman, and that in its turn by the one which the God of heaven would set up.

1. Notice what John the Baptist began preaching during the days of the Roman empire.

Matthew 3:1-2 “In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

John means "the reign of God," not the political or ecclesiastical organization which the Pharisees expected.

“...The kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

The phrases, kingdom of heaven, kingdom of Christ, and kingdom of God, are frequent occurrence in the Bible.

They all refer to the same thing.

The expectation of such a kingdom was taken from the Old Testament, and especially from Daniel 7:13-14;

The prophets had told of a successor to David that should sit on his throne.

1 Kings 2:4 “that the LORD may establish his word that he spoke concerning me, saying, ‘If your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk before me in faithfulness with all their heart and with all their soul, you shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel.’”

1 Kings 8:25 “Now therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father what you have promised him, saying, ‘You shall not lack a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.’”

Jeremiah 33:17 “For thus says the LORD: David shall never lack a man to sit on the throne of the house of Israel,”

Romans 1:3 Concerning his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh;

Matthew 1:1; 9:27; 20:30; Mark 10:47; 12:35; Luke 18:38;

The Jews expected a great national deliverer. They supposed that when the Messiah should appear, all the dead would be raised; that the judgment would take place; and that the enemies of the Jews would be destroyed, and themselves advanced to great national dignity and honour.

2. Jesus proclaimed this also, adding
"the time is fulfilled" -

Mark 1:14-15 "Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Matthew 3:2 “And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Matthew 4:17 “From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

“Our Lord sometimes speaks of the new kingdom as already come--in His own Person and ministry; but the *economy* of it was only "at hand" until the blood of the cross was shed, and the Spirit on the day of Pentecost opened the fountain for sin and for uncleanness to the world at large.” JFB

a. What "time" was fulfilled?

b. The time described by Daniel!

[So the "indestructible kingdom" was to be set up in the days of the Roman Empire. During Roman Empire both John and Jesus anticipated its establishment. This leads to our next question: Has it been set up as foretold...?]

II. THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INDESTRUCTIBLE KINGDOM

**A. DURING JESUS' EARTHLY
MINISTRY, IT WAS "AT HAND"...**

Matthew 3:1-2; Mark 1:14-15;

**B. BUT FOLLOWING THE
ASCENSION OF JESUS...**

1. He is far above all principality, power, might, and dominion –

Ephesians 1:20-21 “that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come.”

2. All has been made subject to Him -

1 Peter 3:22 “who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.”

3. He is ruler over the kings of the earth -

Revelation 1:5 “and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood.”

He truly has all authority in heaven and on earth! - Matthew 28:18 “And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.”

Matthew 28:16 “Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them.”

