

There were three last time not on the list the office had originally given me. I had them sit way in the back last time, but I thought I could give them better seats. Mr. Koontz takes the roll from the back according to the seats . . . Please take the seats listed in the back (on the bulletin board). . . .

I got papers from most of you . . . The papers that are turned in I do not ordinarily turn back, but anyone who at the end of the semester would like to have your paper back please give me a note to that effect and I will see to it that they get back to you.

We were speaking last time about ch. 2 -- the Vision in ch. 2. There we noticed the setting of the prophecy, and we noticed there is no reason to think it had been just an arbitrary action on Nebuchadnezzar's part. I think we are quite justified in thinking he had been fooled by these so-called wise men, and therefore he said this decision is firm from me. Now the word only occurs in this ch. So the way it is guessed at--"the word is gone out from me" could just as well mean exactly the same thing: this is the word that I have given. In fact that word "word" often is used for a command. But the way it is stated in KJV in two different vv. it could suggest that he meant he had forgotten it. I don't believe there is any necessity for taking that he forgot it even if the word meant it is gone out from me, the command. But it is quite generally recognized that in at least one of these verses, the word is a word which means "firm".

Now I just received a question whether that is so in both the cases but unfortunately I did not bring my Aramaic with me this morning. I'll look that up later, but it is my impression it is in both of them.

We also began to look at Nebuchadnezzar's dream. We noticed Nebuchadnezzar was king from 605-562. His vision had two parts. First there was a static picture: a standing image with three parts. Then we noted it had a dynamic series of events. I asked you to look at those events for the assignment for today. We will not immediately get to a discussion of them, but I hope I can get to that before the end of the ~~hour~~ hour.

C. The Interpretation vv. 37-45

. The Meaning of the Statue. There it is important to have in mind that if God gave a person a dream, and the dream showed a statue in front of him which was made up of 5 different kinds of material that you would have no basis whatever to make any guess as to what this meant. Some people have suggested that this statue was the basis for the statue described in the next ch. that Nebuchadnezzar put up in the plain of Dura and told everyone to worship. That is purely a guess. We have no reason to say it relates to it. But you would have no basis to have any idea what this statue meant. That it meant a progression of events from the head down to the feet, it might just as well mean a progression of events from the feet up to the head! Or it might mean a situation that was present at that time, It might represent various