



# The Bible Speaks

## GOD UNFOLDS THE FUTURE

One night a minister was travelling from his home to an appointment some distance away. The night was dark and rainy. As he travelled along the highway, the headlights of his car went out. The highway over which he was travelling at that moment was wet, crooked, and dangerous.

You can well imagine the concern and fear that gripped his heart as he faced the almost impossible task of bringing his car to a safe stop without running into the deep canyon that he knew was to his right or into the steep bank to his left.

It was not until his lights went out that he realized how valuable they were and how much he depended on those lights to show him what danger lay ahead and to guide him around those treacherous turns. With the help of the Lord he managed to bring his car to a safe stop. Never again were those precious headlights taken for granted. He had learned to value them dearly.

As man speeds down the highway of life in this night of darkness, he needs to have a bright light to guide him. From every side the voice of confused humanity is heard asking the questions, "How can I know what to do and what to believe? Is there any way that I can know what the future holds for me and mine?"

How thankful we should be that God has not left us to wander alone! He has a wonderful light to guide us through this night of darkness into a kingdom of everlasting light and life. Let us now see how He has used this light to reveal where we are and where we are going.

## THE BIBLE SPEAKS

1. What has God given man to guide him in this age? **2 Peter 1:19**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. Through what agent does God communicate His secrets to mankind?  
**Amos 3:7**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE READ** the entire chapter of Daniel 2. You will notice in this chapter that God communicated with King Nebuchadnezzar who was the ruler of the mighty Babylonian Empire. Through a dream, God outlined the future to this ancient king. **Daniel 2:29.** Notice how God used Daniel.

3. Why should this dream be of special interest to those living in these last hours? **Daniel 2:28**

**The Bible Answer:** "God ... maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be \_\_\_\_\_."

4. Who did Daniel tell the king revealed the dream to him? **Daniel 2:27,28**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

5. What had the king seen in his dream? **Daniel 2:31-35**

**The Bible Answer:** "Thou, O king, sawest, and behold \_\_\_\_\_"  
\_\_\_\_\_."

6. Who did Daniel say would interpret the dream for the king? **Daniel 2:36**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** God, in the interpretation of this dream, outlines the history of this world from the days of Nebuchadnezzar to the end of this world. By the use of the different metals in the image, He revealed that there would be four world empires in the succeeding years. History reveals that these were: Babylon (head of gold), Medo-Persia (chest and arms of silver), Greece (thighs of brass), and Rome (legs of iron). By this image he shows that the fourth world empire would be divided as represented by the feet of iron and clay.

7. What was represented by the head of gold of the image? **Daniel 2:37, 38**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Babylon, with its magnificent display of wealth, was one of the wonders of the ancient world. Its beautiful buildings were interspersed with luxuriant gardens. Indeed it was the capital of the ancient golden kingdom.

8. How would the second kingdom, Medo-Persia, compare to Babylon?  
**Daniel 2:39**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** God told Belshazzar that the Babylonians were to be succeeded by the Medes and Persians. **Daniel 5:25-31**

9. What part of the metal man represented the third kingdom of Greece?  
**Daniel 2:39**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** "The battles of Granicus, B.C. 334, Issus in the following year, and Arbella in B.C. 331, settled the fate of the Persian Empire, and established the wide dominion of the Greeks." **The Divine Program of the World's History**, by H. Grattan Guinness, page 308.

10. The fourth world empire, Rome, is represented by the legs of what?  
**Daniel 2:40**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** "... and the images of gold, or silver, or brass, that might serve to represent the nations and their kings, were successively broken by the iron monarchy of Rome." **Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire**, Chap.38, par 1., by Gibbon.

11. As the feet, part iron and part clay, represented a divided condition, what was to happen to the iron kingdom of Rome? **Daniel 2:41**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE:** Between the years 351-476 A.D., a series of invasions by barbaric tribes from northern Europe completely overran the Roman Empire and brought it to its end. These tribes included: Saxons (English), Franks (French), Alemanni (German), Burgundians (Swiss), Lombards (Italians), Visigoths (Spanish), Suevi (Portugese), Vandals, Ostrogoths, and Heruli.

12. What statement shows that the old world empires would never be welded back into one great kingdom? **Daniel 2:43**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

13. Who is to set up a world kingdom in the days of the kings represented by the feet of iron and clay? **Daniel 2:44, 45**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

14. When will Christ set up this kingdom? **Matthew 25:31, 34**

**The Bible Answer:** \_\_\_\_\_

In every age man has looked for a better land where the miseries and troubles of this world will be no more. Whether it be called Utopia, Heaven, Paradise, or whatever the name may be, man has longed for a place and a time when all sickness, sorrow, and death will be over.

In God's plan for this world, there is just such a heaven for the faithful. The Bible tells that Abraham, the father of the faithful, looked for that type of home. In Hebrews 11:16 (NT 197), speaking of the saints of old, the Bible says, "But now they desire a better country, that is an heavenly, Wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for He hath prepared for them a city."

We will study about that city in another lesson. Suffice it to say now that it will answer the longing of every heart and settle the problems of every sincere Christian.

As Christ was dying on the cross of Calvary there was only one bright spot in His hour of agony, that was when a dying thief turned to Him for salvation. From the depths of his contrite heart the thief cried out, "Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." Back came the promise that the thief would be with him in His kingdom. Would you like to make the same request of your Saviour?

(If you wish to respond to this question, place a cross in the box provided.)

Lord remember me when you come into your kingdom .

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_