

**THE GENTILES IN
HISTORY AND
PROPHECY**

A. The Gentiles in the programme of God

Chafer states that in history there are 3 major divisions of humanity - the Jews, the Gentiles and the church of God - **1 Cor 10:32**

He then adds God ministering to and through angels which is not usually considered a major area.

Through the **Jews** God revealed a special revelation and line through which Christ could come

Through the **church** - a revelation of his grace

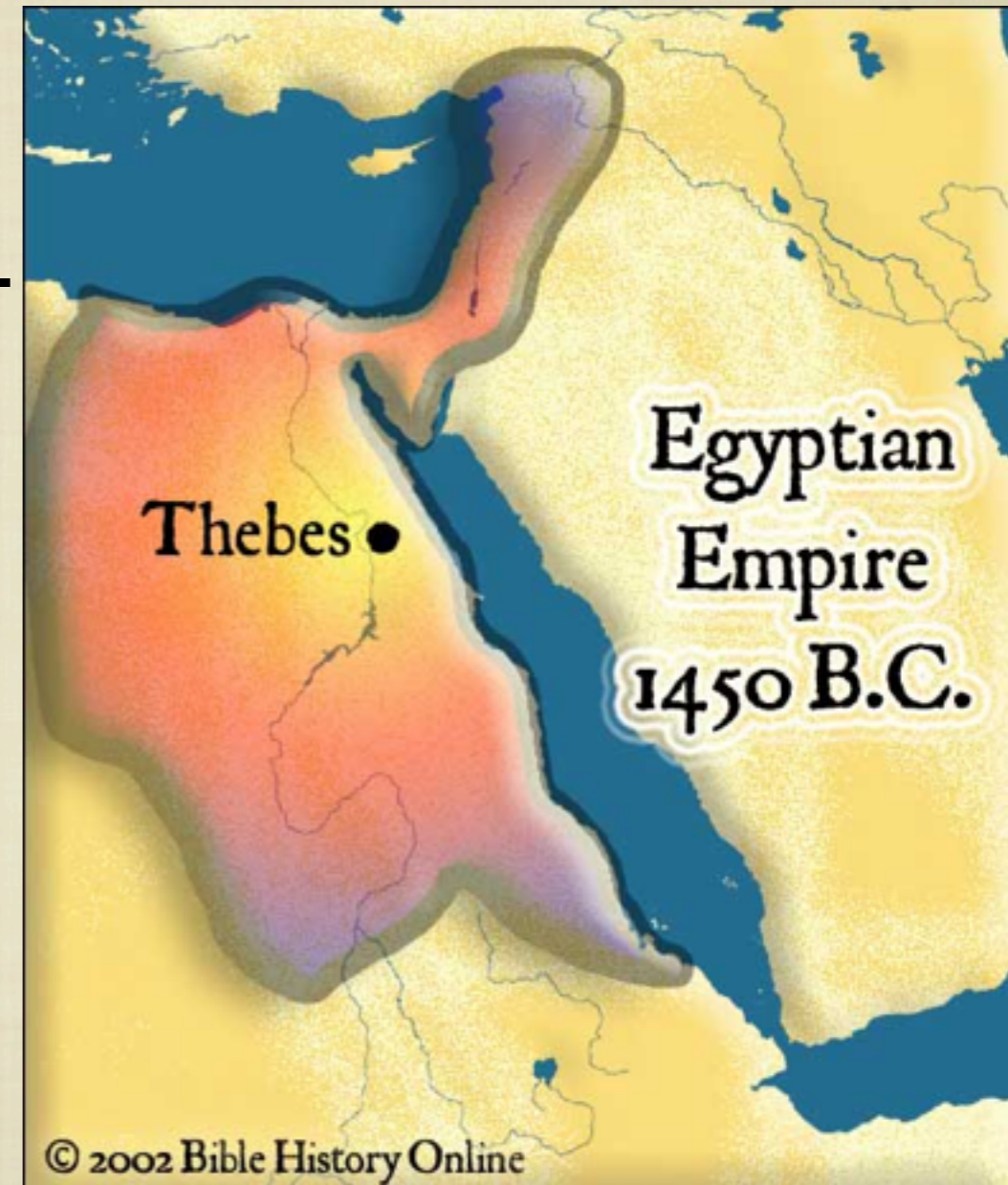
Through the **Gentiles** - his sovereignty and omnipotence are revealed



