

THE FINAL BATTLES NEAR SECTION 2

DISCOURSE: A formal and lengthy discussion of a subject, either written or spoken. Mount Publications, Rt. 1, Box 298, Morriston, Fla. 32668

Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, God's servant. The adversary works through false prophets. * 3/10/1991

JEREMIAH ASV

27 'In the beginning of the reign of ³Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, came this word unto <u>Jeremiah</u> from Jehovah, saying, 2 Thus saith Jehovah to me: Make thee theorem and there and nut them saith Jehovah to me: Make thee "bonds and "bars, and put them upon thy neck; 3 and send them to the king of \star Edom, and to the king of \star Moab, and to the king of the children of \star Ammon, and to the king of \star Tyre, and to the king of \star Sidon, by the hand of the messengers that come to Jeru-salom upto "Zadakiah king of salem unto "Zedekiah king of Judah: 4 and give them a charge unto their masters, saying, Thus saith Jehovah of hosts, the God of Israel, Thus shall ye say unto your masters: 5 <u>*I</u> have made the earth, the men and the beasts that are upon the face of the earth, <u>aby my great power and</u> by my outstretched arm; and I <u>give it unto whom it seemeth</u> right unto me. 6 And now <u>aby</u> I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, <u>any servant</u>; and the <u>beasts of the field also have I</u> given him to serve him. 7 And <u>all the nations shall serve him</u>, and his son, and his son's son, <u>auntil the time of his own land</u> saith Jehovah of hosts, the God <u>until the time of his own land</u> come: and then "many nations and great kings shall make him their bondman. 8 And it shall come to pass, that the nation and the kingdom which 'will not serve the same Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and that will not put their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, that nation will I punish, saith Jeho-vah, with the 'sword, and with the famine, and with the pesti-lence, until I have consumed them by his hand. 9 But as for you, 'hearken ye not to your prophets, nor to your diviners, nor to your dreams, nor to your soothsavers, nor to your sorcer-ers, that speak unto you, saying, 'Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon: 10 for they prophesy a "lie unto you, to "remove you far from your land, and that I should the kingdom which 'will not from your land, and that I should from your land, and that I should ^a drive you out, and ye should perish. 11 <u>But the nation that</u> <u>shall</u> ^b bring their neck under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and <u>serve him, that nation</u> will I ^c let <u>remain in their own land</u>, saith Jehovah; and they shall till it, and dwell therein.



1 But there-became also <u>false</u>prophets among the people, as also among YOU there-will-be <u>false-teachers</u>, they-who willintroduce sects of-destruction, and denying the Despot havingbought them (in the market) leading-on themselves quick destruction.



12 And I spake to ^dZedekiah king of Judah according to all these words, saying, ^eBring your necks under the yoke of the king of Babylon, and serve him and his people, and live. 13 Why will ye ^fdie, thou and thy people, by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence, as Jehovah hath spoken concerning the nation that will not serve the king of <u>Babylon</u>? 14 And ^e hearken not unto the words of <u>the prophets</u> that speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of <u>Babylon</u>; for they prophesy a ^hlie unto you. 15 For ⁱI have not sent them, saith Jehovah, but they prophesy ^kfalsely in my name; that I may 'drive you out, and that ye may perish, ^mye, and the prophets that prophesy

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unto you. 16 Also I spake to the priests and to all this people, saying, Thus saith Jehovah: <u>Hearken not</u> to the words of your prophets that prophesy unto you, saying, Behold, the "vessels of Jeho-vah's house shall now shortly be brought again from Babylon; for they prophesy a °lie unto you. 17 Hearken not unto them; serve the king of Babylon, and live: wherefore should this city ^p become a desolation? 18 But ° if they be prophets, and if the word of Jehovah be with them, let them now "make intercession to Jehovah of hosts, that the vessels which are left in the house of Jehovah, and in the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem, go not to Babylon. 19 For thus saith Jehovah of hosts concerning the 'pillars, and concerning the sea, and concerning the bases, and concerning the residue of the vessels that are left in this city, 20 which <u>Nebuchadnezzar</u> king of Babylon took not, when he 'carried away captive Jeconiah the son of Jehoiakim, king of Judah from Jerogalam to Baby Judah, from Jerusalem to Baby-lon, and all the nobles of Judah and Jerusalem; 21 yea, thus saith Jehovah of hosts, the God of Is-rael, concerning the vessels that rael, concerning the vessels that are left in the house of Jehovah, and in the house of the king of Judah, and at Jerusalem: 22 They shall be "carried to Babylon, and there shall they be, until the "day that I visit them, saith Jehovah; then will I " bring them up, and restore them to this place.

Daniel was among those brought to Babylon. Daniel's record of Nebuchadnezzar's dream is the very base of prophecy concerning Gentile powers. Still future.

DANIEL 2 ASV

26 <u>The king an</u> swered and said to Daniel, whose name was 'Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof? 27 Daniel answered before the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded can neither ^h wise men, enchanters, magicians, nor soothsayers, show unto the king; 28 <u>but there is a 'God</u> in heaven that revealeth secrets, and he hath made known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the *latter days. Thy dream, and the 'visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these: 29 as for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter; and he that "revealeth secrets hath made known to thee what Shall come to pass. 30 But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any "wisdom that I have more than any living, but to the intent that the interpretation may be ° made known to the king, and that thou mayest know

the ^pthoughts of thy heart. 31 Thou, O king, sawest, and, behold, <u>agreatimage</u>. <u>This image</u>, which was mighty, and whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the aspect thereof was q terrible. 32 As for this image, its 'head was of fine gold, its 'breast and its arms of <u>silver</u>, its belly and its thighs of <u>brass</u>, 33 its 'legs of <u>iron</u>, its <u>'feet part of iron, and part of clay</u>. 34 Thou sawest till that a '<u>stone</u> was cut out "without hands, which smote the image upon its feet that were of iron and clay, and "brake them in pieces. 35 Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken in pieces together, and became *like the chaff of the summer threshing-floors; and the wind carried them away, so that ^a no place was found for them:

• and the stone that smote the image became a great ¹⁶ mountain, and filled the whole earth.

About 583 B.C.

BEL-TE-SHAZ'-ZAR, בלמשאצר "Bel's prince," i.e. prince whom Bel favours,



PROCESSION OF BEL CYCLOPEDIA OF UNI-VERSAL HISTORY V.1,p.134

GESENIUS' LEXICON

contr. from בָּעָל i. q. בַּעַל Bel, a domestic and chief god of the Babylonians, worshipped in the tower of Babel; Isa. 46:1; Jer. 50:2; 51:44, and Dan. chap. 14, LXX. The Greek and Roman writers (Diod. Sio. ii. 8, 9; Plin. xxxvii. 19; Cic. De Nat. Docume ii. 60) Deorum, iii. 16) compare him with Jupiter; but however, we are not to understand this to be the father of the gods, of whom the Orientals knew nothing, but in accordance with the peculiar Babylonian theology, in which all rested on the worship of the stars, the <u>planet Jupiter</u>, stella Jovis (Cic. De Nat. Deor. ii. 20), which [some of] the Shemitic nations worshipped supremely as a <u>good demon</u> and the author and guardian of all good fortune. It is therefore called by the Arabians السعد الأكر "Greater Fortune." The planet <u>Venus</u> was worshipped with this planet (see אַלָאָר אָיָאָר, אַיָאָר אָר ער געשר, אַיָאָר אָיָר, אַיָאָר אָר The devotion to this worship is shewn by the proper names of the Babylonians compounded with the name Bel, as גָּלְשָׁאצָר, גּּלְשָׁאצָר, Belibus, etc.

DANIEL 2 ASV

36 This is the dream; and we will tell the ^einterpretation thereof before the king. 37 Thou, O king, art ^eking of kings, unto whom the ^eGod of heaven hath given the 'God of heaven hath given the kingdom, the 'power, and the strength, and the glory; 38 and wheresoever the children of men dwell, the 'beasts of the field and the birds of the heavens hath he given into thy hand, and hath made thee to rule over them all: thou art the 'head of gold. 39 And after thee shall arise 'another kingdom inferior to thee; and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. 40 And the 'fourth king-dom shall be strong as iron, for-asmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things; and as and subducth all things; and as iron that crusheth all these, shall it break in pieces and crush. 41 And whereas thou sawest the 'feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, it shall be a divided kingdom; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with ² miry clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly ^s broken. 43 And whereas thou sawest the iron mixed with ² miry clay, they shall mingle themselves ⁴ with the seed of men; but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron doth not mingle with clay. 44 And in the days of those kings shall the "God of heaven " set up a <u>°kingdom</u> which shall never be destroyed, nor shall the sover-eignty thereof be left to another people; but it shall <u>p</u>break in pieces and consume all these king-doms, and it shall stand for ever. 45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that a ^q stone was cut out of the mountain "without hands, and that it NOTE THE PRESENCE OF THE ADVERSARY -- ZEUS. NOTE THE or ZEUS. NOTE THE PRESENCE OF

V.28 What shall be in the latter days. V.44 A kingdom that shall stand for ever.





God uses the adversary's kingdom, enlarged by God, to punish Judah and give prophecy to Gentile powers. JEREMIAH ASY CHAP. XI ANTIQUITIES OF THE JEWS. 86

27 'In the beginning of the reign of 'Jehoiakim the son of Josiah, king of Judah, came this word unto <u>Jeremiah</u> from Jehovah, saying, 2 Thus saith Jehovah to me: Make thee "bonds and "bars, and put them upon thy neck; 3 and send them to the king of \neq Edom, and to the to the king of \star Moab, and to the king of the children of \star Ammon, and to the king of \star Tyre, and to the king of \star Sidon, by the hand of the messengers that come to Jerusalem unto "Zedekiah king of Judah: 4 and give them a charge unto their masters, saying, Thus saith Jehovah of hosts, the God of Israel, Thus shall ye say unto your masters: 5 "I have made the earth, the men and the beasts that are upon the face of the earth, ^a by my great power and by my outstretched arm: and I ^bgive it unto whom it seemeth right unto me. 6 And now ^chave I given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, ^dmy servant; and the ^cbeasts of the field also have I given him to serve him given him to serve him.

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A BIBLE ATLAS, Hurlbut, p.86

5. To these might be added Egypt, though outside of the Asiatic world. It soon shook off the yoke of Assyria and resumed its independence; but, endeavoring to contest with Babylon the empire of the East, it was defeated at Carchemish by Nebuchadnezzar and was compelled to retire from Asia. Some suppose that it was conquered by Babylon, and it is possible that for a few years Egypt may have recognized the supremacy of Nebuchadnezzar by paying tribute, but it was never a part of his empire.

