

God And The Nations v3

Lesson 1

Before Christ, God Ruled The Nations

God And The Nations v3

1. Before Christ, God ruled the nations
2. God through Jesus rules the nations today
3. Righteousness exalts a nation
4. Can an unrighteous nation repent of its sins?
5. Can my faith endure a national judgment?
6. How should Christians behave toward governments?

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Introduction

- To what extent is God involved with the nations of the world?
- Is He completely detached?
- Or, does He judge the nations according to His righteous standard to accomplish His purpose in the world?
- In this lesson, we will clearly learn that God, before the reign of Christ, ruled the nations using both the wicked and the righteous to carry out His will

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Introduction

- He not only judged the nations but He foretold His judgments by His prophets challenging the idols that could neither speak, foretell or act
- While ruling over and judging the nations, He did not overturn their free will
- In the second lesson, we will learn that Jesus rules the nations today

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Introduction

- Knowing that God in the past and Jesus today is in control of the nations, we live by faith not by social trends or anxiety over trials facing our nation
- Therefore, each day we must be guided by the Word of God
- As far as possible, without compromising our faith, we must submit to governments that God is allowing to exist for His purpose

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Before Christ, God ruled the nations to accomplish His purpose

- God created, established and controlled all nations judging them according to His righteous standard
- He also controlled the nations to accomplish His Divine purpose of bringing Christ into the world to save humanity and establish Christ's kingdom
- God controlled and judged the nations using them for His purpose without their knowing it, never violating their free will

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Before Christ, God ruled the nations to accomplish His purpose

Act 17:24 "The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands;

Act 17:25 nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things;

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Before Christ, God ruled the nations to accomplish His purpose

Act 17:26 and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation,

Act 17:27 that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

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Before Christ, God ruled the nations to accomplish His purpose

Act 17:28 for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we also are His children.'

Act 17:29 "Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man.

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Through Christ now until judgment, God rules the nations to accomplish His purpose

Act 17:30 "Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent,

Act 17:31 because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead."

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Before Christ, God ruled the nations to accomplish His purpose

Rom 13:1 Every person is to be in subjection to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those which exist are established by God.

Rom 13:2 Therefore whoever resists authority has opposed the ordinance of God; and they who have opposed will receive condemnation upon themselves.

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Before Christ, God ruled the nations to accomplish His purpose

Rom 13:3 For rulers are not a cause of fear for good behavior, but for evil. Do you want to have no fear of authority? Do what is good and you will have praise from the same;

Rom 13:4 for it is a minister of God to you for good. But if you do what is evil, be afraid; for it does not bear the sword for nothing; for it is a minister of God, an avenger who brings wrath on the one who practices evil.

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The King of Babylon recognized God ruled the nations

Dan 4:29 "Twelve months later he was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon.

Dan 4:30 "The king reflected and said, 'Is this not Babylon the great, which I myself have built as a royal residence by the might of my power and for the glory of my majesty?'

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The King of Babylon recognized God ruled the nations

Dan 4:31 "While the word was in the king's mouth, a voice came from heaven, saying, 'King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared: sovereignty has been removed from you,

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The King of Babylon recognized God ruled the nations

Dan 4:32 and you will be driven away from mankind, and your dwelling place will be with the beasts of the field. You will be given grass to eat like cattle, and seven periods of time will pass over you until you recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind and bestows it on whomever He wishes.'

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The King of Babylon recognized God ruled the nations

Dan 4:33 "Immediately the word concerning Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled; and he was driven away from mankind and began eating grass like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.

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The King of Babylon recognized God ruled the nations

Dan 4:34 "But at the end of that period, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever; For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom endures from generation to generation.

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The King of Babylon recognized God ruled the nations

Dan 4:35 "All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But He does according to His will in the host of heaven And among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off His hand Or say to Him, 'What have You done?'

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The King of Babylon recognized God ruled the nations

Dan 4:36 "At that time my reason returned to me. And my majesty and splendor were restored to me for the glory of my kingdom, and my counselors and my nobles began seeking me out; so I was reestablished in my sovereignty, and surpassing greatness was added to me.

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The King of Babylon recognized God ruled the nations

Dan 4:37 "Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, exalt and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are true and His ways just, and He is able to humble those who walk in pride."

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Jesus the promised seed to defeat Satan and save humanity

Gen 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."

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God's promises to Abram, a nation, a land and a son

Gen 12:1 Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father's house, To the land which I will show you;

Gen 12:2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing;

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God's promises to Abram, a nation, a land and a son

Gen 12:3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed."

Gen 12:4 So Abram went forth as the LORD had spoken to him; and Lot went with him. Now Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.

