

TSIYON NEWS

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From Eliyahu

Sometimes everything changes overnight. Daniel chapter 5 records one of those nights. Babylon had seemed untouchable. Its walls were famous. Its wealth was legendary. Its kings had conquered nations and carried peoples into exile. In 587 BC Judah had felt the weight of Babylon's power. Jerusalem had fallen. The Temple had been burned. The vessels from the house of YHWH had been carried to Babylon. And so also had the people, including a teenage royal named Daniel.

Now, after a lifetime served in Babylon's court, Daniel knew something the proud rulers of Babylon had forgotten. Babylon did not rule history. Babylon was only the head of gold in the image shown to Nebuchadnezzar. The kingdoms of men rise for a season, but they do not stand forever.

On the night of Belshazzar's feast, Babylon laughed, drank, boasted, and praised gods of gold, silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone. But the God in whose hand was their breath, they did not glorify. Then the handwriting appeared on the wall.

Daniel was called in because the wise men of Babylon could not interpret the writing. Daniel stood before Belshazzar and read the words nobody else could read:

Mene: God has numbered your kingdom and brought it to an end.

Tekel: you are weighed in the balances and found wanting.

Peres: your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.

That very night in 539 BC, Belshazzar was slain, and Babylon fell to Cyrus the Persian. The fall of Babylon did not come as a surprise to Daniel. Years earlier, YHWH had revealed Nebuchadnezzar's dream: a great image with a head of gold, chest and arms of silver, belly and thighs of bronze, legs of iron, and feet of iron mixed with clay.

Babylon was the head of gold. But the head would not last forever. Another kingdom would arise after it. So when Persia entered the story, Daniel was not merely watching politics. He was watching prophecy move forward.

The golden head had given way to the next kingdom in the sequence of Gentile dominion. Human empires would continue. Their names would change. Their borders would change. Their languages and customs would change. But the image of human empires would continue forward toward its ultimate end.

The Stone had not yet struck the image. The Mountain had not yet filled the whole earth. YHWH's Kingdom was still the final answer, and the kingdoms of men were still only temporary.

Persia was different than Babylon, but was not the Kingdom. Persia was raised up by YHWH with an entirely different purpose. Babylon was the power of exile and judgment upon a wayward people. Babylon destroyed Jerusalem, burned the Temple, and carried the people away.

Persia, by contrast, would become the power YHWH used to open the door for return. Under Persian rule, the remnant would be permitted to go back to the Land. Jerusalem would begin to be restored. The Temple foundation would be laid. From the standpoint of YHWH's plan, this was a great mercy.

But Persia was still a Gentile empire. It was still part of the image of Daniel 2. It could be used by YHWH, but it could not replace YHWH. It could benefit the remnant, but it could still overreach. It could be better than Babylon, but it was not the Mountain that fills the whole earth. That distinction is essential. YHWH may use a king. But no king becomes YHWH or replaces YHWH – even though they often want to.

Long before Cyrus conquered Babylon, YHWH had already spoken of him through Isaiah.

YHWH said of Cyrus:

"He is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure," even saying of Jerusalem, "She will be built;" and of the Temple, "Your foundation will be laid." Isaiah 44:28

And again:

"Thus says YHWH to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have held, to subdue nations before him..." Isaiah 45:1

This is astonishing language.

Cyrus was not a son of David. He was not even an Israelite king. He was a Persian ruler. Yet YHWH called him "my shepherd," and even "his anointed," not because Cyrus was the Messiah, but because YHWH had appointed him for a specific historical task. Cyrus would break Babylon's power. He would open gates. He would be used to say of Jerusalem, "She will be built," and of the Temple, "Your foundation will be laid."

So when Babylon fell, the nations may have seen only conquest. But Scripture lets us see behind the curtain. YHWH had already named the ruler. He had already declared the purpose. He was already turning the heart of a Gentile king toward covenant mercy.



Ezra the Priest begins his book by telling us YHWH stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a decree allowing the people of YHWH to return and rebuild the house of YHWH in Jerusalem.

That means the fall of Babylon was not merely judgment on a proud empire. It was also the beginning of release for the remnant. Babylon had carried Judah away. Persia would permit the remnant to return.

Babylon had profaned the vessels of the Temple. Persia would open the way for the Temple to be rebuilt and the vessels returned. Babylon had seemed to bury the hopes of Jerusalem. But YHWH had not forgotten His city, His covenant, His promises, or His people.