The map of the Oriental world, as thus reconstructed, lasted about a century, though with varying boundary lines; as, for instance, Elam, or Susiana, sometimes formed a part of Babylonia, and at other times of Media. During this period Babylon was the metropolis of the East. It was raised to greatness by Nebuchadnezzar, who finished the Tower of Belus, raised the Hanging Gardens, and built great palaces. Two-thirds of the bricks unearthed in the ruins of Babylon bear his name. The city formed a square, on both sides of the Euphrates, covering an area of 130 miles, about that of the city and county of Philadelphia. It was surrounded with double walls, one of which is said to have been 300 feet high, and so wide that six chariots could be driven abreast along its summit. The greatness of the city, however, was short-lived. It was taken by the Medes and Persians, 536 B.C., and soon began to decline, though it remained in a decaying condition for nearly a thousand years afterward.

was not himself able any longer to undergo the hardships [of war], he committed to his son Nebuchadnezzar, who was still but a youth, some parts of his army, and sent them against him. So when Nebuchadnezzar had given battle, and fought with the rebel, he beat him, and reduced the country from under his subjection, and made it a branch of his own kingdom; but about that time it happened that his father Nebuchodonosor [Nabopollassar] fell ill, and ended his life in the city of Babylon, when he had reigned twentyone years ; * and when he was made sensible, as he was in a little time, that his father, Nebuchodonosor [Nabopollassar], was dead, and having settled the affairs of Egypt, and the other countries, as also those that concerned the captive Jews, and Phœnicians, and Syrians, and those of the Egyptian nations, and having committed the conveyance of them to Babylon to certain of his friends, together with the gross of his army, and the rest of their ammunition and provisions, he went himself hastily, accompanied with a few others, over the desert, and came to Babylon. So he took upon him the management of public affairs, and of the kingdom which had been kept for him by one that was the principal of the Chaldeans, and he received the entire dominions of his father, and appointed, that when the captives came, they should be placed as colonies, in the most proper places of Babylonia; but then he adorned the temple of Belus, and the rest of the temples, in a magnificent manner, with the spoils he had taken in the war. He also added another city to that which was there of old, and rebuilt it, that such as would besiege it hereafter might no more turn the course of the river, and thereby attack the city itself: he therefore built three walls round about the inner city, and three others about that which was the outer, and this he did with burnt brick. And after he had, after a becoming manner walled the city, and adorned its gates gloriously, he built another palace before his father's palace, but so that they joined to it; to describe the vast height and immense riches of which, it would perhaps be too much for me to attempt ; yet, as large and lofty as they were, they were completed in fifteen days.* He also erected elevated places for walking, of stone, and made it resemble mountains, and built it so that it might be planted with all sorts of trees. He also erected what was called a pensile paradise, because his wife was desirous to have things like her own country, she having been bred up in the palaces of Media." Megasthenes also, in his fourth book of his Accounts of India, makes mention of these things, and thereby endeavors to show that this king [Nebuchadnezzar] exceeded Hercules in fortitude, and in the greatness of his actions; for he saith, that he conquered a great part of Libya and Iberia. Diocles also, in the second book of his Accounts of Persia, mentions this king; as does Philostratus, in his Accounts both of India and Phœnicia, say, that this king besieged Tyre thirteen years, while at the same time Ethbaal reigned at Tyre. These are all the histories that I have met with concerning this king. FLAVIUS JOSEPHUS

Babylon, the head of gold.

Nimrod And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel." About 1500 years later a new Babylon prospered.

BABYLONIAN EMPIRE-586 B.C.



ENCYCLOPEDIA JUDAICA, Vol. 12, p.914

Chronicles IN THE DAYS OF THE BIBLE



Town Planning is an important feature of Babylonian architecture, as is evident from this map of the capital.



Figure 1. Tablet of the *Babylonian Chronicle*, on which is described Nebuchadnezzar's capture of Jerusalem in 597 B.C.E. (II Kings 24:10-17). From J. B. Pritchard, *The Ancient Near East (Supplementary Texts and Pictures Relating to the Old Testament)*, Princeton, 1969.

BABYLONIAN WARRIOR CYCLOPEDIA OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol.1A, p.259

<u>Herodotus</u> declares the walls to have been <u>fourteen miles in length on each side</u>, or fiftysix miles in circumference. This would give an area of one hundred and ninety-six square miles. <u>Ctesias</u>, who also wrote from personal observation, fixes the length of the walls at <u>ten and a half miles on each side</u>, or forty miles in entire compass, giving an area of one hundred and ten square miles. These are respectively the largest and the smallest estimates of the size of the city which have reached us from antiquity. The adversary showed his dragon nature in Babylon. These same evils are steadily increasing today.

CYCLOPEDIA OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY,

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Ridpath, Vol.1A,p.257 <u>Whatever mankind had to sell was</u> <u>offered, and whatever the needs of the world</u> <u>demanded was purchasable</u>, in the emporiums of that great city. The life of the capital was <u>the life of trade and commercial rivalry</u>.

Under these conditions the Babylonians became greedy of gain. Avarice grew upon what it fed on, and the covetous spirit dominated almost every other feeling. Whatever would bring money was for sale. The domestic virtues were recklessly flung away for the means of further gratification. Every woman once in her life must offer herself to strangers publicly before the temple of Beltis; for by this means the crowd of strangers in the city would be increased. Maidens were sold at auction, for thus the wealthy princes and libertines of the surrounding nations would be drawn to the unscrupulous market. The father or brother, with his daughter or sister, stood ready to barter for money the pleasures due only to love.

The prime motive of all this avarice was the passion for luxurious living. Babylon was the paradise of gluttony and lust. Whatever ministered to the appetites and senses was eagerly sought and enjoyed without scruple. Adornment of the person, rich garments dyed with costly dyes, jewels of untold value. costly viands gathered perhaps from foreign lands, fragrant oils for perfuming the bodyevery thing that could excite or appease human desire was demanded and found and wasted in luxurious and riotous abandonment. The banquet and the feast brought drunkenness and revel. The tables were spread with riches which no appetite could consume. Dark wines were poured into goblets of gold. Tropical fruits were heaped in plates of silver. The palace halls were harems; for polygamy was the usage of the land and city.

Not only were the people brave and warlike, but with these heroic virtues they joined <u>rapacity</u> and <u>cruelty</u>. The Babylonian soldiery was not only without fear, but also <u>without mercy</u>. Woe to the enemy against whom the fierce hand was lifted! <u>There was</u> <u>neither quarter nor compassion</u>.



The goddess Ishtar, the Astarte of the Greeks and Ashtoreth of the Phœnicians.

Nearly al-

ways engaged in contests with surrounding nations, war became a profession. Accustomed to bloodshed and rapine, the soldiers of the Empire learned to destroy without discrimination, to kill without compunction. They rode their horses and drove their chariots over living and dead, crushing in an indistinguishable mass the innocent with the guilty. The tender and outraged form of woman was thrown with contempt across the brainless bodies of babes. From the mountains that frowned on the thither borders of Luristan to the gateway of Egypt, this ironhearted, merciless, lascivious soldiery carried the banners of the Empire, and the nations cowered in fear before them.

In their methods and usages of war the Babylonians were very little impressed with the practices of civilized states. <u>Their campaigns were characterized with needless violence and barbarity</u>. The plan of colonizing insurrectionary inhabitants was rigorously followed. All the hardships of such removals were inflicted without mercy. <u>Prisoners taken</u> in battle were either killed or shamelessly <u>mutilated</u>. The unresisting inhabitants of provinces engaged in revolt were visited with indiscriminate vengeance.

These hard, cruel, and relentless features of Babylonian character were little softened by their religion. Albeit, the traveler visiting the great metropolis would have imagined that a people so devoted to the worship of the gods would be incapable of the deeds of cruelty. Temples rose on the right hand and the left. Retinues of priests, engaged in some work peculiar to their sacred offices, were ever in sight. Costly statues of the deities were set up in honor of the unseen, and to attract the gaze of the pious. In no other country, with the possible exception of Egypt, was the ceremonial of religion more costly and elaborate. The kings were the chief worshipers. Princes went devoutly to the temples. Royal favors were poured out without stint in the maintenance of the national faith.

In the might of her power and renown she saw her rivals one by one expire, and in her triumph she arrogated to herself the rank and title of mistress of the world. "Babylon hath been a golden cup in Jehovah's hand." "O thou that dwellest upon many waters, thine end is come."



DANIEL 4 ASV

28 All this 'came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar. 29 At the end of 'twelve months he was walking 'in the royal palace of Babylon. 30 The king spake and said, <u>Is not this 'great Babylon</u>, which 'I have built for the royal dwelling-place, by the might of <u>my power and for the glory of</u> <u>my maiesty</u>? 31 While the 'word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice ' from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken: The kingdom is <u>departed from thee</u>: 32 and thou shalt be 'driven from men; and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field; thou shalt be made to eat grass as oxen; and "seven times shall pass over thee; until thou know that the "Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men. and giveth it to whomsoever he will. 33 The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was 'driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hair was grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.

ISHTAR GATE

Z Baker's PICTORIAL INTRODUCTION to the BIBLE, p.202



The World's Worship, Frank Dobbins, p.137

The most remarkable building in Babylon was the temple of Bel. It was pyramidal in shape, having eight stages. The lowest stage was 200 yards square. On the summit a golden statue of Bel. 40 feet high, stood in a shrine. There were also two other golden statues and a golden table in this shrine. At the bottom of the pyramid-temple stood a chapel with a table and two images of gold within it.

HISTORY OF THE WORLD Esmond Wright, p.48

Nebuchad-

nezzar saw to it that Babylon was remembered in later years as the greatest city in the world.

About 100 years after him the Greek traveller and historian, <u>Herodotus</u>, saw the city under its Persian monarchs, and his comment, 'it is more splendid than any other city known to us', was an acknowledgment of Nebuchadnezzar's amazing achievements.

Not only the enigmatic 'hanging gardens', considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, but numerous temples, palaces, roads, walls, gates and even a bridge across the Euphrates, which ran through the city, were among the works of this great king. The most spectacular of these monuments to survive is the <u>Ishtar</u> <u>Gate</u>, through which the Processional Way crosses the great walls.



The imminent and final destruction of Babylon. * The adversary's idols are not in Iraq.

JEREMIAH 50 ASV

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17 Israel is a ^{10 d} hunted sheep; the clions have driven him away: first, the king of Assyria ^e devoured him; and now at last ^e devoured him; and now at last ^b Nebuchadrezzar king of Baby-lon hath broken his bones. 18 Therefore thus saith Jehovah of hosts, the God of Israel : Behold, I will punish the king of Babylon and his land, as I have ^e punished the king of Assyria the king of Assyria.

JEREMIAH 51 ASV

5 For Israel is ^v not ⁶ forsaken, nor Judah, of his God, of Jehovah of hosts; though their land is ² full of guilt against the Holy <u>One of Israel</u>. 6^a Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and save every man his life; be not ^b cut off in her iniquity: for it is the time of "Jehovah's vengeance; he will "render unto her a recompense. 7 Babylon hath been a golden 'cup in Jehovah's hand, that made all the earth drunken : the 'na-tions have drunk of her wine; therefore the nations are 'mad. 8 Babylon is suddenly 'fallen and destroyed :

11 ^p Make ⁶ sharp the arrows; * make "sharp the arrows;
* hold firm the ⁸shields: Jehovah hath stirred up the spirit of the kings of the ⁹ Medes; because his purpose is against Babylon, to destroy it: for it is the * vengeance of Jehovah, the vengeance of his temple his temple.

13 "O thou that dwell-est upon many waters, abundant in " treasures, thine end is come, the measure of thy ⁹ covetousness.

ness. 24 <u>And I will</u> <u>[°]render unto Babylon and to all</u> <u>*the inhabitants of [°]Chaldea [°]all</u> <u>their evil that they have done in</u> <u>Zion in your sight, saith Jehovah</u>.

41 How is "Sheshach taken! and the praise of the whole earth seized ! how is Babylon become 'a desolation among the nations! 44 And

↓ will ³execute judgment upon # <u>Bel in Babylon, and I will ⁹ bring</u> forth out of his mouth that which he hath ^h swallowed up; and the ⁱnations shall not ^k flow any more ★ unto him: yea, the ⁱ wall of BabyIraq 1990 Arabs 77 % Kurds 19% Muslims 96%



SEE REV.17, PAGE 9

THE IDOLS ARE NOW WORLDWIDE.

BABYLON CONTINUED TO DECAY FOR 1000 YEARS.

SEE PAGE 4

SEE REV.17, PAGE 9



'In honor of Merodach, his lord, Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, in his life-time had this made.'

