

Study 6 Outline

A. The Dream: The king's request

God's response:

Certainty

What is it that must be left with no doubt?

Second coming

Daniel 2 establishes with certainty that **wisdom** and **might** are God's

B. MIght/Power of God

Rom1:16 Gospel is **power** of God. Does Daniel 2 talk about the Gospel?

1 Cor 1:18 Preaching of the cross is the **power** of God. Does it talk of this?

Let us look:

Jn. 1:14

Beginning:

Word:

Word was God:

All things made by Him:

Life was the light of men:

Light shineth in darkness:

Word was made flesh:

v. 12 There is **power** in this passage: if believe in name

Word:

Beginning (v. 1)

With God, was God (v. 1)

Made everything (v. 3)

He had life, but gave it for men

he became one of them (v. 14)

showed God to them (v. 14)

They didn't understand them (v. 5)

They rejected/killed him (v. 11)

Purpose of Daniel 2: Jn. 14:29

Simplicity

D. Lets see how Daniel 2 speaks of the power of God:

The Problem

1. Man fails (v. 11)

2. Need God

God's response

1. Man fails (Dan. 2:27,30)

2. Need God (Dan. 2:19,20,28, see also 1 Pet. 1:10,11; Am. 3:7)
Prophecy is another method to establish that God dwells with man

Lesson #1: God dwells with us

Tally: Vision (vv. 31-35), interpretation (vv. 36-45)

Image:

Stone:

Mountain:

Mountain:

Kingdom (Jer. 51:25; Is. 13:2)

What kind of kingdom?

Without hand, whole earth, God of heaven set up, never destroyed, not left to
“other people”: this is God’s kingdom (Dan. 2:44).

Coming of kingdom at second coming (Lk. 21:31:27, see also 9:27:30)

Lesson #2: The stone destroying the image clearly depicts the second coming

E. Where did this kingdom come from? (remember mountain = kingdom)

Rev. 12:7-10 cast out/ cast down (*ballo, kataballo*)

Satan cast down twice. Second time at coming of kingdom

Jn. 12:31,32

This coming was at cross (Mt. 3:2)

Cut without hands (Dan. 12:34,45; see also Is. 53:4,10): God’s doing

Kingdom of grace: cross (Heb. 4:16)

Kingdom of glory: second coming (Mt. 25:31)

Lesson #3: The stone cut out depicts the cross of Jesus

NT confirms this (Mt. 21:42,43)

Daniel 2 review: Sound familiar?

Word became flesh (dwell among us)- lesson #1

Died for us - lesson #3

Coming again - lesson #2

How is this kingdom set up? Mt. 6:10; Ps. 40:8

Surrender: Mt. 21:44

We are not passive onlookers just waiting for His return. We are active participants ending this controversy once and for all through surrender.

Study 6: Daniel 2 Lift Up the Trumpet!

A. What did the king see? vv. 31-35

“This is the dream”

1. Great Image (v.31)

- a. Head: Gold (v.32)
 - b. Breast/Arms: Silver (v. 32)
 - c. Belly/thighs: Brass (v. 32)
 - d. Legs: iron (v. 33)
- Feet: iron/clay

2. Stone (v.34)

- a. Cut without hands
- b. Smote image
- c. Iron/clay/brass/silver/gold broken
- d. Became great mountain

B. What did it mean? vv. 36-45

“We will tell the interpretation”

1. Thou: God gave into thine hand

- a. “Thou art this head of gold”***
 - i. Gives the prophecy a starting point: Babylon
 - ii. The king is the head of gold when he’s the king, then NEXT king is head of gold. If you believe it’s just talking about one nation, you’ll be totally lost.
- Compare to Dan. 7:17, 23; 8:20-22

- b. Nebuchadnezzar dies in 562 BC. Babylon was overtaken in 439.

- 2. “another **kingdom**...”, “third **kingdom**...” (v. 39)
- 3. “fourth **kingdom**”, “strong as iron...” (v.40)
- 4. “**kingdom** shall be divided...” (v.41)
- 5. “**kingdom** shall be partly strong, and partly broken” (v.42)
- 6. “mingle...but they shall not cleave” (v.43)
- 7. “God of heaven set up a **kingdom**...” (v.44)
- 8. “stone was cut out of the mountain...” (v.45)

C. Putting it together

- 1. This vision is about **kingdoms** (influence on the then-known world. See vv. 38,39)
- 2. How many are mentioned here? _____
 - a. Who is the first? (Dan. 2:38) _____
 - b. Who is the second? “inferior” _____
 - i. Is. 13:1,17; Jer. 51:1,11,28
 - ii. Dan. 5:28;8:20

