1. The secrets from the book of Daniel unraveled, with enlightening insight.

CSB (Daniel 12: 4) 4 But you, Daniel, keep these words secret and seal the book until the time of the end. Many will roam about, and knowledge will increase.

(All quotations from the New King James translation)

Have you also ever had that, a *recognition* of a certain situation?

To have the impression that you can place a certain situation through a previous experience? This *recognition* is often present, especially among Christian faithful, who have always followed God's voice through many trials. For this reason of *recognition* it is sometimes said: '*history repeats itself*'.

The Spirit of God leads to knowledge of the scriptures and by applying the knowledge to wisdom:

(Daniel 1:17) 17 As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

In this series of articles we want to pay attention to both aspects, to knowledge *and* wisdom. We would like to take you on an enlightening voyage of discovery through an old book. Especially in this current period, the fully actual book Daniel:

(Daniel 12: 9) 9 And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end."

We are therefore convinced that the book of Daniel was written with a timeless starting point.

Theme: The book of Daniel, a handbook for Christians in the last days

The Jewish people in Daniels days were enslaved from Babylon because of their abandonment of God and their idolatry. Sadly, this slavery also befell the faithful Jews. The Book of Daniel was written to support these faithful ones, whose beliefs cannot be compared to present-day Talmudic- and Kabbalah- Judaism.

The <u>Talmud</u> contains the Mishnah, the commentaries on the Tenakh and discussions about the Mishnah. It were these oral traditions that Jesus was so strongly opposed. (Matt. 15: 1-9) The <u>Kabbalah</u> mainly concerns mystical or hidden secrets. The main book of the Kabbalah is the Zohar. It is a collection of books with very cryptic and sometimes erotic language. Many Jews do not know, according to various researchers, that <u>Kabbalistic Judaism</u> is Satanism.

That Babylon was a place of idolatry is described in both Daniel and Jeremiah:

(Daniel 3:12) 12 There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up."

(Jeremiah 50: 2) 2 "Declare among the nations, Proclaim, and set up a standard; Proclaim-do not conceal it-- Say, 'Babylon is taken, Bel is shamed. Merodach is broken in pieces; Her idols are humiliated, Her images are broken in pieces.'

Because of idolatry and forsaking God, the Christian great falling away has become enslaved to the great Babylon, the financial, money-greedy and selfish world (Rev. 17: 5 - the mother of harlots and the abominations of the earth). The book of Daniel was certainly also written to support faithful Christians (since the preaching of Jesus, God's people), who are the victims of this. That same great Babylon that is now funding a major city (NEOM) in Saudi Arabia, which will become a world center for gene therapy, stem cell research, nano biology and bio engineering.

In other words, everything that goes against the Creator with His grandiose and perfect creation. The great Christian apostasy has already manifested itself, and just as in the days of Jeremiah, God has taken His protective hands from many of His people, from apostates, because they practice idolatrous practices and don't want to know anymore from their Creator (2 Thess. 2: 3, 7). These apostates, who have come to believe in 57 genders, when God really only created 2. They have come to believe that the Creator does not exist, because, according to them, the grandiose creation arose by its own through evolution. Who believe, that keep switching partners is tolerated and who accept abortion. These apostates no longer believe in marriage or in a stable Christian family and put their faith in money, gold and silver, which is idolatry.

First, a brief consideration of the often poorly translated 2 Thessalonians 2: 7. There is not someone else who is holding back the Antichrist. He restrains that all by himself:

(2 Thessalonians 2: 3,6-8) 3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition... 6 And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only He who now restrains will do so until He is taken out of the way. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed....

2 Thessalonians 2: 7b

	monon	ho	katechōn	arti	heōs	ek	mesou	genētai
,	μόνον	ó	κατέχων	ἄρτι	έως	έĸ	μέσου	γένηται .

only [there] is the [one] restraining [it] at present until out of [the] midst he comes into being Only there is the one who is restraining it at present until he comes out of the middle to be it.

