

WESTWARD MISSIONARY EVANGELISM

The prophecy given to Daniel in the 6th century BC regarding the fourth kingdom is pertinent to Paul's Gentile missionary trips in the 1st century AD (Dan.2:40-45; 7:7-16) [4th kingdom Dan.7:19-28]

Daniel's 4th kingdom (Romans) was in power from the incarnation of Jesus Christ (5BC) until the 5th century AD [Church Age] (fall of Rome).

Augustus (27BC – 14AD) established the Pax Romana through military strength and administration wisdom of the Roman Empire. This was important for the crucifixion of The Messiah by Israel and Rome, and for missionary evangelism of the early Church.

This lesson will study four aspects of the importance of Daniel's prophecy of the 4th kingdom (Roman Empire) for Paul's Westward Missionary Evangelism.

1. Daniel and Isaiah prophesied that Israel would “cut off” (crucify) their Messiah.

These prophets taught that Christ would bear a cross before He would wear a crown.

(Dan.9:25b) “Until the **Messiah** the Prince there will be seven weeks and 62 weeks.”

(Dan.9:26a) “Then after 62 weeks the **Messiah** will be **cut off**.”

(Isa.53:8b) “**He** will be **cut off** out of the land of the living.” (Mark 9:12; Isa.52-53)

Daniel's 4th kingdom (Romans) would be ruling Israel when Jesus Christ was crucified (John 19:14-22).

NOTE: Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the cross. It was written, ‘**JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS.**’ Therefore, many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city; and it was written in Hebrew, Latin and in Greek.” (John 19:19-20) [Daniel's 4th kingdom, Latin and 3rd kingdom, Greek]

2. Israel would not only reject their Messiah, but murder Him with Roman approval in the fulfillment of Daniel's prophecy.

John warned Israel of danger of their rejection of the messiah (John 1:11-13).

Jesus warned them in the parable of Tenant (Matt.21:33-46) [pay attention to 43-44].

- Landowner – vineyard
- Tenants – harvest
- Landowner servants to collect produce – beat, killed, and stoned them
- Landowner respect my son and heir – murdered for inheritance
- Jesus' question (40) – their response (41)
- Jesus' spiritual counsel (Matt.21:42-44; Ps.118:22-23; Dan.2:34-35, 45) [Stone] – their response (45-46)

3. Saul of Tarsus was one of those unsaved Jewish religious leaders who now was persecuting the Church of Jesus Christ (Acts 9:1-16) [33AD]

Paul was evangelized by the post-ascension appearance of Jesus Christ following his approval of the murder of Stephen (Acts 7:58; 22:20; 26:10).

In Paul's conversion and discipleship training, he was instructed that The Lord was calling him to evangelize the Gentiles (Acts 9:15-16).

But this did not hit home until his rejection by the Jews on his first Missionary Evangelism Trip. (Acts 13-14) [47-48AD] (Acts 13:45-49). Paul struggled with the details of the Directive Will of God regarding this calling to the Gentiles and not to the Jews (Rom.9-11; Acts 21-28) [Read Acts 21:10-14]

4. On Paul's second Missionary Evangelism Trip (Acts 15:36-18:22) [50-52AD], Paul received a Divine Vision, his "Call to Macedonia." (Acts 16:9-10) [westward missionary evangelism, crossing Aegean Sea]

This began Paul's Missionary Evangelism Trip westward to Europe. Then Paul crossed the Adriatic Sea (Italy and to capital of Roman Empire and onto Spain) (**Rom.15:24-29**). The last three Missionary Evangelism Trips of Paul all went westward (50-66AD).

Paul followed the northern side of the Mediterranean Sea of the Roman Empire (Ryrie NASB map/ 1166pg).

Westward missionary evangelism of Gentiles started in the 1st century AD. By the 13th century AD, Europe was considered Christian because of missionary evangelism.

- It is interesting that the early Eastern Gentile Church **went westward** to the "uttermost parts of the earth." (Acts 1:8; 13:1-3)
- Today the western Gentile Church **goes eastward** to "all nations." (Matt.28:18-20).