Nebuchadnezzar's Cameo. (Reproduced from Schaff's Bible Dictionary. Courtesy of American Sunday-School Union)

HALLEY'S BIBLE HANDBOOK Page 341

JEREMIAH 51 ASV

45 My people, "go ye out of the midst of her, and "save your-selves every man from the fierce anger of Jehovah. 47 Where 47 There-

fore, behold, the days come, that I will execute judgment upon the graven images of Babylon; and her whole land shall be "con-founded; and all her slain shall fall in the midst of her. 48 Then the 'heavens and the earth, and cll that is therein shall sing for all that is therein, shall sing for joy over Babylon; <u>for the de</u>-strovers shall come unto her "from the north, saith Jehovah.

54 The sound of a d cry from Babylon, and of great destruction from the land of the Chaldeans!

57 And

I will 'make drunk her princes and her wise men, her governors and her deputies, and her mighty and her deputies, and her mighty men; and they shall sleep a ^k per-petual sleep, and not wake, saith the ^l King, whose name is Jehovah of hosts. 58 Thus saith Jehovah ★of hosts: ⁶ The broad ^m walls of Babylon shall be utterly ⁷ over-thrown, and her high ⁿ gates shall ★he hurned with fire. *be burned with fire;

60 And Jeremiah ⁶⁰ And Jeremiah ^{*}wrote in ⁹a book all the evil that should come upon Babylon, <u>even all these words that are writ-ten concerning Babylon</u>. ⁶¹ And Jeremiah said to Seraiah, When thou comest to Babylon, ¹⁰then see that thou read all these words, ⁶² and say O Jaboyah ^tthou hast 62 and say, O Jehovah, 'thou hast spoken concerning this place, to ^w cut it off, that "<u>none shall dwell</u> therein, neither man nor beast, but that it shall be desolate for ever. 63 And it shall be, when thou hast made an end of reading this book, that thou shalt bind a stone to it, and " cast it into the midst of the Euphrates: 64 and thou shalt say, Thus shall Babylon sink, and shall $\frac{v_{not rise again because of the evil}{hat I will bring upon her; and$ they shall be "weary. "Thus far are the words of

Jeremiah.

ISAIAH 21 ASV

9 And he answered and said, "Fallen, fallen is Baby-lon; and all the "graven images of her gods are broken unto the ground.

I-will-point to-you the sentence of-<u>the prostitute</u> namely-the great one, namely-the one sitting on many waters,

2 With whom the kings of-the earth committed-prostitution, and the ones residing on the earth were-made-drunk out-of the wine of-her prostitution.

4 * * * having <u>a cup made-with-gold</u> in her hand beingloaded of-abominations and the unclean-things of-her <u>prostitution</u>.

15 And he-is-saying to-me: The waters which you-saw, the-place-where the prostitute is-sitting are peoples and crowds and nations and languages.



Egypt *Assyria *Babylon *Medo-Persia*Greece*Rome

Babylon * * "thou art the head of gold. And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee." Daniel 2:38,39. KINGS OF BABYLON.

B. C.	KINGS.	REMARKABLE EVENTS.
626 605 561 559 556 555 538	NABOPOLASSAR	{ Nebuchadnezzar carries the { Jews into captivity.

DANIEL 5 ASV

5 Belshazzar the king made a great 'feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. 2 Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver 'k vessels which Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken out of the 'temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king and his lords, his wives and his concubines, might "drink therefrom. 3 Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king and his lords, his wives and his concubines, drank from them. 4 They "drank wine, and praised the gods of 'gold, and of silver, of brass, of no, of wood, and of stone.

5 In the ^p same hour came forth the fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaster of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the ^q part of the hand that wrote. 6 Then the king's ⁵ countenance was changed in him, and his ^s thoughts troubled him; and the joints of his ^t loins were loosed, and his ^u knees smote one against another. 7 The king cried aloud to bring in the ^s enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. The king spake and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and show me the ^x interpretation thereof, shall be ^y clothed with purple, and have a ^z chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the ^a third ruler in the kingdom. 3 RULERS 1. Nabonadius 2. Belshazzar 3. Daniel *



The silver kingdom rises. DANIEL 5 ASV

17 Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy 'gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; nevertheless I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation. 18 O thou king, the 'Most High God "gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father the kingdom, and "greatness, and glory, and majesty: 19 and because of the greatness that he gave him, all the peoples, nations, and languages trembled and feared before him:

22 And ^o thou his son, O <u>Belshazzar</u>, hast ^hnot humbled thy heart, though thou knewest all this.

25 And this is the writing that was inscribed: "MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. 26 This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and "brought it to an end. 27 TEKEL, thou art "weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 28 "PERES; thy kingdom is divided, and given to the "Medes and Persians.

29 Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed <u>Daniel</u> with "purple, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made proclamation concerning him, that he should <u>be the third ruler in the</u> <u>kingdom.</u>*

30 In that night <u>Belshazzar</u> the Chaldean king was <u>bslain</u>. 31 And <u>Darius the Mede received</u> the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.

"God hath numbered thy kingdom, and brought it to an end.



T hy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."

"Thus saith Jehovah to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him?"

ANTIQUITIES OF THE JEWS. BOOK X CHAP. XI 3. When Baltasar heard this, he called for Daniel:

And he explained the writing thus :—"<u>MANEH.</u> This, if it be expounded in the Greek language, may signify a <u>Mumber</u>, because God hath numbered so long a time for thy life, and for thy government, and that there remains but a small portion.—<u>THEKEL</u>. This signifies a <u>Weight</u>, and means that God hath weighed thy kingdom in a balance, and finds it going down already.—<u>PHARES</u>. This also, in the Greek tongue, denotes a <u>fragment</u>: God will therefore break thy kingdom in pieces, and divide it among the Medes and Persians."

Now, after a little while, both himself and the city were taken by Cyrus, the king of Persia, who fought against him; for it was Baltasar, under whom Babylon was taken, when he had reigned seventeen years. And this is the end of the posterity of king Nebuchadnezzar, as history informs us; but when Babylon was taken by Darius, and when he, with his kinsman Cyrus, had put an end to the dominion of the Babylonians, he was sixty-two years old. He was the son of Astyages, and had another name among the Greeks. Moreover, he took Daniel the prophet, and carried him with him into Media, and honored him very greatly, and kept him with him; for he was one of the three presidents whom he set over his three hundred and sixty provinces; for into so many did Darius part them.

Finally, in B. C. 559, Nabonadius received tidings that Cyrus the Great was marching from Ecbatana, the Median capital, in the direction of Babylon; but as his defenses were completed and the city amply provisioned, the Babylonian monarch felt perfectly secure behind the walls of his capital. Herodotus says that the Persian invader paused half-way between Ecbatana and Babylon, because one of the sacred white horses which drew the chariot of Ormazd had been drowned in crossing a tiver. Declaring that he would punish the insolent stream, Cyrus employed his soldiers during the whole summer and autumn of B. C. 539 in dispersing the waters of the stream into three hundred and sixty channels.

Cyrus renewed his march upon Babylon in the spring of B. C. 538, crossing the Tigris without opposition and soon appearing before Babylon. The Babylonian army under Nabonadius himself was here drawn up to oppose him. In the battle which ensued the Babylonian king was thoroughly defeated, the greater part of his army seeking refuge inside the walls of the capital, while he himself with a small body of troops fled for safety into the important city of Borsippa, a short distance south-west from Babylon.

In the meantime, the Babylonian crownprince, Belshazzar, or Bel-shar-uzur, the son of Nabonadius, and the grandson of the illustrious Nebuchadnezzar—supported by the counsels of his mother and the officers. of the court—for a time successfully resisted all the Persian assaults, so that Cyrus, almost reduced to despair, resorted to a stratagem whose failure might have cost him. dear.

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol. 1,p.276.

Leaving a corps of observation behind him, Cyrus, with the bulk of his army, marched up the course of the Euphrates for some distance, and dug a new channel, or channels, from the river, by means of which a part of its water could be drawn off. Cyrus awaited the arrival of a certain festival at Babylon, when the entire Babylonian population would be engaged in drinking and revelry. The festival on this occasion. was held with more than usual pomp and magnificence, and Belshazzar gave himself up entirely to the delights of the season, entertaining a thousand dignitaries in his palace. The rest of the population was occupied in feasting and dancing; and in themidst of drunken riot and mad excitement. the siege of the city was wholly forgotten, and the usual precautions were neglected. The Babylonians abandoned themselves for the night to orgies characterized by a strange mingling of religious frenzy and drunken excess

While this was going on inside the city during this eventful night, the Persians were silently watching outside at the two points where the Euphrates entered and left. the walls. They anxiously and cautiously watched the gradual sinking of the riverbed, to discover if their silent movements would be observed and cause alarm. <u>Had</u> they entered the river channel to find the river-walls manned and the river-gates locked fast they would have been caught in a trap. Flanked on both sides by an enemy they could neither see nor reach they would have been caught at a terrible disadvantage.

DARIUS THE MEDE

DANIEL 6 ASV

6 It pleased ^d Darius to set over the kingdom a ^ehundred and twenty ^f satraps, who should be throughout the whole kingdom; 2 and over them three presidents, of whom ^g Daniel was one;

25 Then king Darius wrote unto all the "peoples, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth: "Peace be multiplied unto you. 26 I "make a decree, that in all the dominion of my kingdom men "tremble and fear before the God of Daniel; for he is the "living God, and "stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall 'not be destroyed; and his dominion shall be even "unto the end:

In such a case they would have been entirely

cut to pieces without being able to make any effectual resistance, or to escape from their perilous position. But as they observed no signs of alarm, but only the shouts of riotous revelry, on the part of the unsuspecting populace, the Persians grew bolder, and, when the revelry was at its height, emerged from the deep riverbed and seized the two undefended gateways. The frightened Babylonians at once raised a war-shout and spread the alarm. Swift runners hurried off to "show the King of Babylon that his city was taken at one end;" so says the Book of Jeremiah. In the darkness and confusion of the night a frightful massacre occurred, says Xenophon. The drunken revelers were unable to resist. Belshazzar, completely surprised and utterly helpless "at the awful handwriting upon the wall," which appeared at this time, was warned of his danger when too late, and could offer no check to the progress of the assailants, who had the paralyzed populace completely at their mercy. A band of Persians forced their way into the royal palace and slew the astonished Belshazzar on the scene of his sacrilegious revelry. Such is the testimony of Herodotus and Xenophon, of Daniel and Jeremiah. Says the Book of Daniel: "In The that night was Belshazzar slain." triumphant Persians destroyed right and left, with fire and sword. The dawn found Cyrus undisputed master of the mighty Babylon.



CAPTURE OF BABYLON. LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol.1,p.275,

CYCLOPEDIA OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, VOL. 1A, p.238.



THE YOUNG CYRUS ENTERING ECBATANA.

ISAIAH 45 ASV

45 Thus saith Jehovah to his "anointed, to <u>Cvrus</u>, whose right ^b hand I have holden, to "subdue nations before him, and I will "loose the loins of kings; to open the doors before him, and the <u>cates</u> shall not be shut: 2 I will go before thee, and "make the rough places smooth; I will 'break in pieces the doors of brass, and cut in sunder the ^b bars of iron: 3 and will give thee the ^b treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that it is I. Jehovah, who 'call thee by thy name, even the God of Israel. 4 For 'Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel my chosen, I have 'called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast "not known me. 5 I am Jehovah, and "there is none else; " besides me there is no God. I will "gird thee, though thou hast not known me; 6 that " they may know ' from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that there is 'none besides me: I am Jehovah, and there is none else.

God gave the adversary 210 years warning. ***** "Cyrus, my shepherd, saying of Jerusalem, She shall be built".