8. Early prophecies concerning the Gentiles

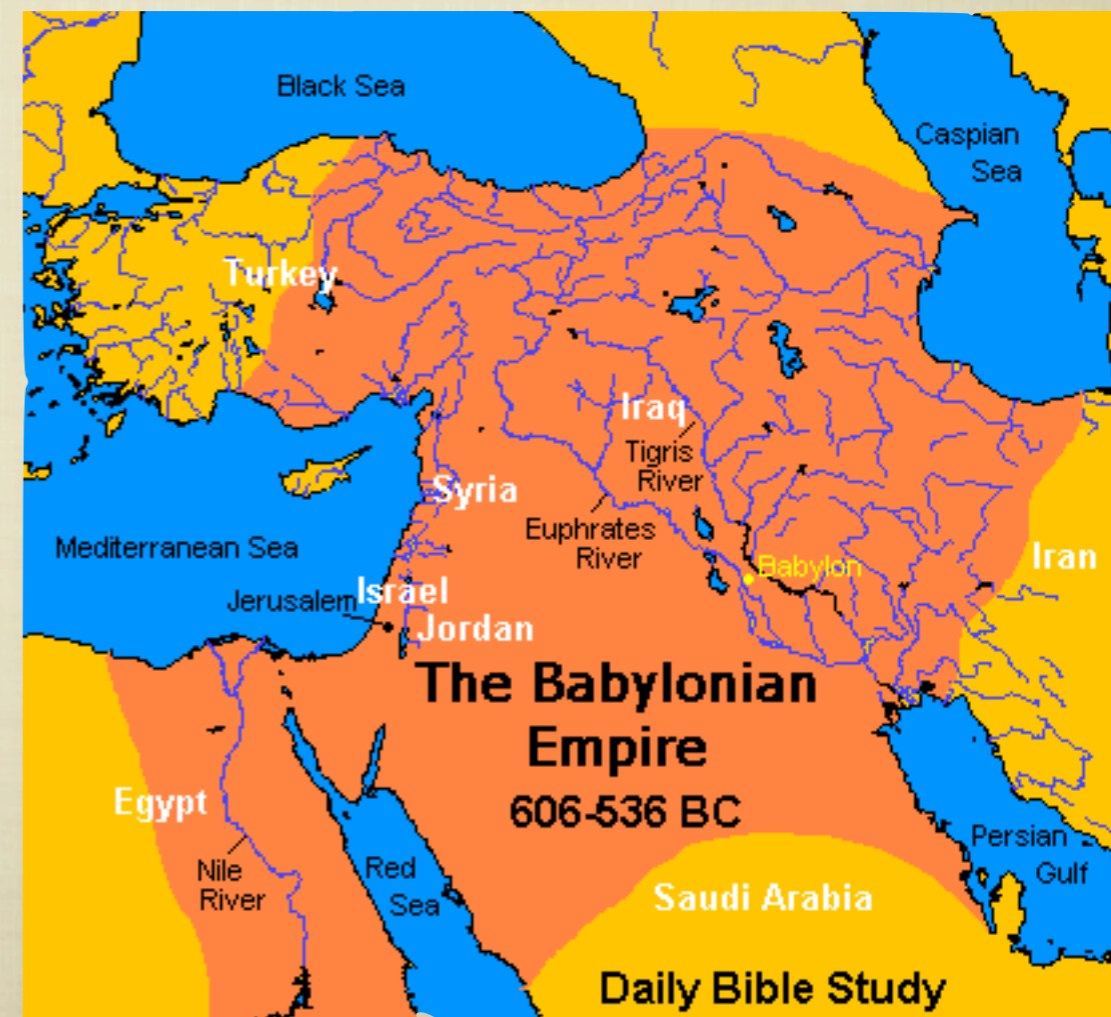
Gentile prophecy began in the garden of Eden, to some extent they are involved in the plan of God in salvation - prophecy is given of the flood in Noah's time - judgement on the Gentiles at the tower of Babel, **Gen 11:1-9**

At Genesis 12 humanity is divided into Jew (through whom God's seed would come) and Gentile, who God deals with in relation to Israel as seen in scripture. Egypt is the first great Gentile power



Assyria is the second great Gentile power to be seen, a people who God had prophesied would be used to bring judgment on Israel - this took place in 721BC

The major role of the Gentiles with Israel starts with the Babylonians - the first of four great empires which Daniel would prophesy about.