- iii. Mentions Cyrus Is. 44:28-45:1 (“loose loins”: see Dan. 5:6)
 - c. Who is the third? “all the earth” _____
 - i. Dan. 8:20,21; 11:2,3
 - d. Who is the fourth? _____
 - i. recalling from the Daniel 11 study, sequence of kingdoms include Persia (v.2), Greece (v.2), then another kingdom that is known for having a king is a “raiser of taxes” (v. 20). Compare to Luke 2:1.
 - ii. of course, you could simply look at any history book and conclude Rome.
 - iii. Bruise: mythologically Romans descendants of Mars (a.k.a. bruiser)
 - iv. “break in pieces” Dan. 7:7, 19, 23 (iron teeth)
 - v. “bruise” (v. 40) (see Gen. 3:15; Is 53:5. Different words-Hebrew versus Aramaic, but similar thoughts)
- 3. More about the four: *Decrease* in value, *increase* in strength
 - a. Gold and silver (value)
 - i. Head: fine gold (gold is better than...Is 60:17)
 - ii. Breast/Arms: silver (gold stands out amongst silver Pr. 25:11)
 - b. Brass and iron (strength) (Dan. 2:40; Job 40:18, see also Is. 45:2; Mic 4:13)
 - i. Belly/thighs: brass
 - ii. Legs: iron
 - iii. Feet: iron/clay
- 4. More about potter’s clay and iron (v. 41)
 - a. Two ideas
 - i. A strong, but divided kingdom
 - a. Clay (or miry clay) = division (v. 42)
 - b. Iron = strength
 - c. What happened? This kingdom is strong but divided
 - 1. The Saxons, originating the English nation.
 - 2. The Franks, originating the French nation.
 - 3. The Alemanni, originating the German nation.
 - 4. The Visigoths, originating the Spanish nation.
 - 5. The Suevi, originating the Portuguese nation.
 - 6. The Lombards, originating the Italian nation.
 - 7. The Burgundians, originating the Swiss nation.
 - 8. The Heruli, were uprooted.
 - 9. The Vandals, were uprooted.
 - 10. The Ostrogoths, were uprooted.
 - d. *Appears* to the naked eye (thou sawest) a mixture of iron & clay
 - i. In reality *not* “cleave” (or stick together)
 - ii. It appears to hold together, but cannot
 - ii. Attempted union of church and state

- a. Iron = political power (4th kingdom in this prophecy)
- b. Clay = church (Is. 64:8)
 - “Miry” clay v. 41 (Ps. 40:2; Ez 47:11) = Fallen church
 - The clay being miry, is a fallen church.

D. Review:

Gold = Babylon (rich) 605-539 BC
 Silver = Medo-Persia (less rich) 539-331BC
 Brass = Greece (strong) 331-168 BC
 Iron = Rome (stronger) 168 BC-476 AD
 Iron/clay = ? (strong/divided)

E. The study:

With the interpretation understood, the applications from this first prophecy are endless. Lets consider a few shall we?

Nebuchadnezzar and the dream:

Nothing could have possibly caught the attention of this kingly idolater more than having a dream of this most impressive idol. It left a deep enough impression that even in awakening and not recalling the dream, he demands its meaning. God goes a step further. Nebuchadnezzar originally asks for the dream itself as well as the interpretation. Quite a tall order that even his wise men considered impossible. God does one better and informs the king through his prophet even what he was *thinking* the night before! (verse 29) This is a prophecy that was recorded to **leave no reason for doubt**, both for the king and future readers.

Just like this image caught the attention of a certain idolator some 2600 years ago, it needs to capture the attention of a certain idolator today.

God is greater

If Daniel Chapter 1 hadn't established already that wisdom and understanding is greater (by ten times) than magic and astrology, Chapter 2 confirms that the God of Israel is greater than any god these wise men would be praying to (Dan 2:11).

This would be an appropriate place to begin with then. Daniel's God (our God) is greater than the other gods. He changes times and seasons (2:21), other powers can only try to (Dan. 7:25). This vision contrasts the apparent great works of man's hands (Ps. 115:4), but these pale in comparison and will eventually fall "without hands" (2:34,45; 8:25). As rich and powerful as the image appears, it is inanimate (Ps. 115:5-7). God is the only one who has the right or power to remove and set up kings (Dan. 2:21).

