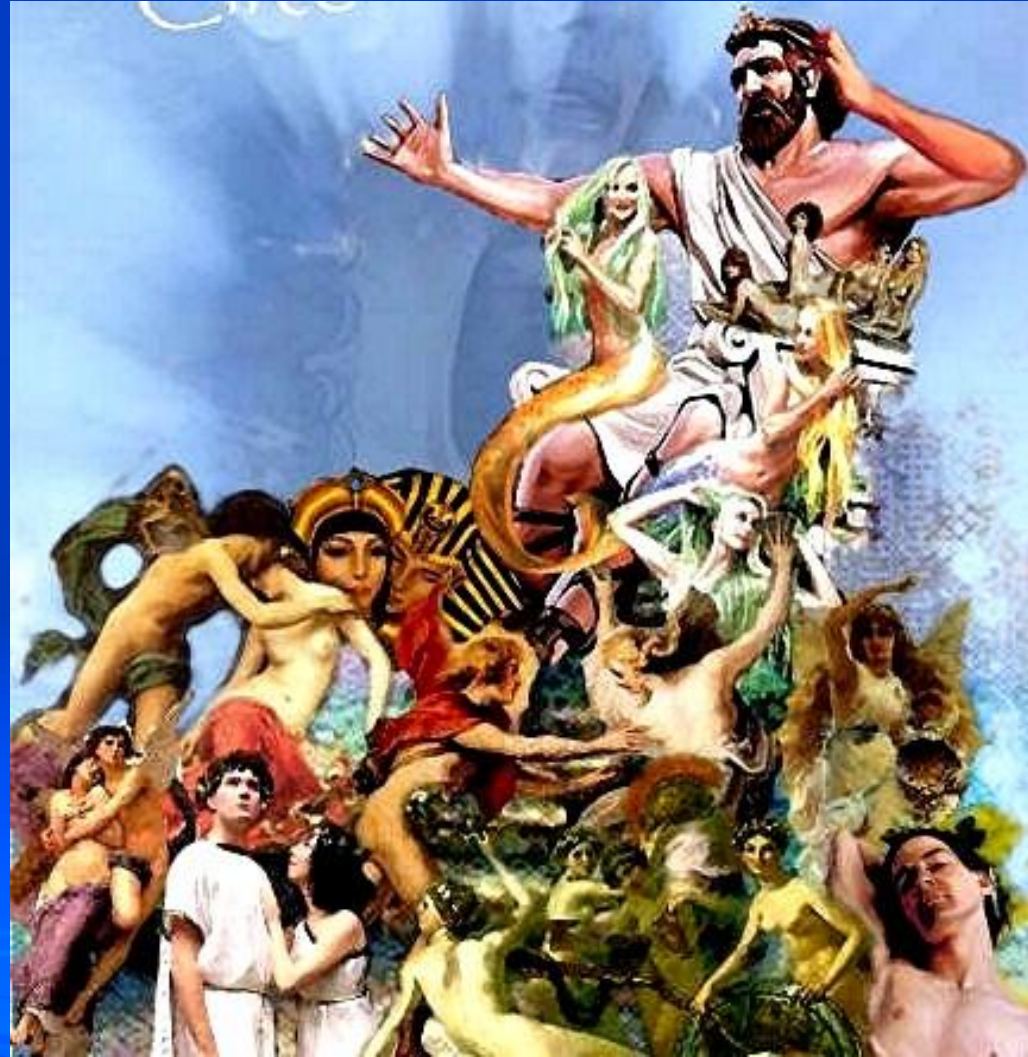


THE EVER-CHANGING PECKING ORDER OF THE GODS

- Daniel 3 ends with a proclamation from King Nebuchadnezzar
- To: everyone on earth!!
- *Illay* = *EI* = Highest God
- Final 3 verses of chapter 3 sometimes appears as first 3 verses of chapter 4



