

A The knowledge of good and evil.

- ❖ Eve was tempted to become equal with God, acquiring the knowledge of good and evil. And, apparently, she succeeded (Gen. 3:5, 22).
- ❖ This knowledge had been clearly restricted to them by God (Gen. 2:16-17). Why did God withhold the knowledge of good and evil from the first couple?
- ❖ If you read Genesis 3, you'll see that this knowledge brought them nothing good. Perhaps the problem wasn't the knowledge itself, but the way it was acquired. God wanted to teach the couple gradually, as children are taught in school. But they learned evil through experience.
- ❖ This mistake was repeated by Israel when they asked for a king. Eventually, God allowed them to be subjected to other nations so they would know what it means to serve Him and what it means to serve the nations. (2 Chron. 12:8).

B Knowledge of history:

❖ **Precious metals.**

- King Nebuchadnezzar was shown the history of the nations through a terrible-looking statue (Dan . 2:31-45).
- The progressive devaluation of metals announced a progressive decline of humanity.
- The Industrial Revolution, along with the theories of men like Darwin and Marx, have led us to believe that humanity can improve until it achieves a perfect society without God. What happened to the peace and security hoped for at the beginning of the 20th century?
- The prophecy already warned us, and current events prove it: humanity is rapidly degenerating, especially morally. If it was right up to this point, we can trust that what is yet to happen will be fulfilled.

❖ **Fantastic Beasts.**

- Why repeat the succession of world empires again in another vision (Dan. 7:2-3, 16-18)?
- First, to make clear the certainty of its fulfillment (Gen. 41:32). Second, to show the relationship of God's people to the history of the nations, for this vision was given to a Hebrew prophet, not to a pagan king, as recorded in Daniel 2.
- These nations would not arise peacefully, but as a result of wars (see Is . 17:12).
- Israel is not involved in the conflict; it is merely a victim; a territory that would pass from empire to empire; without autonomy.
- How far from the ideal that God had thought for them! (Jer. 29:11).

C The knowledge of the end time:

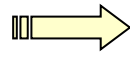
❖ **The land and the sea.**

- As we saw, the sea represents wars and disorder. Revelation 17:15 expands on this concept by saying that the waters represent nations, multitudes who are not guided by God but are under the authority of the evil one.
- From the sea comes the beast that fights against God's people at the end of time (Rev. 13:1, 17).
- The earth, on the other hand, is depopulated. It is a territory where the faithful church is taken when unconverted multitudes seek to destroy it (Rev. 12:15-16); a land of freedom (the United States).
- From the earth arises the lamb-like beast (initially faithful to God), but speaking like the Dragon, who will persecute the faithful church during the final conflict on Earth (Rev. 13:11-15).

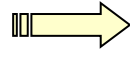
❖ **The remnant people.**

- Revelation 13 shows us the powers that will attack God's people from land and sea. Revelation 10 shows us God's people preaching the last message on both land and sea.
 - (1) Rev. 10:1. A strong angel → Christ himself
 - (2) Rev. 10:2. He brings a message to preach on land and sea. → The message of the book of Daniel
 - (3) Rev. 10:3-4. The interpretation is "sealed" → It was not yet time to know Daniel's interpretation
 - (4) Rev. 10:5-7. An oath is interposed, like that of Daniel 12:7. → The message is for the time of the end.
 - (5) Rev. 10:8-10. The message would be sweet, but the results would be bitter. → The preaching of the Second Coming resulted in a great disappointment.
 - (6) Rev. 10:11. It is necessary to prophesy again. → The Adventist Church, emerging from the great disappointment, must preach the last message to the world.

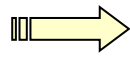
DANIEL 2



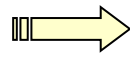
Babylon
(605 BC-539 BC)



Medo-Persia
(539 BC-331 BC)



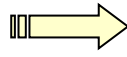
Greece [Macedonia]
(331 BC-168 BC)



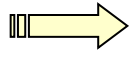
Rome
(168 BC - 476 AD)



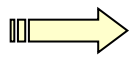
 **The eternal kingdom**



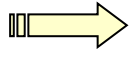
Rome divided
(476 AD-???)



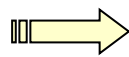
Babylon
(605 BC-539 BC)



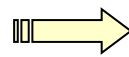
Medo-Persia
(539 BC-331 BC)



Greece [Macedonia]
(331 BC-168 BC)



Pagan Rome
(168 BC - 476 AD)



Papal Rome
(476 AD-???)

DANIEL 7