ISAIAH 44 ASV

14

24 Thus saith Jehovah, thy ^p Redeemer, and he that ^q formed thee from the womb: I am Jehovah, that maketh all things; that ^r stretcheth forth the heavens alone; that spreadeth abroad the earth (⁸ who is with me?); 25 that ^f frustrateth the signs of the ⁹ liars, and maketh diviners mad; that ^w turneth wise men backward, and maketh their knowledge foolish; 26 that ^v confirmeth the word of his servant, and performeth the counsel of his messengers; that ^x saith of Jerusalem, She shall be inhabited; and of the ^v cities of Judah, ^z They shall be built, and I will raise up the waste places thereof; 27 that ^a saith to the deep, Be dry, and I will ^b dry up thy rivers; 28 that saith of ^{10°} Cyrus, *He is* my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure, even saying of Jerusalem, ^d She shall be built; ¹ and of the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid.

EZRA 1 ASV

^a Now in the first year of ^c Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of Jehovah by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, Jehovah stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he 'made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and *put it* also in writing, saying, 2 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath Jehovah, the God of heaven, given me: and 'he hath charged me to build him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah.

EZRA 5 ASV

13 But °in the first year of Cyrus king of Babylon, Cyrus the king made a decree to build this house of God. 14 And ^p the gold and silver vessels also of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took out of the temple that was in Jerusalem, and brought into the temple of Babylon, those did Cyrus the king take out of the temple of Babylon, and they were delivered unto one ^q whose name was Sheshbazzar, whom he had made governor; 15 and he said unto him, Take these vessels, go, put them in the temple that is in Jerusalem, and let the house of God be builded in its place. ANTIQUITIES OF THE JEWS, BOOK XI, CHAP. 1

§ 1. In the first year of the reign of Cyrus, * which was the seventieth from the day that our people were removed out of their own land into Babylon, God commiserated the captivity and calamity of these poor people, according as he had foretold to them by Jeremiah the prophet, before the destruction of the city, that after they had served Nebuchadnezzar and his posterity, and after they had undergone that servitude seventy years, he would restore them again to the land of their fathers, and they should build their temple, and enjoy their ancient prosperity; and these things God did afford them; for he stirred up the mind of Cyrus, and made him write this throughout all Asia :---''Thus saith Cyrus the King : -Since God Almighty hath appointed me to be king of the habitable earth, I believe that he is that God which the nation of the Israelites worship : for indeed he foretold my name by the prophets ; and that I should build him a house at Jerusalem, in the country of Judea."

2. This was known to Cyrus by his reading the book which <u>Isaiah left behind him of his prophecies</u>; for this prophet said that God had spoken thus to him in a secret vision:— "My will is, that Cyrus, whom I have appointed to be king over many and great nations, send back my people to their own land, and build my temple." This was foretold by Isaiah one hundred and forty years before the temple was demolished. Accordingly, when Cyrus read this, and admired the divine power, an earnest desire and ambition seized upon him to fulfil what was so written; so he called for the most eminent Jews that were in Babylon, and said to them, that he gave them leave to go back to their own country, and to rebuild their city Jerusalem,* and the temple of God.

also sent back to them the vessels of God which king Nebuchadnezzar had pillaged out of the temple, and carried to Babylon.

IRAN POSTAGE STAMPS







King Darius, Ahura-Mazda overhead



King Darius on his Throne

DARIUS KING OF PERSIA

EZRA 6 ASV

6 Then Darius the king made a decree, and "search was made in the house of the 'archives, where the treasures were laid up in Babylon. 2 And there was found at '<u>Achmetha</u>, in the palace that is " in the province of Media, a roll, and therein was thus written for a record : 3 ^b In the first year of Cyrus the king, <u>Cyrus the</u> king made a decree : Concerning the house of God at Jerusalem, let the house be builded.

> ¹ Aram. ² That is, books. <u>Ecoatana</u>.



5 And also let ^{*d*} the gold and silver vessels of the house of God, which Nebuchadnezzar took forth out of the temple which is at Jerusalem, and brought unto Babylon, <u>be restored</u>, and brought again unto the temple which is at Jerusalem, every one to its place; and thou shalt put them in the house of God.



CYRUS RESTORING THE VESSELS OF THE TEMPLE

The adversary can make idolatry look like TRUTH. Following are short passages from long articles.

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol.1,pp.248-262. LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol.2, pp.478-483.

ZOROASTRIANISM AND MAGISM #ZOROASTER AND THE ZEND-AVESTA.



16

HE great <u>Iranic religion</u>—the faith of the Bactrians, and of <u>the Medes and Persians</u> for many centuries—was founded by the ancient Bactrian sage

and prophet, Zoroaster, or Zarathustra; and its sacred book was the Zend-Avesta. Zoroaster claimed divine inspiration and professed to have occasional revelations from the Supreme Being, delivering them to his people in a mythical form and securing their acceptance as divine by the Bactrian people, after which his religion gradually spread among the other Iranic nations. It was the religion of the Persians until driven out by the intolerance of Mohammedanism in the seventh century after Christ.

Plutarch gives the following account of Zoroaster and his precepts:

"Some believe that there are two Gods as it were, two rival workmen; the one whereof they make to be the maker of good things, and the other bad. And some call the better of these God, and the other Dæmon;

Mithras was in the middle betwixt them. For which cause, the Persians called Mithras the mediator. And they tell us that he first taught mankind to make vows and offerings of thanksgiving to the one, and to offer averting and feral sacrifice to the other.

Zoroaster taught providence, aimed at <u>holiness</u>, and emphasized creation. He maintained that salvation was only wrought out by an eternal battle between good and evil.

Spiritual evil—the evil having its origin in a depraved heart and a will turned from goodness—tormented him most. His meditations convinced him that all the woe of the world had its origin in sin, and that the root of sin was in the demonic world.

Firmly believing that a

great conflict was perpetually in progress between the powers of Light and Darkness, he urged all good men to take part in the war, and <u>battle for Ahura-Mazda</u>, (Ormazd), the good God, against Angra-Mainyus (Ahriman), <u>the dark and evil tempter</u>.



GOD DAIMON See Discourse 5,p.25 MEDIATOR SEE 1 Timothy 2:5



JEREMIAH. 17 9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?



Continued

The religion of the Persians was identical with that of the Medes in its earliest form, consisting chiefly of the worship of Ahura-Mazda,

The principal feature of the Zoroastrian religion during the first period was the acknowledgment and worship of <u>One Supreme</u> <u>God, Ahura-Mazda, or Ormazd, "the Lord of Heaven," "the Giver of heaven and earth," "He who disposed of thrones and dispensed happiness." The first place in Persian inscriptions and decrees is assigned to the "Great God, Ormazd." Every Persian monarch of whom we have inscriptions, each more than two lines long, mentions <u>Ahura-Mazda as his upholder</u>; and the early Achæmenian kings did not name any other god. <u>All rule "by the grace of Ahura-Mazda</u>."</u>

Idolatry is entirely repugnant to the spirit of the Zend-Avesta, and Herodotus says that the Persians knew nothing of images of gods. Nevertheless they had symbolic representations of their deities, and they adopted the forms of their religious symbolism from idolatrous nations.

During the prevalence of the purer and earlier form of the Persian religion, the Persian kings, animated by a fierce iconoclastic spirit, seized every opportunity to show their hatred and contempt for the idolatries of the surrounding nations, burning temples, confiscating or destroying images, scourging or slaying idolatrous priests, stopping festivals.

During their invasion of Greece they burned every temple they came near, and in their first invasion and conquest of Egypt they outraged all the religious feelings of the people.

This period, when <u>pure Zoroastrianism</u> prevailed, was the time when a religious sympathy <u>drew together the Persian and</u> Jewish nations. Cyrus the Great seems to have identified Jehovah with Ahura-Mazda; and, accepting the prophecy of Isaiah as a Divine command, undertook the rebuilding of their Temple for a people, who, like his own, permitted no image to defile their sanctuary. Darius Hystaspes likewise encouraged the completion of the enterprise,

THE STORY OF THE GREATEST NATIONS, Vol.1, p.26.



PROCESSION OF THE ROYAL BULL APIS



CAMBYSES KILLS THE APIS (Drawn by H.Vogel.) CYCLOPEDIA OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol.1, p.354.



EXODUS 32 ASV

EXODUS 32 ASV 32 And when the people saw that Moses 'delayed to come down from the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, 'make us 'gods, which shall go before us; for as for "this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we know not what is be-come of him. 2 And Aaron said unto them, " Break off the golden rings, which are in the ears of your daughters, and bring them unto me. 3 And all the people brake off the golden rings which were in their ears, and brought brake off the golden rings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. 4 And he received it at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, and <u>made it a °molten calf</u>: and they said, <u>*These are thy gods</u>, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. 5 And when Aaron saw *this*, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation, and said, <u>To-mor-row shall be a feast to Jehovah</u>.

17

The adversary can make idolatry look like TRUTH. Following are short passages from long articles.

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol.1,pp.248-262. LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol.2,pp.478-483.

ZOROASTRIANISM AND MAGISM#ZOROASTER AND THE ZEND-AVESTA.

Modern Orientalists and antiquarians differ widely as to the age of the books of the Zend-Avesta, and as to the period at which Zoroaster lived.

Says Zarathustra: "I worship and adore the Creator of all things, Ahura-Mazda (Ormazd), full of light ! I worship the Aměsha-Spentas (Amshaspands, the seven archangels, or protecting spirits)! I worship the body of the primal Bull, the soul of the Bull! I invoke thee, O Fire, thou son of Ormazd, most rapid of the Immortals! I invoke Mithra, the lofty, the immortal, the pure, the sun, the ruler, the quick Horse, the eye of Ormazd!

Twelve companies were arranged in the twelve signs of the Zodiac. These were all grouped into four great divisions.

Ahriman sprang aloft fearlessly, knowing that his time had arrived. He was followed by his host, but he only reached the heavens, his troops remaining behind. Seized with a shudder, he sprang from heaven upon the earth in the form of a serpent, penetrating to the earth's center, and entering into everything which he found upon the earth. Passing into the primal Bull, and even into fire, the visible symbol of Ormazd, he defiled it with smoke and vapor.

The good soul then proceeds to the golden throne <u>in paradise</u>. The wicked fall over the bridge of Chinevat, into the abyss of Duzahk, where they find themselves in the realm of Angra-Mainyus, the world of Darkness, where they are forced to remain in misery and woe, tormented by the Daêvas. Ormazd fixes the duration of the punishment, and some are redeemed sooner by means of the prayers and intercessions of their friends, but many must stay until the resurrection of the dead.

Ormazd will send his Prophet, Sosioçh, and cause the conversion of mankind, to be followed by the general resurrection.

Ormazd will clothe the bones of men with new flesh, and friends and relatives will again recognize each other. Then comes the great division of the just from the wicked.



MATTHEW 2 ASV 2 Now when Jē'sūs was born in Běth'lě-hěm of Jū-dæ'á in the days of Hěr'öd the king, behold, <u>Wise-men</u> from the east came to Jê-ru'sâ-lêm, saying, **1** Gr. Magi.



WAR IN HEAVEN



GODDESS ASHTORETH, ISHTAR.

Na'na (na'nä), n. [Assyrian nanā, supposed to mean lady.] Babylon. Myth. An early goddess of Ur and Uruk, identified with the planet Venus and later merged in the goddess Ishtar.

Z WEBSTER'S

RESURRECTION JUDGEMENT

But Magism, defeated in this effort to establish itself by force, began to work more quietly and insidiously, and by degrees and apparently almost imperceptibly grew into favor, mingling itself with the Zoroastrian creed. simply adding to it, but not displacing it. The later Persian system was a union of the Magian elemental worship and the Dualism of Zoroaster; the Magi became the national priesthood; the rites and ceremonies of the two religions were commingled; and two originally separate and distinct, but not wholly antagonistic, creeds were blended into one system. The name of Zoroaster was still cherished in fond remembrance by the Persian nation, while practically Magian rites predominated, and the later Greeks called the mixed religion "the Magism of Zoroaster."