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God's promises to Abram, a nation, a land and a son

Gen 12:5 Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his nephew, and all their possessions which they had accumulated, and the persons which they had acquired in Haran, and they set out for the land of Canaan; thus they came to the land of Canaan.

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God's promises to Abram, a nation, a land and a son

Gen 12:6 Abram passed through the land as far as the site of Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. Now the Canaanite was then in the land.

Gen 12:7 The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD who had appeared to him.

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God's promises to Abram, a nation, a land and a son

Gen 15:13 God said to Abram, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, where they will be enslaved and oppressed four hundred years.

Gen 15:14 "But I will also judge the nation whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with many possessions.

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God's promises to Abram, a nation, a land and a son

Gen 15:15 "As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you will be buried at a good old age.

Gen 15:16 "Then in the fourth generation they will return here, for the iniquity of the Amorite is not yet complete."

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God gave Abraham and Sarah a son

Gen 21:1 Then the LORD took note of Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as He had promised.

Gen 21:2 So Sarah conceived and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time of which God had spoken to him.

Gen 21:3 Abraham called the name of his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore to him, Isaac.

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Israel given the land promised to Abraham

Jos 21:43 So the LORD gave Israel all the land which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they possessed it and lived in it.

Jos 21:44 And the LORD gave them rest on every side, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers, and no one of all their enemies stood before them; the LORD gave all their enemies into their hand.

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God's promise to David who ruled over a great nation

2Sa 7:12 "When your days are complete and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your descendant after you, who will come forth from you, and I will establish his kingdom.

2Sa 7:13 "He shall build a house for My name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever.

2Sa 7:16 "Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.""

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The nation judged but the Messiah to be born in David's hometown Bethlehem

Mic 3:12 Therefore, on account of you Zion will be plowed as a field, Jerusalem will become a heap of ruins, And the mountain of the temple *will become* high places of a forest.

Mic 5:2 "But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, *Too* little to be among the clans of Judah, From you One will go forth for Me to be ruler in Israel. His goings forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity."

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Before Christ, God Ruled The Nations

1. Before Christ, God ruled the nations to accomplish His purpose

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Ways nations vainly try to overrule God's judgments

1. Economic power
2. Military power
3. National pride

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Only by repentance nations may escape God's judgments

Jer 18:7 "At one moment I might speak concerning a nation or concerning a kingdom to uproot, to pull down, or to destroy it;

Jer 18:8 if that nation against which I have spoken turns from its evil, I will relent concerning the calamity I planned to bring on it.

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Ways in which God brought judgments against nations

Amo 4:6 "But I gave you also cleanness of teeth in all your cities And lack of bread in all your places, Yet you have not returned to Me," declares the LORD.

Amo 4:7 "Furthermore, I withheld the rain from you While there were still three months until harvest. Then I would send rain on one city And on another city I would not send rain; One part would be rained on, While the part not rained on would dry up.

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Ways in which God brought judgments against nations

Amo 4:8 "So two or three cities would stagger to another city to drink water, But would not be satisfied; Yet you have not returned to Me," declares the LORD.

Amo 4:9 "I smote you with scorching wind and mildew; And the caterpillar was devouring Your many gardens and vineyards, fig trees and olive trees; Yet you have not returned to Me," declares the LORD.

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Ways in which God brought judgments against nations

Amo 4:10 "I sent a plague among you after the manner of Egypt; I slew your young men by the sword along with your captured horses, And I made the stench of your camp rise up in your nostrils; Yet you have not returned to Me," declares the LORD.

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Ways in which God brought judgments against nations

Amo 4:11 "I overthrew you, as God overthrew Sodom and Gomorrah, And you were like a firebrand snatched from a blaze; Yet you have not returned to Me," declares the LORD.

Amo 4:12 "Therefore thus I will do to you, O Israel; Because I will do this to you, Prepare to meet your God, O Israel."

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Some examples of God judging the nations

- Before Christ, God judged the nations according to His standard of righteousness
- He also judged them to carry out His purpose to bring about His spiritual kingdom and salvation of humanity through Jesus
- He used unrighteous nations to judge other unrighteous nations
- God used the nations, with most never knowing it, without violating their free will

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God judged the nations according to His standard of righteousness

Psa 9:17 The wicked will return to Sheol, Even all the nations who forget God.

Psa 22:28 For the kingdom is the LORD'S And He rules over the nations.

Pro 14:34 Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a disgrace to any people.

Pro 21:1 The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns it wherever He wishes.

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God judged the nations to accomplish His own purpose

Jer 22:28 "Is this man Coniah a despised, shattered jar? Or is he an undesirable vessel? Why have he and his descendants been hurled out And cast into a land that they had not known?