C. The times of the Gentiles

Daniel had God's revelation of two of the three programmes of God - his plan for the Gentiles and the Jews.

From Daniel 2 onwards God revealed four great empires that would dominate Israel - which is reinforced in chapter 7 Daniel saw the 2nd empire (Medes and Persians) - the Greek empire of Alexander then conquered this 200 years later - in the 2nd century BC the Romans started their rise to be the greatest, most influential, empire of all time.



The Gentiles in Prophecy



**Nebuchadnezzar's
Dream (Daniel 2)**

**Daniel's Dream
(Daniel 7)**

**The Kingdoms
Prophesied**

Gold

(Head)

Lion

Babylonian

Silver

(Breast & Arms)

Bear

Medo-Persian

Brass

(Belly & Thighs)

Leopard

Greek

Iron

(Legs)

**Beast with
Iron Teeth**

Roman

P R O P H E T I C

G A P

Iron & Clay

(Feet)

Ten Horns

Antichrist

Stone

Son of Man

Jesus Christ

DANIEL 2		DANIEL 7	DANIEL 8	DANIEL 11, 12
GOLD	BABYLON	LION	NONE	NONE
SILVER	MEDO-PERSIA	BEAR	RAM WITH TWO HORNS	FOUR KINGS (Verse 2)
BRASS	GREECE	LEOPARD	THE GOAT	MIGHTY KING (Verses 3-13)
IRON	ROME	FIERCE BEAST	LITTLE HORN FROM FOUR HORNS	KING OF THE NORTH (Verses 14-35)
IRON AND CLAY	DIVIDED KINGDOMS 1260 YEARS	TEN HORNS LITTLE HORN	LITTLE HORN GREAT WAXED	KING OF THE NORTH (Verses 30-39)
STONE CUT OUT WITHOUT MAN'S HANDS	INVESTIGATIVE JUDGMENT	JUDGMENT SCENE	CLEANSING OF HEAVENLY SANCTUARY	TIME OF THE END (Verses 40-45)
STONE FILLS WHOLE EARTH	CHRIST'S KINGDOM	KINGDOM GIVEN TO SAINTS	EXECUTIVE JUDGMENT	MICHAEL STANDS UP (Chapter 12:1-3)



Jesus calls the period of these empires, “The times of the Gentiles”
Lk 21:24 - Jerusalem is under control of the Gentiles - a time which has only occasionally changed and will not fully change until Christ returns.

Most of **Daniel 2** has been fulfilled - Chafer says that the final part of the Roman empire with its 10 horned beast has not yet had literal fulfillment. The 4th beast will be destroyed by the Son of Man coming from heaven as in **Dan 7** or by the smiting of the stone in **Dan 2** which destroys the image of Nebuchadnezzar.

Babylonian Empire

Medo-Persian Empire

Grecian Empire

Roman Empire

Holy Roman Empire



Some interpreters say this means there will be a revival of the Roman Empire - this will take place after the rapture of the church but before the 2nd coming of Christ and the establishing of his kingdom - this is Dan 11:35, "the time of the end" and will be a dominant factor in world history.

After this time Christ will return - Gentiles saved during the millennium kingdom will enjoy a special blessing at this time (see later).



Prophecy about the Gentiles reveals the pattern of world history - Chafer says present conditions suggest we are in a rapid approach to the time of the end preceded by the rapture of the church - this time will include events relating to the 2nd coming of Christ and his millennial kingdom. Chafer suggests that this age - since Pentecost - is not in the foreview of OT prophecy regarding the Gentiles, as if the foreview has been suspended and will be resumed on the day of the rapture. That said he suggests trends imply the present age is nearing and Gentile prophecy will soon resume to its fulfillment. We study Gentile prophecy as it reveals what God is doing today and intends for the future