Having accepted a fusion of Magism with their original Zoroastrian creed, the Persians thereafter gradually adopted such portions of other religious systems as attracted them and with which they had been brought into close contact. Before the time of Herodotus they had adopted the Babylonian worship of a Nature-goddess, identified by the Greeks at one time with their Aphrodité. at another time with Artemis, at another time with Heré; thus compromising with one of the grossest of the idolatries which they despised and detested in theory. Thus the Babylonian goddess Nana#the counterpart of the Grecian Aphrodité and the Roman Venus-was accepted by the Persians under the name of Nanæa, Anæa, Anaitis, or Tanata, and soon became one of the chief objects of Persian worship. Actual idolatry was at first avoided, but Artaxerxes Mnemon, the victor of Cunaxa and a zealous devotee of the goddess, not satisfied with the mutilated worship which then prevailed, sought to introduce images of this goddess into all the chief cities of the empire-Susa, Persepolis, Babylon, Ecbatana, Damascus, Sardis, Bactria.

Continued ——

Mythology would not exist worldwide, as it has done for 6000 years, without the adversary Zeus. [Satan]

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY. Vol.1,pp.248-262.

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol.2, pp.478-483.

ZOROASTRIANISM AND MAGISM#ZOROASTER AND THE ZEND-AVESTA.

The Magian priest-caste held a high rank. A priest always mediated between the Deity and the worshiper, and intervened in every rite of religion.

The followers of Zoroaster had at first been intolerant and exclusive, and regarded the faith of their Arvan kinsmen, the Sanskritic Hindoos, with aversion and contempt. They had fiercely opposed idolatry,

Thus Zoroastrianism, in its contact with Magism, was impressed favorably, and the result was the development of a new system by the fusion of the two.

Magism furnished a hierarchy to support the throne and add splendor and dignity to the court, while it overawed the subject class by its supposed possession of supernatural powers and of the right of mediating between man and God. It supplied a picturesque worship, which at once gratified the senses and excited the fancy. It gave scope to man's passion for the marvelous by its incantations, its divining-rods, its omen-reading, and its dream-expounding.

The following passages are from the oldest part of the Avesta, the Gâthâs:

"I desire by my prayer with uplifted hands this joy-the pure works of the Holy Spirit, Mazda . . . a disposition to perform good actions . . . and pure gifts for both worlds, the bodily and spiritual."

Teach thou me, Ahura-Mazda, out of thyself: from heaven: by thy mouth, whereby the world first arose."

I am contented and agreed in the hope of the resurrection.

The Zend-Avesta was written in the ancient sacred Zend language. The language of the Medes and Persians belonged to the form of speech known to moderns as the Aryan, or Indo-European.

The writing was from left to right, as with the Aryan nations in general.

The Persian writing has been transmitted to us almost entirely upon stone.

SO ALSO ROMAN CATHOLICISM



"THE MOTHER OF THE PROSTITUES."

SO ALSO

CHARISMATICS

Thus, in the progress of time, the Persian religion became more and more assimilated to the systems of belief and worship prevalent among the neighboring Asiatic nations. Several kinds of idolatry came into vogue, some borrowed from other nations, others evolved out of the Persian itself. Magnificent temples were reared to the worship of various deities; "and the degenerate descendants of pure Zoroastrian spiritualists bowed down to images, and entangled themselves in the meshes of a sensualistic and most debasing Nature-worship." Nevertheless, the Dualistic faith maintained itself amid all the corruptions. Ahura-Mazda, or Ormazd, was from first to last acknowledged as the Supreme God.



SENNACHERIB KING OF ASSYRIA

THE COMPLETE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF ILLUSTRATION





PERSIAN FIRE WORSHIP

MEDIAN HIGH PRIEST

Thus saith Jehovah to his anointed, to Cyrus.---For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel my chosen, I have called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me. I am Jehovah, and there is none else; besides me there is no God. ISAIAH 45:1,4,5 ASV

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY

HE great Medo-Persian Empire

was the first of the three greatest empires of antiquity; the other two being those of Alexander the Great, which com-

prehended very near the same regions and territories, and the Roman. The Medo-Persian was thus the first of the great ancient Asiatic empires, covering the widest territorial area, and was four times as large as the Assyrian had been; being about three thousand miles in extent from east to west. and from five hundred to fifteen hundred miles from north to south, covering an area of about two million square miles.

In the conquest of Babylon the last formidable Asiatic rival of Persia was wiped out of existence, and with its extinction perished the old Semitic civilization of Asia. which, represented in succession by early Chaldæa, Assyria and later Babylonia, had a history of almost two thousand years. Thus the fall of Babylon, and with it the old Semitic civilization, is one of the most important landmarks in the history of the world. as it at once transferred the supremacy in the civilized world from the Semitic to the Arvan race: and ever since that time the Arvan nations have entirely swaved the destinies of mankind in every sphere of human activity-in politics, in social life, in science, art and literature; and the human race entered upon a new era-a career of activity and progress which it had never before known.

The Greek writers give us a more favorable view of Cyrus the Great than of any other ancient Oriental monarch.

While it is probable that he lost his life in an expedition against a nation on the northeastern frontier of his empire, B. C. 529, after he had reigned twenty-nine years, it is certain that his body did not fall into the enemy's possession from the fact that it was conveyed into Persia proper and buried at Pasargadæ. His tomb may yet be seen at Murgab, on the site of the early Persian capital.

EZRA 6 ASV

<u>EZRA6 ASV</u> <u>11 Also I have made a decree, that Whosoever shall alter</u> this word, let a beam be pulled out from his house, and let him be lifted up and fastened thereon; and let his house be made a duns-hill for this: 12 and the God that hath caused his name to dwell there overthrow all kinss and peo-ples that shall put forth their hand to alter the same, to destroy this house of God which is at le-ru-sa-lem. TDA-ri us have made a decree: let it be done with all dill-sence.

salemi. I Da-ri'ús have made a decree; let it be done with all dill-gence. 13 Then Tät'tè-nāi, the gover-nor beyond the River, Shē'thär-böz'è-nāi, and their companions, 'because that Dă-ri'ús the king had sent, di accordingly with all dill-gence. 14 And the elders of the Jews builded and prospered, through the prophesying of Häg'-găi the prophet and Zéch-à-ri'àh the son of Id'dö. And they build-ed and finished it, according to the commandment of the God of Is'-ra-ël, and according to the decree of Cy'ris, and Dà-ri'ùs, and Ar-tàx-cix és king of Päris. It And this house was finished on the third day of the month A'där, which was in the sixth vear of the reign of Dà-ri'hs the king. 16 And the children of Is'rà-ël, the priests and the Lè'vites, and the rest of the children of the cap-tivy, kept the dedication of this house of God with joy.





Darius the Great Gold Daric

In his domestic life Cyrus seems to have displayed the same moderation and simplicity which marked his conduct in public Herodotus tells us' that he had but affairs. one wife, Cassandané, the daughter of Pharnaspes, a member of the royal family. His sons were Cambyses and Smerdis, on the authority of Herodotus and the Behistun Inscription.* According to Herodotus, his daughters were Atossa, Artystoné and a third whose name is not known. The wife of Cyrus died before her husband, who greatly mourned for her. Xenophon and Ctesias state that just before his own death he sought to guard against a disputed succession by leaving the inheritance of his great empire to his elder son, Cambyses, and entrusting the actual government of several large and important provinces to his younger son, Smerdis. But his plan subjected both his sons to untimely ends, as we shall presently see.

No sooner was CAMBYSES seated upon the throne, B. C. 529, than he grew jealous of his brother; and the*Behistun Inscription informs us that he ordered him to be privately put to death, and so secretly was this done that the manner, and even the fact, of his death was known to only a few.

Meanwhile Cambyses set about executing his father's plans for the conquest of Egypt.

Cambyses entered Egypt in B. C. 525,

Having completed the subjection of Egypt, Cambyses started on his return to Persia. When he had reached Syria he received the startling intelligence that a revolution had occurred in Persia.

Cambyses, in his momentary despondency at the unexpected event, committed suicide, by inflicting upon himself a wound with his own sword, which caused his death in a few days, B. C. 522. This is the account from Herodotus. * The Behistun Inscription states that the self-inflicted wound was intentional.

DARIUS HYSTASPES ascended the Persian throne B. C. 521.

* BEHISTUN -

THE ROCK OF BEHISTŪN, IN PERSIA, SHOWING THE INSCRIPTION OF DARIUS HYSTASPIS 21



THE COMPANION BIBLE E.W.Bullinger, Appendix 57

^{6°}An erroneous impression was at one time in circulation that the information obtained from the inscriptions was adverse to Scripture. But so much was it the reverse of this, that if they were to draw up a scheme of chronology from the inscriptions, without having seen the statements of the Scriptures, they would find it coincide on every important point.⁶⁰

Sir Henry Rawlinson GRAVEN IN THE ROCK S.Kinns, Vol.1, frontispiece



SIR HENRY RAWLINSON COPYING THE INSCRIPTIONS ON THE BEHISTUN ROCK.



THE STORY OF THE GREATEST NATIONS, P.111.



CYCLOPEDIA OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol.1A, p.205, Ridpath

"And after thee shall arise another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth." DANIEL 2:39 ASV

PERSIAN KINGS

538 B.C. Cyrus took Babylon
529 B.C. to 522 B.C. Cambyses
522 B.C. to 521 B.C. Pseudo-Smerdis
521 B.C. to 486 B.C. Darius Hystapes
516-515 B.C. Behistun Inscription
486 B.C. to 465 B.C. Xerxes
465 B.C. to 425 B.C. Artaxerxes
425 B.C. Xerxes II, murdered
Sogdianus (6months), murdered
425 B.C. to 359 B.C. Artaxerxes Mnemon
359 B.C. to 338 B.C. Artaxerxes Ochus
338 B.C. to 331 B.C. Darius Codomannus

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY,

Vol. 2, pages 426,440,446.

<u>Darius Hystaspes</u> was the first who designed and carried into execution an entirely new system of government. <u>Thirlwall de-</u> servedly styled him "the first true founder of the Persian state." He found the Medo-Persian Empire a conglomerate mass of heterogeneous elements, held together loosely by the solitary tie of subjection to a general head; he left it a compact, consolidated and well-organized body, bound together by the bonds of a well-regulated, compact and homogeneous system, permanently established in every province. <u>Thus</u> <u>Darius Hystaspes established the first real</u> empire in all history.

Thus the Greeks saw that the great empire built up by Cvrus the Great, by Cambyses and Darius Hystaspes, had fallen from its high estate, and that both its dimensions and its resources had been seriously diminished.

In the spring of B. C. 331 Alexander retraced his triumphant march through Syria, and, directing his course toward the heart of the Medo-Persian Empire, crossed the Euphrates at Thapsacus, traversed Mesopotamia and encountered <u>Darius Codomannus</u> a second time <u>near the Assyrian city of Arbela, on the plain of Gaugamela, east of the Tigris.</u>

HISTORY OF GREECE



BUST OF ALEXANDER Vol.7, page 175



BATTLE OF ARBELA Vol.7, page 164

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY

With only

forty-seven thousand men Alexander totally defeated and routed the immense hosts of Darius, said to number over a million men, in the great battle of Arbela, which was the death-blow to the Medo-Persian Empire.