As is it in the physical, so it is also in the spiritual. The works of man *must* fail. Just as the work of gold, silver, bronze, and iron did. The work of God, *without the hand of man* is that only power that can succeed.

But what is the greatest *and clearest* evidence of the greatness and power of our God?

The evidence:

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation...” (Rom. 1:16).

-If there is the demonstration of the power of God in Daniel 2, there may be a demonstration of the gospel.

“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.” (1 Cor. 1:18)

-If there is a demonstration of the gospel in Daniel 2, there may be an illustration of the cross. Let’s see.

John 1

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not...That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.” (Jn. 1:1-5, 9-14)

There are some concepts in this passage that are so bizarre, I can hardly wrap my mind around them. For instance, the “beginning”. How are finite minds to understand an eternity before us? Light. We *still* can’t decide if it’s a wavelength or particle. Maybe a physicist can tell you for sure. The passage is full of themes difficult to be grasped by human minds. As we ponder the list, please remember that I speak as a man (a simple one at that) so humor me (as opposed to seeing this through the lens of one who has grown up in a Christian home):

John 1:1-14

“In the beginning”: see preceding paragraph

“was the Word”: So abstract. I can understand a table or apple being at the beginning, but “word”?

“Word was God”: God *says* words, but God *is* Word?
“All things made by him”: matter cannot be created.
“In Him was life”: kind of get this, He had power of life
“Life was the light of men”: I might have been able to grasp it somewhat if it were reversed and his light was the life of men (kind of how the sun works).
“Light shineth in darkness”: if darkness is the absence of light, and I can’t decide what light is...
“the Word was made flesh”: the deepest mystery of all

So there you have it, the very first passage in the Gospel of John, and I have barely any idea what he just said. But there’s a promise hidden in this passage as well. “But as many as received him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name.” (verse 12).

Jesus has many names, but in this passage He is referred to by two: Word and Light. Prior to coming to earth He was “Word”, and on earth he was “Light”. I may not be able to understand everything about these names, but look at the narrative of what happens to the one possessing these names:

From the beginning He was with God. (v. 1,2) He was God. (v.1) He made everything. (v. 3) He had life, and decided to give life to men. (v. 4) So he became one of them. (v. 14) He showed God to them. (v.14) They did not understand Him at all. (v. 5) And eventually they rejected Him. (v. 11)

I’m no scholar, but even I can follow it that. You too, if you “believe on His name” can become sons (and daughters) of God. In the Bible, believing is the same as receiving. Fortunately, it’s not the intellectual belief of simply understanding it, for these are topics that will need an eternity to grasp. Rather, it’s the type of belief that dwells on what’s been said, allowing the thought itself to mature on the mind and heart eventually changing it. That’s power.

One of the purposes of prophecy, and possibly the most important purpose is that when it comes to pass, we can believe on Jesus. (Jn. 14.:29)

Does Daniel Chapter 2 speak of the power of God?

The gospel truth:

Why did God allow the magicians, astrologers, sorcerers, and Chaldeans the first chance to interpret the dream? What if Daniel was asked first, and came up with an answer? Could it not have been claimed (by the other wise men) that if given a chance they would have been able to do the same. They first had to *fail* to demonstrate the true providential nature of what was about to be made known.

We all know that they failed. So what was their excuse?

“And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can shew it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.” (Dan. 2:11)

Point number one. It's concluded that man could not accomplish what was asked of these men. Point number two, they needed help for God, but their gods didn't dwell with them. That's precisely the point in which God intervenes: (1) when these men recognized they couldn't do it, (2) and that their gods did not dwell with them.

What do you suppose God exhibits in this prophecy? Yes, man *was not* up to the task (2:27,30). Also, God revealed this secret through a medium, his servant the prophet (Daniel). (2:19,20,28). And how do prophets gain insight? “Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what, or what manner of the the Spirit of Christ **which was in them** did signify.” (1 Pet. 1:10,11)

How does God choose to reveal Himself to man? Through His prophets (Amos 3:7) who have the Spirit of Christ *in them*. By this very revelation to Daniel, God is demonstrating that He chooses to dwell amongst men.

Lesson #1: God dwells amongst us

What is next?

Let us look the **vision** again (Dan. 2:31-35): It basically consisted of an image, stone, and mountain

How many images were there? One

How many stones were there? One

How many mountains were there? One

Now consider the **interpretation** (Dan. 2:36-45)

How many images were there? One

How many stones were there? One

How many mountains were there? One

Now for our tally: **Vision + Interpretation**

How many images were there? One

How many stones were there? One

How many mountains were there? Two

What?

