

# Ω THE OMEGA CODE – 20 Part Series

## SESSION 15 JUDGEMENT OF DANIEL

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As we work consistently through the Bible with our focus on Judgement, we arrive at an apocalyptic book that relates to past, present and future “history.”

### EXILES

The invasion of Israel and the captivity of the northern Hebrew tribes by Assyria, followed by Nebuchadnezzar’s invasion of the southern Hebrew tribes and their captivity in Babylon forms the basis or backdrop of understanding Daniel in exile.

*“In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim, king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god. Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles, young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans. And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and three years of training for them, so that at the end of that time they might serve before the king.” Daniel 1:1-5*

### THE VISIONS

Because of Daniel’s astute knowledge and insight, he was appointed to serve in the royal school of advisors to Nebuchadnezzar. Daniel had three compatriots, Shadrack, Meshack and Abednego, who were also advisors to the king. As Joseph was blessed with the gift of interpretation of special dreams of significance while in exile in Egypt, so God used Daniel in Babylon.



*“To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego” Daniel 1:17.*

### WHY DREAMS AND VISIONS?

In ancient times there were holy writings. The Jews had the Torah (Laws of Moses) but they required revelation knowledge to understand the times and signs of their day. While God used such methods of revelations in Biblical times, there came a time when the imperfect would be replaced with the perfect or complete revelation of God’s plan and purpose.

*“For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away” 1 Corinthians 13:9-10.*

*“God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; who being the brightness of His glory and the express image of His person, and upholding all things by the word of His power, when He had by Himself purged our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high”*  
Hebrews 1:1-3.

Nebuchadnezzar called his wise men to interpret his dream that troubled him. Daniel was highly esteemed and gifted.

### **THE TEST**

*“Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him. Then the king gave the command to call the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. And the king said to them, “I have had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to know the dream.” Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, “O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will give the interpretation.” The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, “My decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, and its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made an ash heap. However, if you tell the dream and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts, rewards, and great honor. Therefore tell me the dream and its interpretation.” They answered again and said, “Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will give its interpretation.” The king answered and said, “I know for certain that you would gain time, because you see that my decision is firm: if you do not make known the dream to me, there is only one decree for you! For you have agreed to speak lying and corrupt words before me till the time has changed. Therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that you can give me its interpretation.” Daniel 2:1-9*



The Chaldeans were ancient scientists and the Syriacs were from Syria and spoke Aramaic. The wise men panicked and protested their dilemma. How could they work on the details of the dream when Nebuchadnezzar could not remember the details himself? Nebuchadnezzar responded that the test of a wise man was to know the secrets of life. If they could not have insight into his dream, how could the king trust their interpretation?

### **THE WISDOM OF DANIEL**

As a gifted servant of God, Daniel understood human behaviour and as a scholar of Judaism, he knew the Torah and the process of thought and its effect on the actions of people and therefore Daniel was advantaged above the others.

## THE MIND OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR

If a dream is the product of the mind and the mind is influenced by thought, and thoughts are shaped by your environment and circumstances, then one could analyse the dreamer and unravel his dream. It could be that Daniel studied the obsessions and idiosyncrasies of the King. Nebuchadnezzar was obsessed with power and wealth. His power, as a ruler of nations, an oppressor and dictator made him susceptible to fears of what his enemies would do if he were toppled. His paranoia might have manifested itself in his audience with his circle of wise men. Wealth, like today, was measured in raw materials of gold, silver and other precious metals. These observations gave Daniel some practical insight and coupled with his faith in God, he understood the situation better than the others. He asked the king for more time.

*“So Daniel went in and asked the king to give him time, that he might tell the king the Interpretation.” Daniel 2:16.*

## OBSERVATION AND MOTIVATION

In this regard we as believers become more effective for God when we understand what makes people around us “tick.” We can help them in their time of need because we understand their interests.

## THE VISION

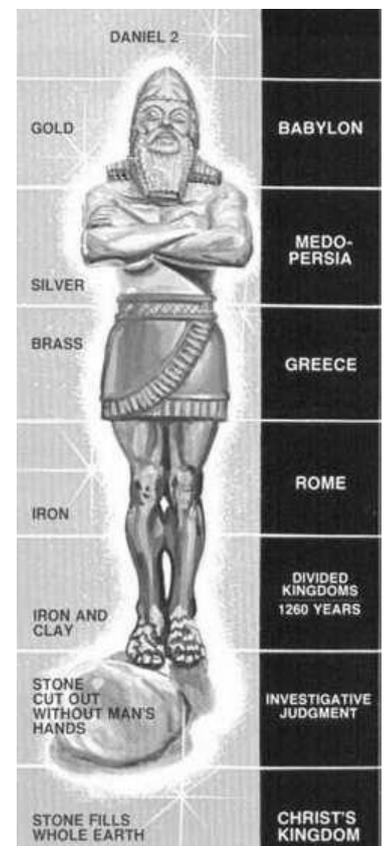
At night the vision or insight into the realm of the secret came to him. This revelation came from God and he rejoiced in its relevancy.

*Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven. Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him. "I thank You and praise You, O God of my father's; You have given me wisdom and might, And have now made known to me what we asked of You, For You have made known to us the king's demand"*  
Daniel 2:19-23.

## THE IMAGE

In the Daniel narrative (see Daniel 2:31-35) the image is of metal values and the rise of a tiny stone that will destroy the image is impressive.

The stone kingdom that destroys human kingdoms is the coming of



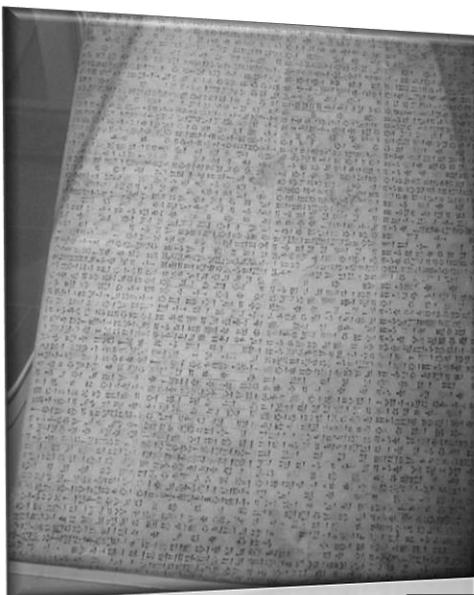
Christ's Kingdom. This prophetic and apocalyptic judgement is sure to come true. God gave Daniel insight through observation (observing the action and habits of the king), illumination (highlighting the significance of the king's anxiety), revelation (divine unveiling of the secret), the application (applying the knowledge he gleaned). These same principles apply in general life issues, but specifically in the area of understanding when reading the Bible. Observe what you read through research and cross referencing. God's light will illuminate your mind and God's Word will unveil truth, precept upon precept. The application of your knowledge will inspire others and benefit your personal walk with God.

## THE ANALYSIS

Nebuchadnezzar's actions revealed his appetite for power. His dream manifested his fear. The head of gold was the value he attached to his Babylonian rule. His immediate neighbours, the Medes and Persians, although inferior (silver) were planning a surprise attack. The Medes and Persians consisted of two nations represented by the two arms of the image. The emerging power of Alexander the Great of Greece succeeded the Medes and Persian empire and was as solid and robust as bronze. Then came the Romans with military might unrivalled in history, represented by two legs of iron (remember that the Roman Empire was divided into east and west, Constantinople and Rome). The revival of Europe will be made up of nations geographically linked to the ancient Roman Empire with some being strong and powerful and others weak and vulnerable.

This seems to be an update on what is currently happening in Europe. Germany and France represent the iron of the image's feet mixed with the weakness of clay representing Greece, Spain, etc., notwithstanding, Brexit.

When this "10 toe" empire gains power in the world, the stone Kingdom of God, the Rock of Ages will end the reign of man and Christ will reign over all the nations as King of Kings and Lord of Lords (Revelation 19).



### Supplication of Nebuchadnezzar

"I am Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, the exalted prince, the favourite of the god Marduk, the beloved of the god Nabu, the arbiter, the possessor of wisdom, who reverences their Lordship, the untiring governor who is continually anxious for the maintenance of the shrines of Babylon and Borsippa, the wise, the pious, the chief son of Nabopolassar, King of Babylon.

"To Marduk my Lord I make supplication: O eternal prince, Lord of all beings, guide in the straight path the king whom you love and whose name you have proclaimed as is pleasing to you. I am the prince, your favourite, the creature of your hand. You have created me, entrusted me with dominion over all people. According to your favour, O Lord, which you bestow on all people, cause me to love your exalted Lordship. Create in my heart the worship of your divinity and grant whatever is pleasing to you, because you have fashioned my life.

"By your command, merciful Marduk, may the temple which I have built, endure for all time and may I be satisfied with its splendour. In its midst may I attain old age, may I be sated with offspring. Therein may I receive the heavy tribute of all mankind. From the horizon of heaven to the zenith, may I have no enemies. May my descendants live therein forever, and rule over the people."

Excerpts from a translation by RF Harper (1901) of the inscription found in the ruins of Babylon.