Darius Codomannus fled to the city of Arbela, about twenty miles distant from the battle-field. Here the unfortunate monarch was seized by his own officers, headed by the treacherous Bessus, satrap of Bactriana, who, seeing their master's fortunes ruined, had contrived a plan to deliver him to Alexander and thereby advance their own interests. The next day

Alexander arrived at Arbela and took possession of the king's treasures; after which he went in hot pursuit of Darius and his fleeing officers. Hemmed in on all sides and finding escape impossible, the treacherous Bessus and his fellow-conspirators basely turned upon their king, mortally wounding him and leaving him to die by the roadside in the mountains. A Macedonian soldier discovered the former lord of Asia in his dying condition, and, in response to his appeal, brought him a cup of cold water. Darius sincerely thanked his generous enemy, expressing sorrow at his inability to reward him for this kindness to him in his dving moments. He commended the soldier to the notice of Alexander, who he said had sufficient magnanimity to grant his dying request, and then expired. Alexander arrived shortly after his death, and, deeply affected, covered the dead body of the last Medo-Persian king with his own royal mantle, and directed that a magnificent funeral procession should convey it to Pasargadæ, where it was interred in the tombs of his illustrious ancestors, with royal honors. The conqueror also provided for the fitting education of the children of his fallen adversary.

Although the battle of Arbela sealed the fate of the Medo-Persian Empire, the reduction of its north-eastern and eastern provinces occupied the conqueror several years longer; <u>but their final conquest made Alex-</u> ander lord of Asia, and master of the vast empire founded by Cyrus the Great.

SEE ARBELA 🛥





24 BABYLON ABOUT 100 yrs. MEDO-PERSIA 200 yrs.

HISTORY OF GREECE, Victor Duruy Introduction by J.P.Mahaffy

Nobody now attributes any real leading to the Romans in art, in philosophy, in the sciences, nay, even in the science of politics. If their literature was in some respects great, every Roman knows and confesses that this greatness is due to the Greeks; if their practical treatment of law and politics was certainly admirable, the theory of the latter was derived from Hellenic speculation.

The history of religion, therefore, will be found to rest, like everything good which we possess, partly upon a Greek basis; but of course mainly on that portion of Greek history which has only recently risen into public notice among our scholars, - the later and the spiritual development of the nation after the conquests of Alexander had submitted the

ancient world to its sway.

	2	¥	
∟в.	C.	PTOLEMIES OF EGYPT.	
32	23	PTOLEMY LAGUS, OF SOTER.	
28	33	PTOLEMY PHILADELPHUS.	
24	47 1	PTOLEMY EUERGETES.	
2	22	PTOLEMY PHILOPATOR.	
20	55	PTOLEMY EPIPHANES.	
1	Bi	PTOLEMY PHILOMETOR.	
I I.	46	PTOLEMY PHYSCON.	
1 1	17	PTOLEMY LATHYRUS.	
I	07	PTOLEMY ALEXANDER I. and CLEO-	
	PATRA I.		
1	89	PTOLEMY LATHYRUS (restored).	
	8í	PTOLEMY ALEXANDER II. and CLEO-	
1		PATRA I.	
	80	PTOLEMY AULETES.	
1	58	BERENICE and TRYPHENA.	
1	55	PTOLEMY AULETES (restored).	
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	90	PACORUS, OF ARSACES XXIV.	
	107	CHOSROES, OF ARSACES XXV.	
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	149	VOLOGESES III., or ARSACES XXVII.	A gold piece of Syracuse struck at the
i	192	VOLOGESES IV., OF ARSACES XXVIII.	the tyrant Timoleon (345-317 B.C.) portr
	213	VOLOGESES V., or ARSACES XXIX.	head of Zeus, father of all the gods, w
	216	ARTABANUS III., OF ARSACES XXX,	revered throughout the Greek world. The tion is the Greek form of "Zeus Eleut
	Ling	(to A. D. 226).	won is the Greek form of Zells Elent

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY Vol.3.Page 779.

The battle of Ipsus resulted in a permanent division of the vast empire founded by Alexander the Great, after twenty-two years of sanguinary wars among his generals, during which the whole of Alexander's family and all his relatives perished. The triumphant Seleucus and Lysímachus divided the dominion of Asia between them ;

Seleucus receiving the Euphrates valley, Northern Syria, Cappadocia and part of Phrygia; while*Lysímachus obtained the remainder of Asia Minor in addition to Thrace, which extended along the western shores of the Euxine as far north as the mouths of the Danube. * Ptólemy was allowed to hold Egypt, along with Palestine, Phœnicia and Cœle Svria; while Cassánder 🗰 was allowed to reign in Macedon and Greece until his death.

KINGDOM OF PAPHLAGONIA KINGDOM OF PONTUS KINGDOM OF CAPPADOCIA KINGDOM OF GREATER ARMENIA KINGDOM OF LESSER ARMENIA F BACTRIA RSARY ZEUS, KNOWN TO D THROUGH OF THE US WARS OF



ALEXANDER.

acuse struck at the time of (<u>345-317 в.с</u>.) portrays the of all the gods, who was he Greek world. The inscriprm of "Zeus Eleutherios

- 13.	*
– в. с. –	KINGS OF MACEDON. †
360	PHILIP THE GREAT.
336	ALEXANDER THE GREAT.
324	PHILIP ARRHIDÆUS.
317	CASSANDER.
298	PHILIP IV.
297	ALEXANDER IV. and ANTIPATER.
294	Demetrius I.
287	Pyrrhus.
286	LYSIMACHUS OF THRACE.
281	PTOLEMY CERAUNUS.
280	MELEAGER.
27.8	Sosthenes.
277	ANTIGONUS GONATUS.
239	DEMETRIUS II.
229	ANTIGONUS DOSON.
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SELEUCIDÆ OF SYRIA. в. с., SELEUCUS NICATOR. 312

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125	ANTIOCHUS GRYPUS.
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95	SELEUCUS IV.
94	ANTIOCHUS EUSEBES.
85	PHILIP.
83 (TIGRANES OF ARMENIA.
69	ANTIOCHUS ASIATICUS (to B. C. 65)



SMALLER GREEK KINGDOMS

KINGDOM OF PERGAMOS KINGDOM OF BITHYNIA



OVER 1500 YEARS OF THIS HISTORY HAS ALREADY PASSED

That the Lord is great, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all the gods; That all the gods of the nations are demons.



MACEDON, Philip II (359-336 B.C.),

Philip's basic coin was the stater, often named a *philipus* for him, struck in 23 carat gold. On the o<u>bverse is a laureate head of Apollo</u>, the god of manly youth, sunlight, poetry and music.



SYRIA, Antiochus I (281-261 s.c.), Apollo

appears on the reverse, seated on an altar holding a bow and arrow. The Greek inscription gives Antiochus's name and title basileos—"king."



ROME, Lucius Manlius (82-81 s.c.), The obverse has a helmeted head of Roma



ROME, Faustina the Younger, A.D. 146-161 The reverse of the coin of Faustina shows Venus, the goddess of beauty and love, holding an apple and a rudder.



CARTHAGE, didrachm struck 340-242 s.c. <u>The portrait is of the Phoenician</u> goddess Tanit, similar to the Greek Persephone, the daughter of Zeus and Demeter.



ROME, stater struck c. 217 B.C. The first known Roman gold coin, a stater of 215 B.C., was a short-lived emergency issue struck during the early part of the Second Punic War (219-201 B.C.). The stater presents a portrait of Janus, the double-headed god of beginnings and endings. The first month of the Roman year was named for this deity, as is our own January.



ROME, Julius Caesar, 46 B.C. Julius Caesar

Returning to Italy from years of victorious campaigning in Gaul, Caius Julius Caesar entered Rome in defiance of the Senate and established himself as dictator. To maintain the loyalty of his troops, the new dictator continued minting his own coins.

Caesar's gold aureus carries a veiled head of <u>Pictas</u>, the personification of picty and dutifulness, with the inscription C. CAESAR COS TER. The COS TER indicates that the coin was issued while Caesar was serving his third annual term as consul, one of the two chief magistrates of the Roman state. On the reverse are an axe, a vase and a *lituus*, a staff used by the *augus* whose duty it was to interpret signs and portents. This last was a reminder of Caesar's additional office of <u>Pontifex Maximus</u>, or High Priest, the head of the state religion.

PSALMS 96:4,5. LXX





MACEDON, Alexander the Great (336-323 B.C.),

Alexander's staters portray the head of Athena the goddess of wisdom, the design patterned after a famous bronze statue by the Athenian sculptor Phidias. The reverse shows the goddess Nike or Winged Victory and the Greek form of "Alexander."



ROME, Nero (54-68), A.D.

The reverse of the aureus shows Jupiter, the Roman equivalent of Zeus, father of all the other gods. Jupiter holds a thunderbolt in one hand, a sceptre in the other. The inscription IVPITER cvstos means "In the custody of Jupiter."

HISTORIC GOLD COINS OF THE WORLD, Burton Hobson

SEE ALSO:

APOLOGETICS 3:pp.1,11,16; 13:p.19; 16:p.3; 18:p.1; 19:pp.12,15; 24:pp.10,11,12, 14,15; 31:pp.2,3,4,18 35:p.7; 42:p.16; DISCOURSE 5:p.38.

Romans 1

21 For-the-reason-that having-come-to-know the God they-glorified *him* not as God or gave-thanks, BUT theywere-aimless in their deliberations, and their heart without-understanding was-made-dark.

BRITANNICA --- OLYMPIC GAMES

Just how far back in history organized athletic contests were first held remains a matter of doubt, but it is reasonably certain that they occurred in Greece, at least, some 3,500 years ago.

However ancient in origin, by the end of the 6th century ac at least four of the Greek sporting festivals, sometimes known as classical games, had achieved major importance. They were the Olympic Games, held at Olympia; the Pythian Games at Delphi; the Nemean Games at Nemea; and the Isthmian Games at Corinth. Later, similar festivals were held in nearly 150 cities as far afield as Rome, Naples, Odessus, Antioch, and Alexandria.

According to one legend they were founded by Heracles, son of Alcmene. The Games, like all Greek games, were an intrinsic part of a religious festival.

EARLY HISTORY

Greece. Of all the games held throughout Greece, those staged at Olympia in honour of Zeus are the most famous.

Rome. Greece lost its independence to Rome in the middle of the 2nd century BC, and the support for the competitions at Olympia and other places fell off considerably in the next century. The Romans looked on athletics with contempt-to strip naked and to contend in public was degrading in the eyes of the Roman citizen. The Romans realized the value of the Greek festivals, however, and Augustus, who had a genuine love for athletics, staged athletic games in a temporary wooden stadium erected near the Circus Maximus. Nero was also a keen patron of the festivals in Greece. By the 4th century AD, Rome, with its population of over 1,000,000, had well over 150 holidays for games. There was chariot racing in the hippodrome and horse racing in the Circus Maximus, with room for more than 250,000 spectators. In an amphitheatre with accommodation for <u>50,000</u>, animals and human beings were maimed and slaughtered in the name of sport.

Indeed, public games were held in abundance—games in honour of the gods, some of which were said to go back to the foundation of the city. But through all this, athletic events occupied a secondary position. The only ones that really interested the Romans were the fighting events wrestling, boxing, and the pancratium. The main difference between the Greek and Roman attitude was that the <u>Roman festivals were described as *ludi* (games), the Greek as *agones* (contests). The Greeks originally organized their games for the competitors, the Romans for the public. One was primarily competition, the other entertainment; and it is not unreasonable to suggest that the Greeks took an "amateur" view of sport, the Romans a professional one.</u>

TODAY

When the head of state has reached his place in the tribune, he is greeted with the national anthem of his country, and the parade of competitors begins. The Greek team is always the first to enter the stadium, and the other nations follow in alphabetical order as determined by the language of the organizing country.