(see also Strong's Concordance: 1096 ginomai; genētai is a conjugation of the verb ginomai)

Better translation (2 Thessalonians 2: 3,6-8) 3 Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition... . 6 And now you know what is restraining, that he may be revealed in his own time. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; Only there is the one who is restraining it at present until he comes out of the middle to be it. 8 And then the lawless one will be revealed....

From verse 3 we can know that with the present great apostasy also the Antichrist will soon appear.

But why, then, did we begin this article by saying that history repeats itself? We will clarify that with large parts from the book of Daniel.

The Battle of Karkemish

The Battle of Karkemish was a field battle between the Egyptian army and the Babylonians under Nebuchadnezzar. The battle took place at the border of Syria on the Euphrates in +/-605 BC. and was a decisive victory for Babylon over the Egyptian army, which suffered a severe defeat here.

Judah hereafter became indebted to Babylon instead of to Egypt.



(2 Kings 24: 1) I In his days Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up, and Jehoiakim became his vassal for three years. Then he (Jehoiakim) turned and rebelled against him (Nebuchadnezzar).

The kings of Judah would not pay their indebted tax to Nebuchadnezzar. Zedekiah (Mattaniah) was the last king of Judah in the line of David: (See also: 2. Worship of the 'image')

(2 Chronicles 36: 12-13) 12 He (Zedekiah) did evil in the sight of the Lord his God, and did not humble himself before Jeremiah the prophet, who spoke from the mouth of the Lord. 13 And he also rebelled against King Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear an oath by God; but he stiffened his neck and hardened his heart against turning to the Lord God of Israel.

With the idolatry and the forsaking of God, also the prophets came to warn the Jewish people. The warnings of the prophet Jeremiah in Jerusalem prior to the captivity:

(Jeremiah 25: 6-11) 6 Do not go after other gods to serve them and worship them, and do not provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands; and I will not harm you.' 7 Yet you have not listened to Me," says the Lord, "that you might provoke Me to anger with the works of your hands to your own hurt. 8 "Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Because you have not heard My words, 9 behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' says the Lord, 'and Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land, against its inhabitants, and against these nations all around, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, a hissing, and perpetual desolations. 10 Moreover I will take from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp. 11 And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

It is almost certain that both Daniel and Ezekiel in their young years heard about Jeremiah when he prophesied the warning messages in Jerusalem.

(2 Kings 25: 1,6-7) 1 Now it came to pass in the ninth year of his reign, in the tenth month, on the tenth day of the month, that Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon and all his army came against Jerusalem and encamped against it; and they built a siege wall against it all around.... 6 So they took the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah, and they pronounced judgment on him. 7 Then they killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, put out the eyes of Zedekiah, bound him with bronze fetters, and took him to Babylon.

The Temple of Jerusalem, the place of worship, was destroyed around 586 BC.

(2 Kings 25: 9-10,13-15) 9 He (Nebuchadnezzar) burned the house of the Lord and the king's house; all the houses of Jerusalem, that is, all the houses of the great, he burned with fire. 10 And all the army of the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard broke down the walls of Jerusalem all around.... 13 The bronze pillars that were in the house of the Lord, and the carts and the bronze Sea that were in the house of the Lord, the Chaldeans broke in pieces, and carried their bronze to Babylon. 14 They also took away the pots, the shovels, the trimmers, the spoons, and all the bronze utensils with which the priests ministered. 15 The firepans and the basins, the things of solid gold and solid silver, the captain of the guard took away.

(2 Chronicles 36: 18-19) 18 And all the articles from the house of God, great and small, the treasures of the house of the Lord, and the treasures of the king and of his leaders, all these he took to Babylon. 19 Then they burned the house of God, broke down the wall of Jerusalem, burned all its palaces with fire, and destroyed all its precious possessions.

For the Antichrist, a new temple in Jerusalem will be built (2 Thess. 2: 4) by the Hasidic ultra-Orthodox Jews.

(See for support: <u>7. Conquering Satan's world just as Jesus did. How can we do that?</u>) But with the great apostasy of Christians, <u>God's spiritual temple</u> will be destroyed:

(1 Corinthians 3:16) 16 Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?

