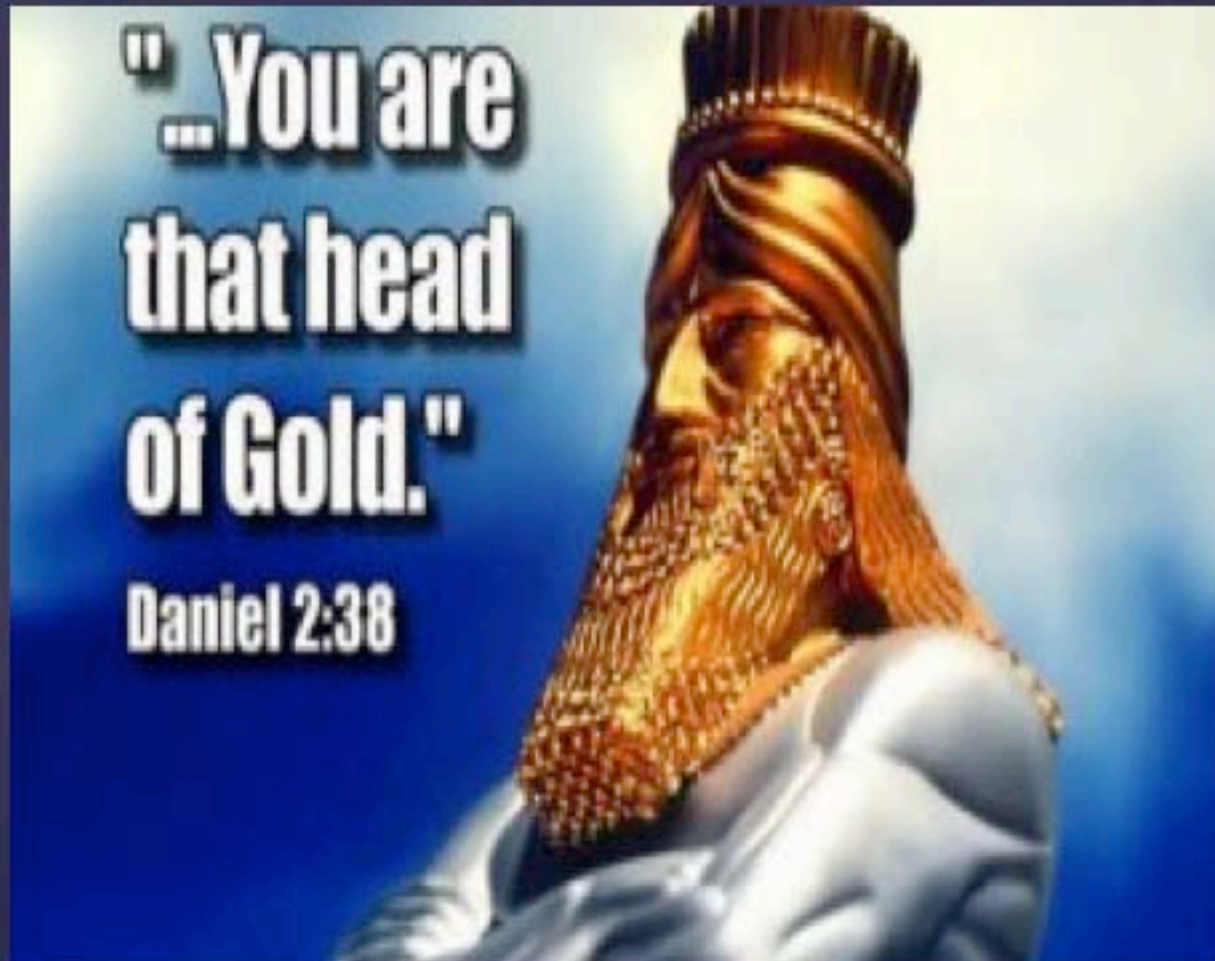


"THE BOOK OF DANIEL"

Chapter Two

Review:

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 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.

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 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.

Jesus **proclaimed** "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.”

[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...?]

**THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
INDESTRUCTIBLE KINGDOM**

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

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

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

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.” **Position not location!!**