A fanfare of trumpets is sounded as the Olympic flag is slowly raised; pigeons are released, symbolically to fly to the countries of the world with the news that the Games are open.

The Olympic flame is then carried into the stadium by the last of the runners who have brought it from Olympia, Greece.

THUS, WE HONOR THE ADVERSARY ZEUS.

WOULD YOU BUILD A TEMPLE TO A GOD THAT YOU DID NOT BELIEVE EXISTED?



Nike, sculpture from a bronze vessel, probably made in a <u>Greek city of southern Italy, c. 490 sc;</u> in the British Museum

By courtesy of the trustees of the British Museum

was always wingless; <u>Nike alone was winged</u>. She also appears carrying a palm branch or a wreath (sometimes a Hermes staff as the messenger of victory), erecting a trophy, or, frequently, hovering with outspread wings over the victor in a competition; for her functions referred to success not only in war but in all other undertakings.

At Rome, where Nike was called Victoria, she was worshipped from the earliest times. She came to be regarded as the protecting goddess of the Senate, and her statue in the Curia Julia was the cause of the final combat between <u>Christianity and paganism</u> toward the end of the 4th century.

TO 6 GREEK CITIES.

Nike Zeus, the first anti-missile missile, was about 50 ft long and weighed about 10,000 lb. The Nike program was later abandoned.

I will ascend into heaven.

THUS AGAIN WE HONOR ZEUS SEE DISCOURSE 5

> I Corinthians II Corinthians Galatians Ephesians Philippians Colossians I Thessalonians II Thessalonians

GOD SENT THE NEW TESTAMENT IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE ADVERSARY, I

"And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron, for a smuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things; and as iron that crusheth all these, shall it break in pieces and crush."



ROME.-THE FIRST CÆSARS. FLOURISHING PERIOD OF THE EMPIRE.

JULIUS CAESAR In B. C. 63 Cæsar became Pontifex Maximus, or religious superintendent; in B. C. 62 he was made Prætor; and in B. C. 61 he was appointed Proconsul of Hispania Bœtica (Farther Spain).

Cæsar was then (B. C. 61) thirty-nine vears old, and his great career had now dawned upon Roman history. He was a model of manly beauty. He was conscious of his personal attractions, and his enemies accused him of dandyism. He had retained a perfect bodily vigor in spite of all his early dissipations, and he had now adopted temperate habits. He was skillful in fencing, riding and swimming, and possessed wonderful capacity for performing sudden tiresome journeys. He generally traveled by night, in order to gain time. His vigor of mind was equal to that of his body. He possessed surprising power of intuition. He had a wonderfully retentive memory, never forgetting anything.

As a necessary consequence, the possessor of such admirable qualities was a statesman. "From his early youth Cæsar was a statesman in the deepest sense of the term, and his aim was the highest which man is allowed to propose to himself-the political, military, intellectual and moral regeneration of his own deeply decayed nation, and of the still more deeply decayed Hellenic nation, intimately akin to his own."

The military talents displayed by Cæsar in his conquest of Gaul rank him as one of the greatest generals of all time. While in Gaul, he is said to have conquered three hundred nations, subdued three millions of people, killed one million, and reduced another million to slavery. Cæsar gave an account of his campaigns in Gaul in his Commentaries, which he wrote while conducting those campaigns.

The Ides (15th) of March, B. C. 44, was the day fixed upon for the assassination to take place. The augurs had foretold that this day would be fatal to Cæsar.

Thus perished the greatest man that Rome -some say the greatest man that the worldever produced. He was a great warrior, statesman, orator and historian.



JULIUS CAESAR



CAESAR AUGUSTUS





CAESAR AUGUSTUS

The Roman Republic ended, and the Roman Empire began, in the year B. C. 27, when the Roman Senate conferred upon Octavius sovereign powers with the titles of Augustus (the Divine) and Imperator (Emperor); and thenceforth he was called Augustus, instead of Octavius.



ROM the battle of Actium, the Roman Empire may be said to have really dated, as Octavius then became sole master of the Roman world (B. C. 31);

though it was a few years later (B. C. 27) when the Roman Senate conferred upon him all the powers of sovereignty with the titles of Augustus (the Divine) and Imperator, or Emperor (chief commander); and gave his name to the sixth (now eighth) month, as the name of Julius Cæsar had been given to the fifth (now seventh) month. Octavius himself dated his Empire from the battle of Actium, when he was thirty-two years of age. Dating from that event, his reign lasted forty-five years. No sooner had he thus become master of the Roman world than he at once proceeded to establish an imperial monarchy under republican forms upon the ruins of the Republic.

All the countries of Europe, Asia and Africa surrounding the Mediterranean had now become absorbed in the dominion of the seven-hilled city on the Tiber. The only rival of this grand and magnificent empire was the Parthian Empire on its eastern border. The

city, during the prosperous days of the Empire, contained a population of over four millions.

In the zenith of its splendor and glory, "the Eternal City" contained four hundred and twenty temples, five regular theatres, two amphitheatres, and seven extensive circuses.

Those provinces which temporarily formed parts of the Empire were conquered between the years A. D. 14 and A. D. 114. The most important of these were the Agri Decumates and Dacia, in Europe; and Armenia, Mesopotamia and Assyria, in Asia.

"The feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron;"

"It shall be a divided kingdom; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, for a sthou sawest the iron

mixed with miry clay." DANIEL 2:41 ASV

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY VOL. 3, P.1118

A. D. 330, <u>Constantine</u> fixed his capital at Byzantium, on whose ruins he founded a new city, <u>naming it</u> <u>New Rome</u>, but which was thereafter named <u>Constantinople</u> (city of Constantine) in honor of the great Emperor.

DANIEL 2 ASV

42 And as the <u>toes of the</u> feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly ⁸ broken. 43 And whereas thou sawest the iron mixed with ² miry clay, <u>they</u> shall mingle themselves ⁴ with the seed of men; but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron doth not mingle with clay.

The number of toes is not given because it is of no concern. Each toe is a mixture of iron and clay and may consist of any number of nations from time to time. CYCLOPEDIA OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY VOL.3,P.331

To the reign of Constantine must be referred the origin of those movements which resulted in the establishment of an Eastern and a Western Empire.

With the establishment of the capital of the Empire at Constantinople, a great tide of population set in thitherward from the West. The Imperial court drew to itself the wealth, the rank, the luxury which had previously centered at Rome. Great was the gain from an administrative point of view of the transfer of the seat of government. <u>Rome was far displaced from the geographical center of the Imperial dominions. Constantinople was a natural focus. Around her lay the provinces of the Empire. Within her walls was gathered the remaining culture of the Greeks. Three continents lay at her feet.</u>

The reign of Constantine covered a period of thirty-one years. <u>He died at Nicomedia</u>, in A. D. 337.





THE "CLAY" PEOPLES INVADE THE ROMAN EMPIRE Ostrogoths, Visigoths, Vandals, Lombards, Burgundians, etc.

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, p.1219, Vol.4.

HILE the Western Roman Empire was rapidly falling to pieces, the Eastern Roman, or <u>Greek Empire</u>, with its capital at <u>Constantinople</u>, had

become firmly and securely established as an independent and separate monarchy under ARCADIUS, the elder son of Theodosius the Great, and his successors. The Eastern Emperor assumed and obstinately retained the vain and finally fictitious title of "Emperor of the Romans."

The Eastern Empire extended from the Adriatic on the west to the Tigris on the east. The populous prov-

inces of the Empire were seats of art and learning, of luxury and wealth; and the inhabitants of those provinces, who had adopted the Greek language and manners, considered themselves the most civilized and enlightened portion of mankind. LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, Vol. 4, pp. 1350, 1361, 1386, 1396.

A.D. 622, 634, 640.



THE SLANDERER CONTINUES IN THE RELIGIOUS AREA.

SEE PAGE 30. ALSO STUDY DISCOURSE 5. • 409 A.D. TO 847 A.D.

The Arabs are a Semitic people, thus belonging to the same great ethnological stock with the ancient Assyrians, Babylonians, Syrians, Hebrews, Phœnicians and Carthaginians. Of the seven great Semitic nations the Arabs only remained unknown and undistinguished until the time of Mohammed.

The essential doctrine of Mohammed's religion at this time was the Unity of God and His supremacy and providence. The <u>duty of this new religion was *Islam*, or submission to the Divine will.</u>

These two decisive battles sealed the fate of <u>Syria</u>, which was thus lost to the dominion of the Eastern Roman Emperor;

Before the final conquest of Persia by the Moslems, <u>Egypt had been wrested from the</u> <u>Eastern Roman Empire</u> and brought under the Saracen dominion.

LET US TRY TO DRAW SOME CONCLUSIONS.

"And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron, for as much as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things; and as iron that crusheth all these, shall it break in pieces and crush". FIRST CONCLUSION --- THE IRON KINGDOM (ROME) DID BREAK IN PIECES AND CRUSH. "Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon its X feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them in pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken in pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing-floors," DANIEL 2:34,35. (ABOVE) DANIEL 2:40 ASV SECOND CONCLUSION --- THERE IS TO BE ANOTHER BREAKING IN PIECES.



DAVIS DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE, p.821---THRESHING FLOOR

THIRD CONCLUSION --- THIS BREAKING IS TO BE MUCH MORE DESTRUCTIVE.

V.45

LIBRARY OF UNIVERSAL HISTORY, p.1020, Vol.3. Assyria was twice conquered by the Romans-both times in the second century of the Christian era-first by the Emperor Trajan, and afterwards by Septimius Sevérus; but was soon relinquished each time.

FOURTH CONCLUSION --- "BABYLON", THE HEAD OF GOLD WAS NEVER INCLUDED IN THE FEET.

NOTE THE BREAKING SEQUENCE. -V.35 (iron, clay, brass, silver, gold

iron, brass, clay, silver, gold FIFTH CONCLUSION---THE IMAGE HAS BEEN STANDING READY FOR THE STONE.

"The toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay,"



The feet have stood about 1666 years up till now.

DANIEL 2

44 And in the days of those kings shall the "God of heaven " set up a °kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall the sovereignty thereof be left to another people; but it shall ^pbreak in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. 45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that a ^q stone was cut out of the moun. tain ^a without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the ^b great God hath made known to the king what ^eshall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

REVIEW PAGES 30 AND 31. MANY PEOPLE MAKE A REFERENCE TO TEN TOES. ALLOWING THAT THERE ARE TEN TOES IT DOES NOT INDICATE THAT THERE ARE TEN NATIONS. SCRIPTURE DOES NOT SAY "SOME" TOES ARE IRON AND "SOME" TOES ARE CLAY, BUT SCRIPTURE SAYS THAT THE TOES ARE <u>PART</u> IRON AND <u>PART</u> CLAY. THEREFORE, EACH TOE MAY REPRESENT WHAT IS SEVERAL NATIONS.

THE WORD <u>PART</u> OCCURS 6 TIMES IN THIS CHAPTER. WHEN <u>PART</u> REFERS TO FEET YOU COULD NOT SAY "SOME" FEET ARE IRON AND "SOME" FEET ARE CLAY. MANY PARTS OF THE OLD ROMAN AND GREEK EMPIRES LIE AMONG REMNANTS OF OLD CLAY NATIONS.

> SINCE I BELIEVE THAT ALL SCRIPTURE IS GOD-BREATHED (2 TIMOTHY 3:16) I BELIEVE THAT THE BREAKING SEQUENCE (LEFT TO RIGHT) AS GIVEN IS IMPORTANT.

NOTE THE BREAKING SEQUENCE.

v.35 (iron, clay, brass, silver, gold v.45 (iron, brass, clay, silver, gold

I BELIEVE THE DIFFERENCE IN THE SEQUENCE INDICATES THAT THE IRON KINGDOM AND THE BRASS KINGDOM WILL BE MIXED WITH CLAY KINGDOMS WHEN THE STONE STRIKES THE IMAGE.