This is one of the great lessons of the Persian transition: YHWH rules over kings not only by bringing them down, but also by directing them. He can judge through one empire and release through another. He can turn policies, decrees, roads, treasuries, and rulers toward His purpose. The heart of the king is not beyond the hand of YHWH.

Daniel 1:21 says:

“Daniel continued even to the first year of King Cyrus.”

Cyrus was the conquering Emperor of the entire Medo-Persian Empire that took Babylon. However, when we get into the later chapters of Daniel we find Daniel interacting with a king known as Darius.

“Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Kasdim.” Daniel 9:1

Taken together, this suggests that Darius was made regional king by Cyrus over the jurisdiction of Babylon under Emperor Cyrus, while Cyrus remained Emperor over all of the realms of Medo-Persia. This is why we find Daniel interacting with Darius as king.

We see that Daniel himself did not simply disappear when Babylon fell. Daniel had lived through the Babylonian exile. He had served under kings. He had interpreted dreams, seen visions, watched proud men humbled, and seen Babylon fall in a single night. Now he stood in the early Persian period as an old man. Think about that.

Daniel had been taken from Judah as a young exile. He had been trained in Babylonian learning. He had refused defilement. He had interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's dream. He had watched the golden image crisis. He had seen Nebuchadnezzar humbled and restored. He had seen Belshazzar's blasphemous feast and Babylon's judgment.

And now, after all those years, he was still there. Old, but not broken. Experienced, but not compromised. Useful to governments, but still belonging to YHWH. And now in his old age Daniel sees the change in world powers YHWH had just brought forth, and he sees the opportunity this opens up for his people.

Daniel writes:

"In the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years about which the word of YHWH came to Jeremiah the prophet, for the accomplishing of the desolations of Jerusalem, even seventy years." Daniel 9:2

Daniel is seeing the possibility of the return from exile and the reestablishment of the remnant nation in the Land. We know what he did next. Exactly what we would expect Daniel to do: He prayed. More than that, he poured out his heart in repentance on behalf of his people, admitting that the punishments they had endured were just, and all of that had been laid out in advance in the Torah.

Then Daniel dared to trust in the mercy of the Holy One. He said:

"Lord, according to all your righteousness, let your anger and please let your wrath be turned away from your city Jerusalem, your holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and your people have become a reproach to all who are around us. Now therefore, our God, listen to the prayer of your servant, and to his petitions, and cause your face to shine on your sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake. My God, turn your ear, and hear; open your eyes, and see our desolations, and the city which is called by your name: for we do not present our petitions before you for our righteousness, but for your great mercies' sake. Lord, hear; Lord, forgive; Lord, listen and do; don't defer, for your own sake, my God, because your city and your people are called by your name." Daniel 9:16-19

WHILE HE WAS STILL PRAYING the angel Gabriel appeared to Daniel with what is arguably the most amazing prophecy in Scripture. It is recorded in Daniel nine and has been the object of endless study and debate for the last two and a half millennia. YHWH has kept its full meaning sealed up through the ages. It is without exaggeration that I call it *Daniel's Mystery of the Ages*.

Tsiyon Partners, thank you for supporting this mission. Tonight please join me for your exclusive "thank you" presentation beginning a deep dive into Daniel Nine, *Daniel's Mystery of the Ages*. This will take multiple episodes over a number of Remnant RoundUp presentations.

I'll tell you now that this will not be the standard fare you've heard before. Oh, we will test those earlier interpretations to see what they have presented of value,

while also honestly observing where they have fallen short. This is vital groundwork for a fresh interpretation that will open doors for you that you have never gone through before.

You will need to see the entire series to get the depth of it, and I promise you, the payoff for your investment of time and attention at the end of this will leave you gobstopped at what YHWH has done.

Tsiyon Partners, join me for tonight's program. Our Tsiyon Musical Introduction begins at 7:45 PM Central and the main presentation will begin at 8 PM Central, at Tsiyon.Net, and no other streaming platforms.

In His Name, Eliyahu

PS - By the way, let me know what you think of our new song, *Sealed for the Time of the End*.

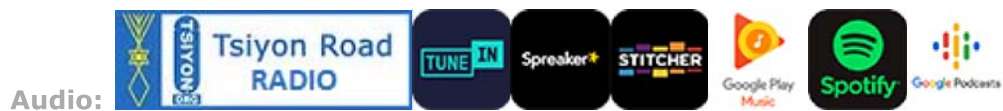
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See this Tsiyon Partner Exclusive! - July 13, 2026, 7:45 PM Central



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***"The nations shall know that I am YHWH,
when I shall be sanctified in you before their eyes." Eze 36:23***

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