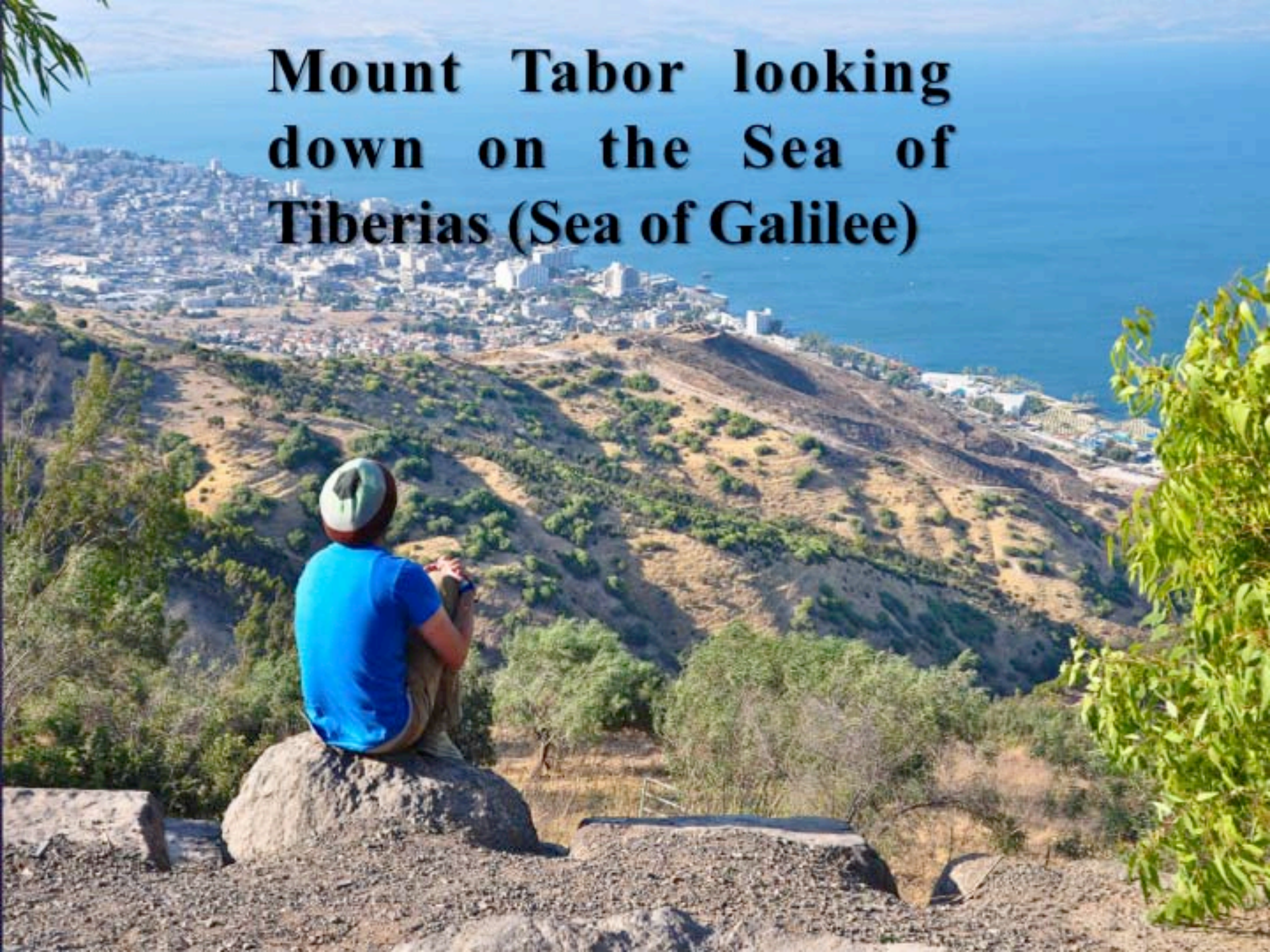
Probably the night before He suffered, when He said, "After I am risen, I will go before you into Galilee" (Mt 26:32;Mr 14:28). What mountain it was can only be conjectured; but of the two between which opinions are divided--the Mount of the Beatitudes or Mount Tabor--the former is much the more probable, from its nearness to the Sea of

Tiberias, (Galilee) where last before this the Narrative tells us that He met and dined with seven of them. (John 21:1). That the interview here recorded was the same as that referred to in one place only— 1 Cor 15:6 - when "He was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remained unto that day, though some were fallen asleep," is now the opinion of the ablest students of the evangelical history.

Mount Tabor



**Mount Tabor looking
down on the Sea of
Tiberias (Sea of Galilee)**



C. THIS SUPPORTS WHAT IS REVEALED LATER IN DANIEL...

1. Consider Daniel 7:13-14;

Daniel 7:13-14 “I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and

languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.”

a. Where one like the Son of Man approaches the Ancient of Days (God)

b. And is given dominion, glory, and a kingdom which shall not be destroyed.

2. Compare this with Acts 1:9;

Acts 1:9 “And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.”

a. Daniel describes the ascension from a heavenly perspective.

b. Whereas Luke describes it from an earthly perspective!

[It is clear, then, that the King (Jesus) has received a kingdom that the indestructible kingdom was set up when He returned to heaven! But one might naturally ask: **Where is it now?** The answer is found when we consider...]

III. THE NATURE OF THE INDESTRUCTIBLE KINGDOM

T B A

Prayer Time