We must understand: those kings the stone the mountain without hands God's kingdom

First:

re-examine the image thus far. page 34 THE DRAGON'S MILITARY MIGHT IS READY. The prudent serpent hides himself; is not yet visible.



34

"The portion of Jacob is not like these; for he (God) is the former of all things; and *Israel* is the tribe of his inheritance: Jehovah of hosts is his name. Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war: and with thee will I break in pieces the nations; and with thee will I destroy kingdoms."

SIXTH CONCLUSION --- ISRAEL IS TO BREAK IN PIECES THE NATIONS.

Matthew 24 CT 9 Then they-will-give YOU over into tribulation, and theywill-kill YOU; and <u>YOU-will-be being-hated by all the</u> <u>Gentiles because-of my name</u>. Jesus while speaking to the Jews used a periphrastic future, that is, continuous without interruption. (Dana and Mantey, "durative action in future time," page 232.) See Martin Luther's anti-Semitism in Discourse 3, page 1.

SEVENTH CONCLUSION --- ANTI-SEMITISM WILL ALWAYS EXIST.

Matthew 24 CT

7 For nation will-be-raised over nation and kingdom over kingdom; and famines and pestilences and earthquakes will-be according-to places.

8 But all these-things are beginning of-birth-pains.

BALFOUR DECLARATION

An important document in the form of a letter issued by the British Government on <u>November 2, 1917</u>, and signed by the Foreign Secretary Lord Arthur James Balfour. The letter, addressed to Lord Rothschild, reads in part: "His Majesty's <u>Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home</u> for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavors to facilitate the achievement of this object . . ." The Declaration was then approved by France, Italy, Japan and the United States.

This recognition of the claim of the Jewish people to their historical homeland gave new hope to the Zionist movement and started a period of mass immigration and the establishment of Jewish settlements in Palestine, which in the course of thirty years paved the way for the establishment of the State of Israel.

Revelation 12 CT

1 And a great sign was-seen in the heaven, \underline{a} woman having-been-and-still-cast-around with the sun, and the moon underneath her feet and on her head a crown of-stars twelve.

2 And having in *her* womb, and <u>suffering-birth-pains she</u>is-crying and being-tormented to-bring-forth.

EIGHTH CONCLUSION --- WORLD WARS 1&2 FULFILLED PROPHECY. See Apologetics 14&15.

🛠 ISAIAH 66:8 ASV

7 Before she travailed, she ^a brought forth; before her pain came, she was delivered of a manchild. 8 Who hath 'heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? <u>Shall a land be 'born</u> in one day? shall a nation be brought forth at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children. 9 Shall I bring to the birth, and 'not cause to bring forth? saith Jehovah: shall I that cause to bring forth shut the womb? saith thy God.

JOEL 3:2 ASV

9 For, behold, in those days, and in that time, <u>when I shall</u> <u>bring back the captivity of</u> <u>Judah and Jerusalem</u>, 2 1 will "gather all nations, and will bring them down into the 'valley of Jehoshaphat; and I will "execute judgment upon them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have "scattered among the nations: <u>and they have</u> "parted my land,

THE WOMAN--ISRAEL See Genesis 37:9,10.

Jesus gave notice of the rebirth of the State of Israel---"<u>birth-pains</u>"not "sorrows" as in King James. See Apologetics 14&15.



*MAY 14-16, 1948

And they-will-fall by-mouth of-dagger, and they-will-be-ledcaptive into all the Gentiles; and Jerusalem*will-be being-trodden by nations until seasons of-nations might-be-fulfilled.

* A PERIPHRASTIC FUTURE, THAT IS, CONTINUOUS WITHOUT INTERRUPTION.



▼ It is impossible to begin an uninterrupted period of Gentile control of Jerusalem — SEASONS OF NATIONS — prior to THIS 4 - year period of Jewish rule of the city.

★ Jesus said, "They <u>SHALL</u> fall by the edge of the sword." - <u>70 A.D.</u> "They <u>SHALL</u> be led captive into all the nations." - <u>70 A.D. - 135 A.D.</u> "Jerusalem <u>SHALL-BE BEING-trodden-down of NATIONS.</u>" **#**

☐ Jerusalem became a Gentile city 130 A.D. This began the SEASONS of Gentile NATIONS to occupy Jerusalem during the absence of the Jews. Rome had their SEASON first.

SE SE	EAS O NS OF N	IATIONS	~~~~~~
Gentiles occupy J	Jerusalem - Jews	s scattered worldv	wide - No Temple
	, 	10 99 11 87 () 12 2 9 () 12 44	4
→ ° 3 390 A.D.	870 A.D.	• [] 1244 1350 A.D.	1830 A.D.

⅔ SEASON of Rome 130-615 A.D.

SEASON of Persia 615 - 629 A.D.

SEASON of the Eastern Empire 629-637 A.D.

¥ SEASON of the Saracen Empire 637-1099 A.D.

O SEASON of the Christian Kingdom of Jerusalem 1099-1187 A.D.

• SEASON of Egypt 1187-1229 A.D.

SEASON of Germany 1229-1243 A.D.

SEASON of Korasmians 1243 A.D.

SEASON of Turkish Empire 1244-1917 A.D.

CONTINUED

NINTH CONCLUSION---THE SEASONS OF VARIOUS NATIONS TO POSSESS JERUSALEM DURING ISRAEL'S DISPERSION ENDED JUNE 7, 1967.



© SEASON of Great Britain 1917-1948 A.D.

🛛 Balfour Declaration – A hope for a Jewish Homeland.

岁 United Nations partition of Palestine.

O Declaration of the State of Israel.

● SEASON of Jordan 1948-1967 A.D. Last Gentile nation to occupy Jerusalem during absence of Israel - 70 A.D. - 1967 A.D.

¥ Israel captures Jerusalem — JUNE 7, 1967. <u>THIS IS HISTORY</u>.

Will Jerusalem be attacked by Gentile powers again?

"Behold, a day of Jehovah cometh, when thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee. For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into*captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall Jehovah go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. * discussed and series. ZECHARIAH 14:2,3 ASV

THE ZOHAR, Vol.5,p.29

R. Hiya discoursed on the verse: "Behold a day of the Lord cometh when thy spoil shall be divided in the midst of thee" (Zech. XIV, 1). "This day', he said, 'has been fixed from the creation of the world for punishing the wicked and for God to take vengeance on those that afflict Israel.

HOSEA 11:10,11 ASV

They shall ° walk after Jehovah, who will ^proar like a lion; for <u>he will roar, and the children</u> <u>shall come ^q trembling from the</u> <u>west</u>. 11 They shall come trembling as a bird <u>out of ^r Egypt</u>, and as a ^edove out of <u>the land of</u> ^r<u>Assyria</u>; and I will make them to ^edwell in their houses, saith Jehovah. ISAIAH 43:5,6. ASV

⁹ Fear not; for ^hI am with thee: I will bring 'thy seed from the east, and ^kgather thee from the west; 6 I will say to the 'north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back; ^m bring my "sons from far, and my daughters from the "end of the earth;

ISAIAH 49:12 ASV

12 Lo, these shall come "from far; and, lo, these from the <u>horth</u> and from the west; and these from the land of <u>Sinim</u>.



TENTH CONCLUSION---THE RETURNING OF JEWS TO ISRAEL IS A DAILY EVENT THAT ALL THE WORLD IS WITNESSING. "Here is the mind namely-the one having wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains where-in-which the woman is-sitting over them, and they-are seven kings."

JEREMIAH 51:25 ASV 25 Behold, ^rI am against thee, O <u>destroying "mountain</u>, saith Jehovah, which destroyest 'all the earth; and I will stretch out my hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a "<u>burnt mountain</u>.



ELEVENTH CONCLUSION---FIGURATIVELY A MOUNTAIN IN SCRIPTURE INDICATES A KINGDOM.

TWELFTH CONCLUSION---A STONE CUT OUT OF A MOUNTAIN (*KINGDOM*) CAN NOT REPRESENT JESUS WHO CREATED THE KINGDOM.

MICAH 4:11-13 ASV

11 And now * many nations are assembled against thee, that say, Let her be * defiled, and let our eye * see our desire upon Zion. 12 But they * know not the thoughts of Jehovah, neither understand they his counsel; for he hath gathered them as the sheaves to the threshing-floor. 13 Arise and * thresh, O daughter of Zion; for I will make thy horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass; and thou shalt * beat in pieces many peoples: and I will * devote their gain unto Jehovah, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.



Threshing Instrument with Sharp Teeth.

COMPARE THESE PASSAGES WITH THE SCRIPTURES ON PAGES 32,33 AND 35.



ISAIAH 41:8,9,15,16 ASV 8 <u>But thou, Israel, "my ser-</u> <u>vant, Jacob whom I have chosen,</u> <u>the seed of "Abraham my "friend,</u> 9 thou whom I have "taken hold of from the ends of the earth, and called "from the corners thereof, and said unto thee, Thou art "my servant, <u>I have "chosen</u> <u>thee and not cast thee away</u>;

15 <u>Behold, I have made</u> thee to be a new sharp threshing instrument having teeth; "thou shalt thresh the 'mountains, and beat them small, and shalt make the hills as chaff. 16 Thou shalt 'winnow them, and the wind shall carry them away, and the whirlwind shall scatter them; and thou shalt "rejoice in Jehovah, thou shalt glory in the Holy One of Israel.

SEE, BABYLON

by R.H.Mount, 1966

THIRTEENTH CONCLUSION --- THE DESTRUCTION BY THE STONE IS OTHER PLACES IN SCRIPTURE ASCRIBED TO ISRAEL.

FOURTEENTH CONCLUSION --- PRESENT-DAY ISRAEL WAS CUT OUT OF THE OLD KINGDOM OF ISRAEL BY THE UNITED NATIONS WITHOUT FIGHTING.

SEE PAGE 35.

ZECHARIAH 12:2,3 ASV

2 <u>Behold, I will</u> make Jerusalem a ^b cup of reeling unto all the peoples round about, and ¹ upon ^c Judah also ² shall it be in the siege against Jerusalem. 3 And it shall come to pass in that day, that <u>I will make Jeru-</u> salem a burdensome ^d stone for all the peoples; all that burden themselves with it shall be ^e sore wounded; and all the ^f nations of the earth shall be gathered together against it.

FIFTEENTH CONCLUSION --- JERUSALEM IS CALLED A BURDENSOME STONE.

DANIEL 2

44 And in the days of <u>those kings</u> shall the "God of heaven "set up a "<u>kingdom which shall never</u> <u>be destroyed</u>. <u>It shall "break in</u> <u>pieces and consume all these king-</u> doms, and it shall stand for ever.

45 Forasmuch as thou sawest that a ^{*q*} stone was cut out of the mountain ^{*a*} without hands.

THE ZOHAR, Vol. 2,p.72.

Similarly Jacob said: "For dealing with Esau these blessings will suffice me, but the others I will keep in reserve against the time when my children will need them to withstand all those monarchs and rulers of the earth." When that time will come all those blessings will become operative, and the world will be established on a firm foundation. From that day onward that kingdom will gain ascendancy over all other kingdoms, and will endure for ever, as it is written:"" It shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, but it shall stand for ever (Dan. 2;44). This is "the stone that was cut out of the mountain without hands,etc." (lbid.45). The same stone is alluded to in the words: "From thence, from the Shepherd, the stone of Israel"(Gen.49;24). This stone is the Community of Israel.

Day of issue: May 3, 1973 Motif: Excerpt from the Scroll of Independence



Inscription: "Twenty-five years of Israel's independence"



Which smote the image upon its FEET.