The two mountains:

Mountain #1: Stone was *cut out* from it without hands (v. 45)

Mountain #2: Stone *smote the image* and became a great mountain (v. 34,35)

1. Two mountains illustrate the stone in two phases:
 - a. Phase 1: Cut without hands v. 34,45 (see Dan. 8:25)
 - b. Phase 2: Broke to “pieces” v. 34, 35, 45
2. The interpretation
 - a. Phase 2: Broke to “pieces”
 - i. Stone became mountain v. 35
 - a. Mountain = kingdom (Dan. 2:44; Jer. 51:25; Is 13:2)
 - b. Stone became **kingdom on earth**
 - ii. What kind of kingdom (or mountain)?
 - a. Cut without hands (v. 35, 45)
 - i. “Without hand” = not of human work (Job. 34:20-24)
 - b. Filled whole earth (v. 35)
 - c. God of heaven set up (v. 44)
 - d. Never destroyed (v. 44)
 - e. Not left to “other people” (v. 45)
 - iii. This kingdom is **God’s own kingdom**.
 - iv. What event indicates the final setting up of God’s kingdom?
 - a. Luke 21:31, 27 (see also II Tim. 4:1, I Cor 15:24)

Second Coming
 - b. Christ showed example of kingdom (Lk.9:27-30) by demonstrating the second coming

Lesson #2: The stone destroying the image clearly depicts the second coming

- b. Phase 1

Where did it (stone) come from? (v.45) A mountain (kingdom)

Every kingdom in this prophecy had a setting up period and then a time when it was the preeminent power (see appendix on the daily)

 - i. Nebuchadnezzar’s father was a mighty king, but **Babylon** became the preeminent world power under Nebuchadnezzar’s reign
 - ii. The **Medes** and **Persians** had organized for years, but it came to power at the fall of Babylon (539 BC)
 - iii. The **Macedonians/Greeks** were set up well before Alexander and had actually won wars against the Persians in the past, but after the battle of Arbela (331BC) it came to power
 - iv. The **Roman** Empire had influence on the affairs of the world even while the Greek nations still dominated the scene, but after the second Macedonian war, it came to the forefront (168 BC)
 - v. The **Papacy** was given military power in 508AD, but came to dominance after the defeat of the final Arian opposition (Ostrogoths) in 538 AD.

vi. The kingdom of God on earth also had a “setting up period”.

1. A little history: Rev. 12:7-10

a. War in heaven ==> Dragon cast out from heaven

When? After he lost the war in heaven

b. After cast out (*ballo*, from heaven), he was cast down

(*kataballo*, on earth) ==> Then “is kingdom of our God” (v. 10)

When? Jn. 12:31, 32 At the cross he was cast out (*ekballo*)

c. Wasn't the kingdom of God established after the stone destroyed

the image? How could satan be cast down at the cross?

How could salvation, power, and the kingdom of God

“come” at the cross?

In the purity of his life he had revealed the Father, and the glory of God had beamed forth from his character. The perfection of the Father had been displayed before unfallen worlds, before heavenly intelligences, and to sinful men. In the mediatorial work of Christ, the love of God was revealed in its perfection to men and angels. Having overcome the temptation and borne the test in the wilderness, having overcome in our behalf, he bends his steps toward Calvary, and in the perfection of humanity he grasps the world, and in the fullness of his divinity he lays hold upon the throne of God, and proclaims the result of his terrible conflict with the enemy, exclaiming, “Now is the prince of this world cast out,” now is the last enemy destroyed. The usurper to the throne and kingdoms of the world is put to flight; his confederacy of evil is broken and scattered. With his human arm he encircles the race of Adam, and with his divine arm he grasps the throne of God, and unites finite man with the infinite God, and earth with heaven. He sees as a result of his victory a new heaven and a new earth, from which every trace of evil is removed, and where God is all in all to its righteous inhabitants. – {emphasis supplied, ST June 27, 1895 Par. 7}

d. This hardly makes sense until you recall, how many mountains were there: two. There are two phases of the kingdom noted here.

i. one: the mountain where the stone is *cut out*

ii. two: the mountain that the stone *becomes*

-we've already established that this event is the second coming

-what would the other possibly be referring to?

c. Put it together:

i. “...now is...the kingdom of God” = Jesus being “lifted up” (the cross)

ii. When was the process of the setting up (cutting out stone) of the kingdom of heaven on earth begun? At the cross

iii. The first phase of the kingdom occurs at the cross

The stone being cut without hand (Dan. 2:34, 45) depicts the cross.