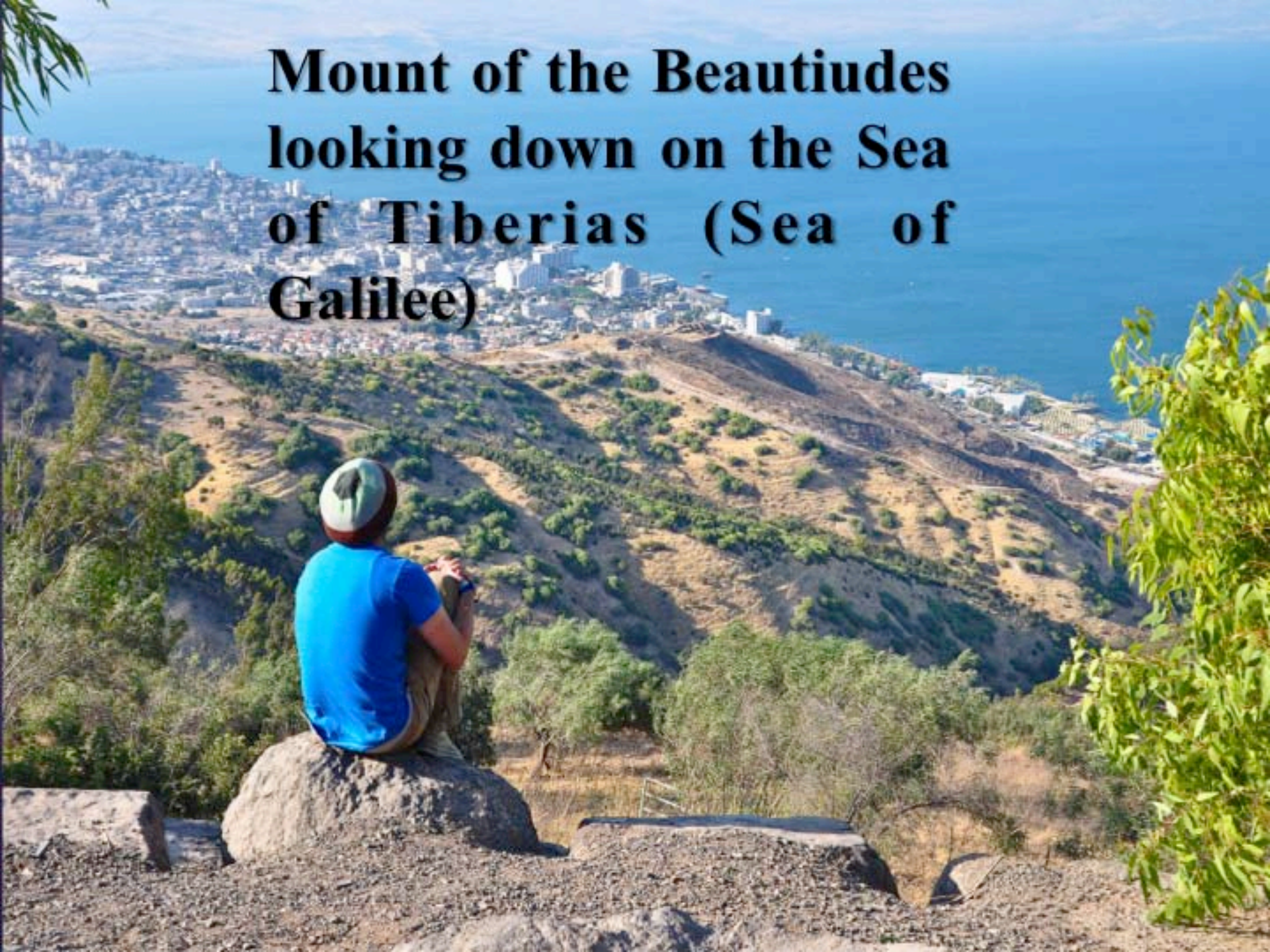
Revelation 1:5 “and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood.”

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.”

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 of the Beautiudes
looking down on the Sea
of Tiberias (Sea of
Galilee)**



III. THE NATURE OF THE INDESTRUCTIBLE KINGDOM

A. THINGS TO REMEMBER ABOUT THIS KINGDOM...

1. It was described by Daniel as a "stone cut...without hands which became a great mountain and filled the whole earth" -

Daniel 2:34-35 “As you looked, a stone was cut out by no human hand, and it struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold, all together were broken in pieces, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that not a trace of them could be found. But the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”

a. "without hands" (no human hands) suggests it is not your ordinary kingdom.

b. Also, it would start small and then grow larger.

2. Compare this with what Jesus taught about the nature of His kingdom.

a. His kingdom is not of this world - John 18:36; cf. Romans 14:17;

John 18:36 “Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”

Romans 14:17 “For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

b. It would start small, and grow to encompass the earth - Thus this "indestructible kingdom" would start small, and be spiritual in nature.

Matthew 13:31-33 “He put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven is like a grain of mustard seed that a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is larger than all

the garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” He told them another parable. “The kingdom of heaven is like leaven that a woman took and hid in three measures of flour, till it was all leavened.”

B. THIS KINGDOM THEREFORE INVOLVES THOSE IN THE CHURCH...

1. The Christians at Colosse were in the kingdom - Colossians 1:12-13;

Colossians 1:12-13 “giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son:”

2. Those at Thessalonica likewise -

1 Thessalonians 2:12 “we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.”

3. Along with the seven churches in Asia

Revelation 1:6, 9 “and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. 9. I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.”

Cf. Exodus 19:6;

4. Indeed, all Christians receive their part in this "indestructible kingdom" -

Hebrews 12:28 "Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe,"

- a. Including us gathered here this evening!**
- b. Fulfilling the statement that this kingdom would fill the whole earth!**
- c. For here we are, on the other side of the planet from Jerusalem, yet citizens of this kingdom foretold by Daniel!**

[Whoever is willing to "repent and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15) can be a part of the kingdom Jesus established when He sat down at the right hand of God following His ascension to heaven.]

IV. THE FUTURE OF THIS INDESTRUCTIBLE KINGDOM

A. IT WILL LAST FOREVER...

1. As Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar -

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,”

2. As the writer to the Hebrews stated:
"a kingdom which cannot be shaken" -
Hebrews 12:28;

3. As the angel Gabriel spoke to Mary:
"of His kingdom there will be no end" -

**Luke 1:31-33 "And behold, you will
conceive in your womb and bear a son,
and you shall call his name Jesus. He will
be great and will be called the Son of the
Most High. And the Lord God will give**

to him the throne of his father David,
and he will reign over the house of Jacob
forever, and of his kingdom there will be
no end.”

**B. AT CHRIST'S COMING, IT WILL
BE DELIVERED TO THE FATHER...**

1. As taught by Paul to the Corinthians -

1 Corinthians 15:23-26 “But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.”

2. As Jesus taught in the parable of the tares -

Matthew 13:40-43 “Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

Prayer Time