(2 Corinthians 6:16) 16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: "I will dwell in them And walk among them. I will be their God, And they shall be My people."

Daniel chapter 1

Exile and subjection of the Jewish people to Babylon.

The submission now of Christians to great Babylon in these last days.

The book of Daniel chapter 1 describes that Nebuchadnezzar had conquered Judea and that he wanted that some young men of the royal family and of the nobles to serve in the king's palace in Babylon.

Daniel, along with Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah (their Jewish names) were taken away by the Babylonians in +/- the third year of Jehoiakim's reign, and trained at the court of Babylon:

(Daniel 1: 1-4) I In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 2 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. 3 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, 4 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.

Daniel and the young men wanted to obey the prescribed Jewish dietary laws and did not want to sin by eating forbidden meat. Daniel asked the chief official to give them vegetable food:

(Daniel 1: 5,8) 5 And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank.... 8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank....

Only after 10 days they looked healthier than the other young men (Dan. 1:15).

Daniel chapter 2

The gentile domination of God's people, in those days the Jewish people, to the time of the end.

The domination in these days of God's people, now the Christians, to the time of the end.



The Chaldean magicians, astrologers and sorcerers could not reproduce or explain Nebuchadnezzar's dream (Dan. 2:12). Only Daniel could, because of his strong faith in his God (YHWH). Nebuchadnezzar's first dream was received in a vision by Daniel, and then explained to Nebuchadnezzar:

(Daniel 2: 31-33) 31 "You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. 32 This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, 33 its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.

King Nebuchadnezzar with his Babylonian Empire represented the head of gold:

(Daniel 2: 37-38) 37 You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; 38 and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all--you are this head of gold.

After the Babylonian Empire, an empire would represent the silver, then an empire the bronze, then an empire the iron. Followed by a divided kingdom, the iron mixed with clay and finally the toes of the feet, partly of iron and partly of clay:

(Daniel 2: 39-43) 39 But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. 40 And the fourth

kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, that kingdom will break in pieces and crush all the others. 41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. 42 And as the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. 43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

All these world powers or kingdoms would come, starting with Babylon from the last king of Judah, Zedekiah, until the God of heaven will set up an eternal kingdom that will crush all these kingdoms:

(Daniel 2: 34-35) 34 You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. 35 Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. (Daniel 2:44) 44 And in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever.

(The world powers described in Daniel and their interpretation and the 7 world powers in Revelation will be discussed in detail in a subsequent article)

The Medo-Persian Empire represented the silver, the Greek empire represented the bronze, and the Roman Empire the iron. Followed by a divided kingdom, the iron mixed with clay, the USA. And finally the toes of the feet, partly of iron and partly of clay. That 10-toe kingdom will be partly strong and partly fragile (Dan. 2:42).

The Roman Empire was depicted as iron, so it was the most merciless of all those empires that had existed before them.

The legs of the statue were of iron, but the feet of iron and clay, and thus consist of two ingredients, which cannot be mixed, which can only stick together.

But the Roman Empire has long since ceased to exist. What, then, is meant by 'again' an empire (the feet) symbolized by iron, but now mixed with clay?

As for this new kingdom of iron, but now mixed with clay (the feet of iron with clay), that's what is spoken of in Revelation. Of a head or world power, that has been healed and has come back to life:

(Revelation 13: 3) 3 And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed....

According to our research, the 7th world power - the US - will first go completely bankrupt and then will be helped (financially) to present itself as the 7th world power again. (See for support: 7. Behold, the children of 'the big liar')

Only after the rehabilitation (the healed head), the Antichrist will be presented as 'the other beast with two horns like that of the Lamb, but which spoke like a dragon' (Satan's words):

(Revelation 13: 11-12) 11 Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. 12 And he exercises all the authority of the

first beast in his presence, and causes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.

What will be the characteristic of the foot kingdom of iron and clay?

The text in Daniel 2:41 tells us: 'As you saw the feet and toes, partly of a potter's clay, and partly of iron - it shall be a divided kingdom. It will have something of the hardness of iron - that is precisely why you saw iron mixed with muddy clay '.