DANIEL CHAPTER 4

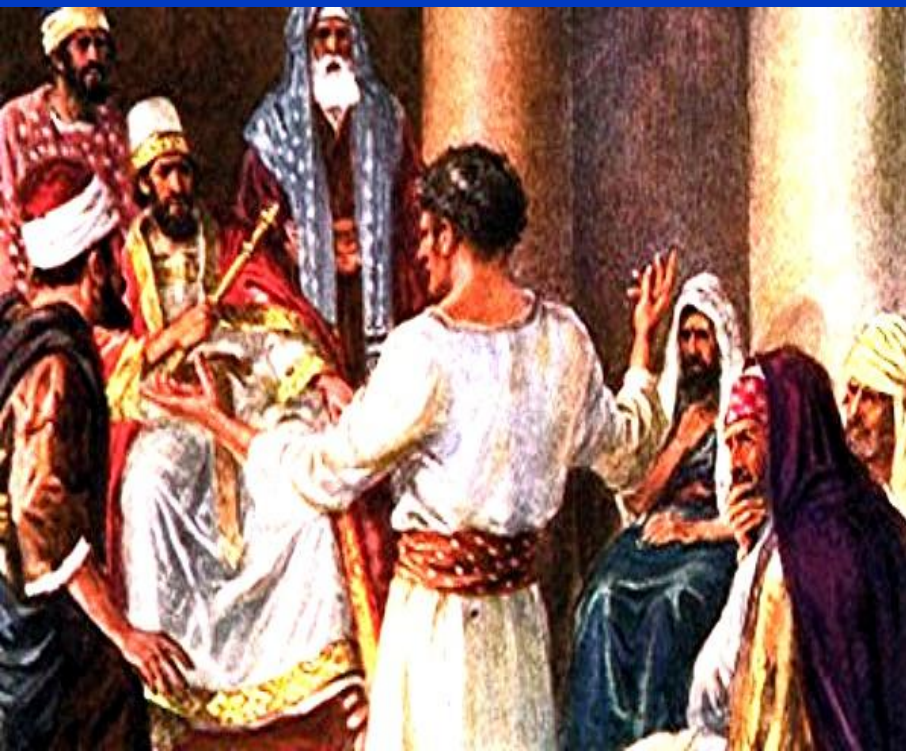


- Daniel 4 is written in Aramaic
- Thoughts from Nebuchadnezzar are pagan in nature
- The King is happy, relaxed and content
- Every race, tribe and kingdom of his empire had shown their allegiance via the Golden Statue

CHALDEANS AGAIN FAIL THE KING



- King has a series of dreams and visions
- 1st dream: STATUE
- 1) Early in his reign, Babylon not stable
- 2) As a test the Chaldeans are to tell him the content of his dream
- 2nd dream: TREE
- 1) Babylon peaceful
- 2) Happy to tell seers the dream to interpret



BEL'SHATZAR TO THE RESCUE

- Since the king's dream was from YHWH, non-Believers had no chance to decipher it
- It is Nebuchadnezzar who narrates chapter 4
- *Belt'shatzar* is Aramaic name for Daniel
- Perhaps "*Bel* protects his life"
- Nebuchadnezzar says that *Bel* is his god

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM TREE

- Spirit of the holy gods, or Spirit of the Holy God?
- **Kaddiysh** = Aramaic meaning divine (rather than holy)
- Chief of the Magicians was Daniel's official title
- Tree was still getting taller and stronger
- It stood by itself at the "center of the earth" (Babylon is likely the meaning)
- In Revelation the city of Babylon is seen as the center of world commerce and government



THE HOLY WATCHER

- The tree provides limitless fruit, endless branches for bird nests, shade for all creatures
- The Holy Watcher pronounced a terrifying oracle
- The king thought of the being in Babylonian theological terms



REVELATION 9 COMPARISON



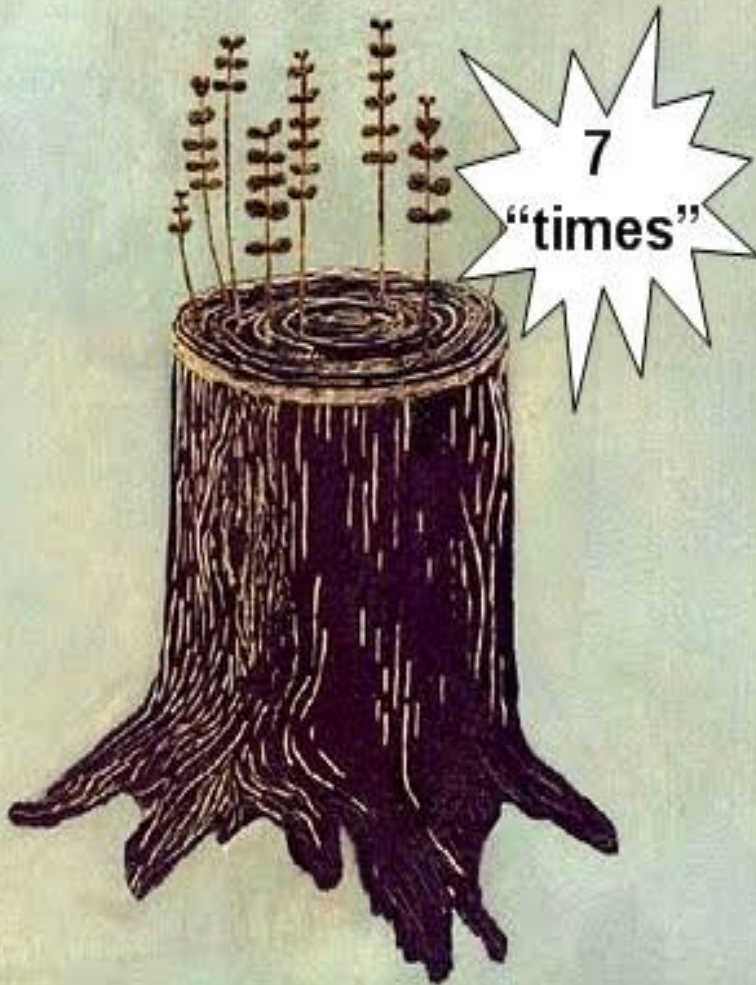
- John describes future in terms of ancient Hebrew culture and world conditions
- Rev. 9: 7 – 10
- Rev. 9: 17 – 19
- Consensus that what is being described are modern weapons of war
- Nebuchadnezzar understands his dream in Babylonian terms

