

Divine Providence

(Part 6)

Special Providence (Continued)



Southern Kingdom – Judah

Destroyed by Babylon 135 years later.
 Jeremiah 6:22-28; 2 Kings 23:27; 24:2-3
 • cf. Habakkuk 1; 2:20

- ▶ Ended the reign of Davidic kings over a political kingdom. **Jeremiah 22:29-30; Ezekiel 21:25-27; 37:24-27**
- ▶ **2 Samuel 7:12-14**

Period of Restoration

Promised by Jeremiah after 70 years of captivity. **Jeremiah 29:10-14; cf. Deuteronomy 20:1-10**

- ▶ God chose Cyrus, King of Persia
 - **Isaiah 44:28-45:13**
- ▶ Fulfilled
 - **Ezra 1:1-3**
- ▶ Nehemiah helped rebuild the walls of the city
 - **Nehemiah 4:6; 6:15; 9:6-8**

Summary of Heathen Nations

God used **Egypt** to provide for and preserve the people who would develop into a mighty nation of God's people. (**Genesis 45-50**)

- ▶ Great nation
 - **Galatians 3:16-17**
- ▶ God was in control
 - **Exodus 3-12**



Summary of Heathen Nations
God Used Assyria to punish Israel.
 cf. Isaiah 10:5-7, 25-26

- ▶ God gave the land to Israel because He promised it.
- ▶ Retaining the land was conditional
 - Joshua 23:14-16; Deuteronomy 4:25; 28:15ff
- ▶ Northern tribes captured and taken into captivity. 2 Kings 17:5

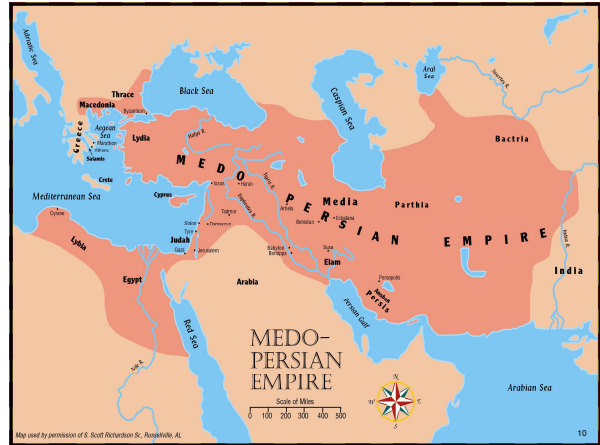
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Summary of Heathen Nations
God used Babylon to punish Judah.

- ▶ Habakkuk 1:5-11
- ▶ The king of Babylon would also be punished by God, just as the king of Assyria. Jeremiah 50:17-18
- ▶ Daniel 4:17-25; 5:17-23
- ▶ Conquered fully in 586 BC

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Heathen Nations
God used the Medo-Persian Empire to execute judgment on Babylon

- Jeremiah 51:11,25-26
- ▶ Destroyed Babylon in 539 BC
- ▶ Isaiah 13:17 Prophecy against Babylon
- ▶ Isaiah 44:28-45:7 Cyrus is named

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Heathen Nations

God used the **Greek Empire**

- ▶ Alexander the Great
- ▶ **Daniel 8:5,20ff**
- ▶ Contribution – Greek language became the universal language in the world

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Heathen Nations

God used the **Roman Empire**

- ▶ Time period of God's kingdom
 - **Daniel 2:44-45**
- ▶ Contribution – Roads and highways made travel easier
 - **Acts 8:4**
- ▶ Finally destroyed Judaism forever
 - **Matthew 24 Destruction of Jerusalem**

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What About Nations Today?

Jesus has all authority. **Matthew 28:18**

- ▶ God still controls civil government
 - **Romans 13:1-7; 1 Timothy 2:1-2**
- ▶ Destruction of was God's judgment against wickedness

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Conclusion

- ▶ How does one account for the rise and fall of these nations? (cf. Daniel 5:18; 4:31-32; 34-37)
- ▶ God used these nations to discipline his people. Jeremiah 30:11
- ▶ God cannot be defeated! *"I know that thou canst do all things, And that no purpose of thine can be restrained."* (Job 42:2)

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