Is the American empire, the feet of iron and clay, a divided empire and has this empire something of the hardness of iron?

Just as the Roman Empire (of iron) was ruthless, so ruthless is the American Empire in world events with their acts of war, as they have recently been or are still present in Iraq, Afghanistan, Libya and Syria.

The US has approximately 900 military bases worldwide and military personnel in 130 countries.

Is it also a divided empire? According to Scripture, 'clay' stands for the common people:

(Isaiah 64: 8) 8 But now, O Lord, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; And all we are the work of Your hand.

(Job 33: 6) 6 Truly I am as your spokesman before God; I also have been formed out of clay.

Daniel 2:40 – 'Just as iron crushes everything, so this kingdom crushes and shatters everything' - shows that the iron, the rulers and elite, are power hungry and greedy and unloving. And Daniel 2:43 – 'they will mingle with the seed of men, but they will not adhere to another' – shows, that it is about human differences.

The US is no longer one as a country. The Democrats are opposed to the Republicans and the black population is violently opposed to the white population.

The American elite of billionaires has the MainStreamMedia in their hands and can mislead the population with their messages, such as the reports about the war in Iraq because of 'weapons of mass destruction' or about the precarious situation in Libya or the use of poison gas in Syria.

And the American people themselves are thereafter completely squeezed out financially by their own empire, with its precious military industry.

The text in Daniel 2:42 - And the toes of the feet, partly of iron and partly of clay, that kingdom will be partly strong and partly fragile - talks about the rise of the 10-toe kingdom in the last days.

As the American Empire is a greedy and loveless power, so too will the 10-toe empire of iron and clay be a greedy and loveless empire that is relentless.

According to our research in Revelation, the 10-toe kingdom consists of the 8th world power, the empire that was and is not, out of a financial empire, with the 10 uncrowned kings of the central banks:

(Revelation 17: 7-8, 11-12) 7....I will tell you the mystery of the woman and of the beast (money economy) that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns. 8 The beast that you saw was, and is not, and will ascend out of the bottomless pit and go to perdition....11 And the beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth, and is of the seven, and is going to perdition. 12 The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast.

Why then is this 10-toe kingdom of iron and clay strong but also fragile (Daniel 2:42)? They drag the whole world into their banking tricks with charging interest on fiat money, money that is not backed by gold or other value and can therefore easily be 'printed or generated'.

The greedy central banking empire also introduces a class struggle between the (super) rich and the poor. The central bank empire is also fragile, because buying up sovereign debt cannot go on indefinitely, or better translated, to continue to make the rich even richer. It's like Lord Jacob Rothschild (of the exorbitantly wealthy family), the mid- 2016 put it: 'This Is The Greatest Experiment In Monetary Policy In The History Of The World'

The number 10 in Scripture is an indication for 'completeness': such as the 10 plagues of Egypt, the 10 slaves with 10 mines to do business with, the 10 virgins with oil lamps and as the 10 toes of clay and iron of the image from Daniel 2: 31-45.

Finally:

Daniel acted as 'interpreter of dreams' and was taken up in a high position at the court of Babylon. (Daniel 2:48)

Summary part 1:

The temple of Jerusalem, the place of worship of God, destroyed around 586 BC.

With the great apostasy of Christians in these days, God's spiritual temple is being destroyed. Because of the apostate Jews who had forsaken their God and engaged in idolatry, the faithful Jewish people also fell into slavery of Babylon.

Because of the great Christian apostasy who have forsaken God, faithful Christians have also become enslaved to the great Babylon, the empire of the financial world.

The Gentile domination of God's people, in those days the Jewish people, to the time of the end.

The domination of God's people in these days, now Christians, to the time of the end.

In the next part (part 2) the secrets of Daniel chapter 3-6 will be unraveled. It is striking how again this part has been written as a support for Christians, to endure the troubled times of the last days.

P.S. On the site 'Disciples of Jesus Christ' there are more substantive Christian articles.