

Josephus was at the walls of Jerusalem 40 years after Jesus, when it was destroyed in 70AD. He saw destruction by Antiochus IV & Romans as prophetic. Those born again see Jesus the Deliverer & His Kingdom.

**Josephus - Antiquities of the Jews - Book 10, Ch II, 7 -**

But it is fit to give an account of what this man did, which 'tis most admirable to hear.

For he was so happy, as to have strange revelations made to him, and those as to **one of the greatest of the Prophets**. Insomuch that while he was alive, he had the esteem and applause both of the Kings and of the multitude; and now he is dead **he retains a remembrance that will never fail**.

For the several books that he wrote and left behind him, are still read by us, till this time. And from them **we believe that Daniel conversed with God**. For he did not only **prophecy of future events**, as did the other Prophets; but he also **determined the time of their accomplishment**. And while Prophets used to foretel misfortunes; & on that account were disagreeable both to the Kings, and to the multitude: Daniel was to them a Prophet of good things; and this to such a degree, that by the agreeable nature of his predictions, **he procured the good will of all men; & by the accomplishment of them, he procured the belief of their truth,**

& the opinion of [a sort of] divinity for himself, among the multitude.

He also wrote & left behind him what made manifest the **accuracy & undeniable veracity of his predictions**.

For he saith, that "When he was in Susa, the metropolis of Persia, and went out into the field with his companions, there was, on the sudden, a motion and concussion of the earth; and that he was left alone by himself, his friends flying away from him; & that he was disturbed, & fell on his face, & on his two hands; & that a certain person touched him, & at the same time, bid him rise, & see what would befall his countrymen after many generations. He also related, that when he stood up, he was shewn a great ram, with many horns growing out of his head; & that the last was higher than the rest: that after this he looked to the west, & saw an he-goat carried through the air from that quarter; that he rushed upon the ram with violence, & smote him twice, with his horns, & overthrew him to the ground; & trampled upon him: that afterward he saw a very great horn growing out of the forehead of the he-goat; & that when it was broken off, four horns grew up that were exposed to each of the four winds; & he wrote that out of them arose another lesser horn, which, as he said, waxed great; and that God shewed to him that it should fight against his nation, & take their city by force, & bring the temple worship to confusion, & forbid the sacrifices to be offered, for one thousand two hundred ninety six days." Daniel wrote that he saw these visions in the plain of Susa; and he hath informed us, that God interpreted the appearance of this vision after the following manner.

"He said, that the ram signified the Kingdoms of the Medes and Persians; and the horns those Kings that were to reign in them: & that the last horn signified the last King; & that he should exceed all the Kings in riches and glory, that the he-goat signified, that one should come, and reign from the Greeks, who should twice fight with the Persian, & overcome him in battle; & should receive his intire dominion: that by the great horn, which sprang out of the forehead of the he-goat was meant the first King; & that the springing up of four horns upon its falling off, & the conversion of every one of them to the four quarters of the earth, signified the successors that should arise after the death of the first King; & the partition of the Kingdom among them; & that they should be neither his children, nor of his kindred that should reign over the habitable earth for many years: & that from among them there should arise a certain King that should overcome our nation, and their laws, and should take away their political government, and should spoil the temple, and forbid the sacrifices to be offered, for three years time."

And indeed **it so came to pass, that our nation suffered these things under Antiochus Epiphanes, according to Daniel's vision; and what he wrote many years before they came to pass.**

**In the very same manner Daniel also wrote concerning the Roman government; and that our country should be made desolate by them. All these things did this man leave in writing, as God had shewed them to him. Insomuch that such as read his prophecies, and see how they have been fulfilled, would wonder at the honour wherewith God honoured Daniel;**

and may thence discover how the Epicureans are in an error,

who cast providence out of human life; and do not believe that God takes care of the affairs of the world; nor that the universe is governed and continued in being by that blessed and immortal nature: but say, that the world is carried along of its own accord, without a ruler and a curator:

which were it destitute of a guide, to conduct it, as they imagine, it would be like ships without pilots; which we see drowned by the winds: or like chariots without drivers, which are overturned:

so would the world be dashed to pieces by its being carried without a providence, and so perish and come to nought.

So that **by the forementioned predictions of Daniel those men seem to me very much to err from the truth, who determine that God exercises no providence over human affairs.** For if that were the case, that the world went on by mechanical necessity, we should not see that **all things would come to pass according to his prophecy.**

Now as to my self I have so described these matters as I have found them and read them. But if any one is inclined to another opinion about them, let him enjoy his different sentiments without any blame from me.

**John 3:3** Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.**" **4** Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" **5** Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, **unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.**" **6** "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

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