CUT IT DOWN !!

- Vs. 11, the king begins to quote the Holy Watcher
- The tree is not to be completely destroyed
- A stump is to be left so that the tree can regenerate
- Probably separate bands of iron and bronze around the stump
- Stump will be in fertile soil and share it's existence with the animals



THE STUMP IS CALLED “HE”



- Stump will exchange its mind for the mind of an animal
- “Let 7 times pass over him”
- NOT: seasons, years, or months
- The number 7 used here is the divine number of ideal completion
- Holy Watcher says the message is unchangeable
- Purpose is for mankind to understand the Most High’s sovereignty over all things and kings

DANIEL DELIVERS THE BAD NEWS



- Daniel is loyal to the king and wishes him well
- Daniel knew instantly what the dream meant and was distressed by it
- The gigantic tree is Nebuchadnezzar
- From a spiritual perspective, everyone on the planet is affected by the “tree” (the king)
- The bad news is that the king is going to lose his power and dominion

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

- Daniel and Nebuchadnezzar use the term “Most High”
- They each had an entirely different mental picture of who the Most High was
- Most High, President, Prime Minister, Mister, are TITLES not names !
- They are offices, but not the name of the office holder



ONLY 2 WAYS TO KNOW GOD: HIS NAME AND HIS ATTRIBUTES

- “GOD” is a title and an office, it is NOT a name !!
- Desire is so great to evangelize Muslims that any name, and any set of attributes is OK
- Muslim-Christian is a person who remains a Muslim, but accepts ONLY the philosophy of Jesus
- Koran and Bible seen as co-equal holy books
- The ONLY true name for God is YHWH

GOD'S ATTRIBUTES observable in nature

Self-Existence

Rom. 1:19-20, Acts 17:23-29, Heb. 11:3

Self-Sufficiency
Isa. 66:1-2, Acts 17:24-25

Faithfulness
Psalm 36:5-6, 85:11, 89:8-12,
Psalm 119:90, Lam 3:21-23

Omnipresence
Job 38-42, Psalm 139

RIGHTEOUSNESS
Psalm 50:3-6, 85:10-13; Psalm 97, 111

POWER
omnipotence
Psalm 145:10-13, Hab. 3
Romans 1:19-20

Goodness
Psalm 65, 67, 85, 103, 104
Acts 14:15-17

Mercy
Psalm 145:8-10
Psalm 113

Trinity
Prov. 8:22-31
Prov. 30:4
Heb. 1:1-3

HOLINESS

Exo. 15:11
Job 22:12-16, 25:4-6

Patience
Matt 5:45
II Pet. 3:5-9

Justice
Gen. 3:17-19
Job 9, Ps 96

KNOWLEDGE

Psalm 19:2, Isa. 40:12-26, 55:9

MAJESTY

Psalm 8:1-4, 111:1-4, Psalm 113
Neh. 9:6, Rev. 14:7

Sovereignty

Psalm 46, 74, 104, 135
Job 38-42, Isa. 55:10-11

Grace
Gen. 9:8-17
Psalm 121
Matt. 6:25-34

TRUTH

Psalm 57:9-11, 85:10-13
Psalm 108:4, 2 Pet 3:3-7

Glory

Psalm 19
Isaiah 6:3

WRATH

Gen. 6-9
II Pet. 3:3-13

WISDOM

Psalm 104, esp. v24
Prov. 3:19-20, ch. 8

ETERNALITY

IMMUTABILITY
Psalm 90:1-6
Psalm 102:25-27
Prov. 8:22-31

Ruler-Lawgiver

Job 38:31-33, Psalm 33:6-9
Psalm 135, 147

Lovingkindness
Psalm 33:4-7, 107, 119:64, Psalm 136