

TUESDAY NIGHT

at the
Crescent

"A Question of Values"

An in-depth Study of the Book of Daniel

Subject: "God's View of Politics"

A study of Daniel 2 which contains God's summary of Gentile powers

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3rd, 1989

1. The main differences between the divine summary of Gentile imperial government as given to Nebuchadnezzar in chapter 2 and Daniel in chapter 7;
 - (a) Gentile governments are represented by a majestic image of man in chapter 2 and by ravening wild beasts in chapter 7.
 - (b) In chapter 2 the flaw in the image is a great weakness but in chapter 7 the flaw in the beasts is because of their great strength.
 - (c) In chapter 2 the beautiful image of man is smashed by a stone representing Christ's messianic kingdom. In chapter 7 the image of the messianic kingdom is given to and set up by one like unto the Son of Man.
2. The lessons taught by the great image of chapter 2;
 - (a) Government was originally given by God.
 - (b) No empire will be permanent.
 - (c) Different forms of government have different values.
 - (d) Change by itself does not bring in a great age of peace.
 - (e) When the messianic kingdom comes it is not a final stage of the image.
 - (f) The reason why empires always crash is because nations for all their achievements are beggared by being good at commanding and not so good at obeying and carrying out.
3. When will the messianic kingdom come? There are two phases:
 - (a) The present spiritual phase when people are given the opportunity to repent and believe the gospel and when evil will be allowed to grow largely unchecked.
 - (b) The end of the age when the Lord will come with His angels and consign the wicked to their proper destiny.
4. The vital importance of the word "until" in New Testament teaching. Note Matthew 13:24-30; Acts 1:6-8; Acts 2:32-36; Acts 3:19-21.

"I do not believe there is a christian country anywhere in the world. They are all secular"

(Dr. Billy Graham)

