

to be understood as having special significance, the statement in verse 34 that the stone "struck the statue on its feet that were of iron and clay" suggests very strongly that the striking of the image by the stone represents an event that would not occur until the second phase of the fourth kingdom.

This dynamic portion of the dream consists of three events that are described in order. These three events are: (1) the origin of the stone (v. 34a); (2) the destruction of the statue (vv. 34b-35b); (3) the growth of the stone (v. 35c). The interpretation of the three events follows a somewhat different order. It begins with a general statement (44a-b) possibly covering the whole section but specifically dealing with the first and third events. This is followed by a more detailed statement about the second event (44c), and then by statements about the first and second events (45a-b). A considerable part of the interpretation is devoted to repetition of parts of the dream rather than to a clear explanation of their meaning, and the second event is particularly emphasized. The arrangement is illustrated graphically in the following chart:

THE THIRD PART OF THE DREAM	THE INTERPRETATION
<p>Event 1: <i>the origin of the rock</i></p> <p>(34a) While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands.</p>	<p>Events 1 and 3:</p> <p>(44a-b) In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people.</p>
<p>Event 2: <i>the destruction of the statue</i></p> <p>(34b) It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them.</p> <p>(35) Then the iron, the</p>	<p>Events 2 and 3:</p> <p>(44c) It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an</p>