

It is so obviously something that is unusual, something that is strange-- it is so specifically named here-- that it is ludicrous when a commentator tries to get rid of it by a statement like this! An absurd statement! Where else would you hit it!? Well anywhere except there, if you would hit it.

So we've noted that as a specific fact about the fifth part of the statue. Verse 34 says that was where the stone strikes the statue on its feet.

F. The Dynamic Series of events.

We have been looking at the parts of the statue. Now things began to move. Let's look at the Biblical statements about these events. Here I have reference to the sheet that I gave out. This was the assignment for last week. You were to look at them and see how the statements made relate to each of these three events we have noted here.

The three events are the 1) origin of the stone 2) the effect of the stone upon the statue, and 3) the enlargement, or growth of the stone. I have taken the verses ~~x 24x45x44~~ vv.34-35 and vv. 44-45 and taken the KJV of those verses and I have arranged them to indicate which relate ~~x~~ to those three events.

In the account of the events, you'll notice there is first an introduction: "thou sawest unti." That connects it with what precedes. Looking at the image then he sees the events as they happen.

The first of these is the origin: a stone was cut without hands. Then we have its effect upon the stone: it strikes the image, and completely demolishes it. It uses very strong language to show how every part of the image gets all mixed together and it is all carried off so that there is nothing left of it. Then the growth of the stone.

In the interpretation, it begins with an introduction: "In the days of these kings." Then, the origin is rather summarized: "the ~~g~~ God of heaven will set up a kingdom." It's not merely the origin; it summarizes the whole thing. But it specifically deals with the first and last parts. The God of heaven sets up the kingdom, and the stone fills the whole earth is paralleled by the fact that the kingdom he sets up will never be destroyed and that kingdom will not be left to other people.

Then he goes on in v.44 to tell about the demolition of the statue. "He shall break to pieces and consume all these kingdoms." We do not take that altogether literally. It does not mean that the people of those kingdoms are all broken to pieces; it does not mean the land is all broken to pieces, or the buildings are all broken to pieces! It means that the characteristic features of these kingdoms are all demolished. Everything represented by the gold, the silver, the bronze, the iron and clay is demolished. Everything that is typified by Nebuchadnezzar's empire and by these other empires which rule over the earth, most of them in defiance of God, most of them in utter disregard of his righteous