-without hand means God's doing (Is. 53:4,10)

Sanctuary made without hand (Heb. 9:11)

Sanctuary pitched by God (Heb. 8:2)

-God's own hand offering his Son

-eventually see little horn destroyed without hand (Dan. 8:25)

iv. "stone": *eben* (like as used in masonry)

"The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof." Mt. 21:42,43 (emphasis supplied)

(see also Is. 8:14,15; 28:16; Ps. 118:22-23; Lk 20:18; Mt. 21:44)

Lesson #3: The stone being cut out without hand depicts the cross

3. The kingdom of God

a. Dan. 2:44 "...in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom"

We understand this to refer to the literal kingdom of God, or "Kingdom of Glory" (see Mt. 25:31). The mountain that the stone becomes.

Arrival depicted by stone destroying image (Dan. 2:34,35; Lk. 21:27,31)

Christ referred to it as in the future (Mt. 26:29)

Set up after ascension (Acts 1:6)

b. "Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands..."

This mountain is the spiritual kingdom of God, or what is referred to as the "Kingdom of Grace" (Heb. 4:16).

John the Baptist and Jesus preached of it's nearness (Mt. 3:2; 4:17; Mk. 1:15)

Jesus compared its establishment to the putting forth of a mustard seed (Mt. 13:31,32; Mk. 4:30-32; Lk. 13:18,19).

Just like establishment of kingdom happened at cross and preeminence of the kingdom happened at the second coming; the establishment of the papacy (as a political power) happened in 508 AD and its preeminence took place in 538.

-principles of that papal kingdom were grasped over the course of 1260 years

-principles of God's kingdom will be demonstrated in a generation

4. Two phases reviewed

a. Kingdom of Grace (Heb. 4:16): setting up the kingdom

- i. Kingdom of God is within you. (Lk 17:20,21)
- b. Kingdom of Glory (Mt. 19:28; 25:31)
 - i. Receives kingdom after judgment (Dan. 7:13,14)

5. How is this small mustard seed of a kingdom to become a “world empire”?
- a. Not in the fashion of the other world empires spoken of (particularly the last one).
 - From a mountain (Dan. 2:45) ==> became a mountain (Dan. 2:35)
 - Thy kingdom come. *Thy will be done* in earth, as it is in heaven.” (Mt. 6:10)
 - It is by doing His will, commandment keeping from the heart! (Ps. 40:8)
 - b. Components of the kingdom: This kingdom needs a king, a domain, and people
 - i. Who is the King? Christ (Mt. 25:31, Lk 19:11,12,15; Rev. 19:11-16)
 - ii. What’s His domain? Whole earth (Dan. 2:35)
 - iii. Who are His people? Written in book (Dan. 12:1)

How are did they get their names written in the book? Entering into His service (Lk. 10:20)

Who enters? Those who do the will of the Father (Mt. 7:21)

How do we do will of Father? Renewing of the mind (Rom 12:2)

“And whomsoever shall *fall on this stone* shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.” Mt. 21:44 (emphasis supplied)

It is the cross of Jesus that transforms the mind (falling upon the stone), that allows people to do the will of the Father, that gives any of us a right to the kingdom of God.

Review of the major points of the prophecy:

Lesson #1: God dwells amongst us

Lesson #3: The stone being cut out without hand depicts the cross

Lesson #2: The stone destroying the image clearly depicts the second coming

This prophecy is not about an image only, but about a Word who was God, that dwelt among us, and died for us, and is coming again.

The certainty and clarity of Daniel 2 confirms the certainty and clarity of the life, death, and soon return of our Savior.

Daniel Chapter 2 is not talking about an idol, but your idols. Not talking about a Babylonian king, but Babylon in your heart, and who is the king of it. It’s not talking about the certainty of four kingdoms, but rather the certainty of *His* kingdom...

We are not passive onlookers just waiting for His return. We are active participants ending this controversy once and for all through surrender.

Appendix:

The Daily

There is always a setting up of a kingdom prior to its establishment as the preeminent power:

Setting up of the kingdom of God: AD 31; establishment of it as the dominant worldwide “power” at second coming.

Setting up of the kingdom of the little horn (worldly demonstration of the kingdom of Satan) AD 508; establishment of it as the dominant worldwide power AD 538.

Setting up of the kingdom of the little horn involved the daily being taken “away” (Dan. 11:31) when arms (military strength; see Ez. 30:22-25) were given to it. In Daniel 8:12, this is called a “host”. This same power spoken of in 2 Thessalonians suggests that the man of sin will be revealed when another power would first be taken “out of the way”. (2 Th. 2:7)

Who was taken out of the way after “arms” were given to the Papacy? If we understand that the Papacy (though existing for some time already) was given military power in 508 AD (Clovis), all we have to do is see which power was taken out of the way during this time. The fall of Western Rome occurred over a series of events, but most scholars mark the date at 476 AD when an Arian king (Odoacer the Heruli) sat in Rome. However, we don’t even need to know much of the history if we understand Daniel 7 in which we see the sequence of the Pagan Roman empire followed by the Papacy.

Many who suggest that the daily was Christ’s high priestly ministry, still will confirm that the year in which arms were given to the Papacy was 508 AD. Again, it’s a *specific year* marking the *transitional period* (which took several years) between the fall of pagan Rome (476 AD) and the rise of the Papacy to preeminence (538 AD). As noted above, this date signifies when “arms” were added to the Papacy. The fall of Pagan Rome (if you were strictly looking at dates) falls cleanly into this description, the date of the taking away of Christ’s high priestly ministration would be more difficult to establish.

Christ’s heavenly ministry was not taken away by the Papacy. It continued past 508 AD and continues today. And while some can say that it (His ministration) has been obscured by Papal traditions, it certainly wasn’t taken away by armies. While it is true that the word “daily” is referring to the daily ministration of the high priest, we can also say that the goat and ram were really types of Christ as well. No one is going to submit that these are typical of Christ in this prophecy though (see Dan. 8:20,21). But rather, we need to understand that sanctuary symbols are given to represent *pagan* governments throughout this chapter.

Ram = Christ (true sanctuary meaning) = Medo-Persia (pagan nation)

Goat = Christ (true sanctuary meaning) = Greece (pagan nation)

Daily = Christ's priestly ministry (true sanctuary meaning) = Pagan Rome

Daily, or *continual* is a perfect word for this kingdom in a sense in that it truly was a *continuance* of the pagan traditions (particularly of Greece) of the preceding before it. Furthermore, if the daily represented pagan nations in general over the years (specifically pagan Rome when at it preeminence) then the question concerning "how long" in verse 8:13 would cover the entire 2300 days (beginning at 457BC and extending to 1844). If dating to Christ's high priestly ministration, it would appear that 31AD would be the beginning of when this daily was referring to; well after the 2300 years would have begun.

Another problem with the explanation as Christ's priestly ministration is how we can date 508 AD as it being taken away? In reality, how can we date it at all? We can't, because there's no specific and single date when the Papacy obscured or "took away" His ministry. Daniel 12:11 suggests that there is a *time element* involved including a starting date. Again, we *can* establish a starting date to arms being given to the Papacy. We *can* establish dates of when pagan Rome fell.

It would be helpful for the reader to examine the following passages within their context for greater insight (followed by my own short insight):

"Then I saw in relation to the 'daily' (Daniel 8:12) that the word 'sacrifice' was supplied by man's wisdom, and does not belong to the text, and that the Lord gave the correct view of it to those who gave the judgment hour cry. When union existed, before 1844, nearly all were united on the correct view of the 'daily'; but in the confusion since 1844, other views have been embraced, and darkness and confusion have followed. Time has not been a test since 1844, and it will never again be a test." – {EW 74.2}

Many used this passage as proof of their position. I take it that the reason Sister White asked that this issue not be settled by her writings is that the focus of this passage was not meant to clarify the definition of the daily so much as to confirm that time was not a test after 1844.

"I have no light on the point" (Letter 226, 1908) and "I am unable to define clearly the points that are questioned" (Letter 250, 1908)

Again, suggestion not to use her writings to settle the issue.

"It has been presented to me that this is not a subject of vital importance. I am instructed that our brethren are making a mistake in magnifying the importance of the difference in the views that are held. I cannot consent that any of my writings shall be taken as settling this matter. The true meaning of the 'daily' is not to be made a test question." – {6BIO 257.6}

This is a subject worth studying; probably not worth bickering over.

Audioverse Sermons:

The Stone (Peter Gregory):

<https://www.audioverse.org/english/sermons/recordings/1560/the-stone.html>

Without Hands (Ivor Myers)

<https://www.audioverse.org/english/sermons/recordings/647/without-hands.html>