Jer 22:29 "O land, land, land, Hear the word of the LORD!

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God judged the nations to accomplish His own purpose

Jer 22:30 "Thus says the LORD, 'Write this man down childless, A man who will not prosper in his days; For no man of his descendants will prosper Sitting on the throne of David Or ruling again in Judah.'"

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God judged the nations to accomplish His own purpose

Jer 23:5 "Behold, the days are coming," declares the LORD, "When I will raise up for David a righteous Branch; And He will reign as king and act wisely And do justice and righteousness in the land.

Jer 23:6 "In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell securely; And this is His name by which He will be called, 'The LORD our righteousness.'

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God uses unrighteous nations to judge other unrighteous nations

Hab 1:2 How long, O LORD, will I call for help, And You will not hear? I cry out to You, "Violence!" Yet You do not save.

Hab 1:3 Why do You make me see iniquity, And cause me to look on wickedness? Yes, destruction and violence are before me; Strife exists and contention arises.

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God uses unrighteous nations to judge other unrighteous nations

Hab 1:4 Therefore the law is ignored And justice is never upheld. For the wicked surround the righteous; Therefore justice comes out perverted.

Hab 1:5 "Look among the nations! Observe! Be astonished! Wonder! Because I am doing something in your days-- You would not believe if you were told.

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God uses unrighteous nations to judge other unrighteous nations

Hab 1:6 "For behold, I am raising up the Chaldeans, That fierce and impetuous people Who march throughout the earth To seize dwelling places which are not theirs.

Hab 1:7 "They are dreaded and feared; Their justice and authority originate with themselves.

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God uses unrighteous nations to judge other unrighteous nations

Hab 1:13 *Your* eyes are too pure to approve evil, And You can not look on wickedness *with favor*. Why do You look with favor On those who deal treacherously? Why are You silent when the wicked swallow up Those more righteous than they?

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God uses unrighteous nations to judge other unrighteous nations

Hab 2:4 "Behold, as for the proud one, His soul is not right within him; But the righteous will live by his faith.

Hab 2:16 "You will be filled with disgrace rather than honor. Now you yourself drink and expose your *own* nakedness. The cup in the LORD'S right hand will come around to you, And utter disgrace *will come* upon your glory.

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1385 BC God used Israel to judge the seven nations of Canaan

Deu 9:3 "Know therefore today that it is the LORD your God who is crossing over before you as a consuming fire. He will destroy them and He will subdue them before you, so that you may drive them out and destroy them quickly, just as the LORD has spoken to you.

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1385 BC God used Israel to judge the seven nations of Canaan

Deu 9:4 "Do not say in your heart when the LORD your God has driven them out before you, 'Because of my righteousness the LORD has brought me in to possess this land,' but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD is dispossessing them before you.

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1385 BC God used Israel to judge the seven nations of Canaan

Deu 9:5 "It is not for your righteousness or for the uprightness of your heart that you are going to possess their land, but it is because of the wickedness of these nations that the LORD your God is driving them out before you, in order to confirm the oath which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

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1385 BC God used Israel to judge the seven nations of Canaan

Deu 9:6 "Know, then, it is not because of your righteousness that the LORD your God is giving you this good land to possess, for you are a stubborn people.

Deu 9:7 "Remember, do not forget how you provoked the LORD your God to wrath in the wilderness; from the day that you left the land of Egypt until you arrived at this place, you have been rebellious against the LORD.

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1385 BC God used Israel to judge the seven nations of Canaan

Jos 21:43 So the LORD gave Israel all the land which He had sworn to give to their fathers, and they possessed it and lived in it.

Jos 21:44 And the LORD gave them rest on every side, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers, and no one of all their enemies stood before them; the LORD gave all their enemies into their hand.

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722 BC God used Assyria to judge Israel (northern kingdom)

2Ki 17:5 Then the king of Assyria invaded the whole land and went up to Samaria and besieged it three years.

2Ki 17:6 In the ninth year of Hoshea, the king of Assyria captured Samaria and carried Israel away into exile to Assyria, and settled them in Halah and Habor, on the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes.

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722 BC God used Assyria to judge Israel (northern kingdom)

2Ki 17:7 Now this came about because the sons of Israel had sinned against the LORD their God, who had brought them up from the land of Egypt from under the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and they had feared other gods

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722 BC God used Assyria to judge Israel (northern kingdom)

2Ki 17:8 and walked in the customs of the nations whom the LORD had driven out before the sons of Israel, and in the customs of the kings of Israel which they had introduced.

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God uses Assyria as His tool of destruction without them knowing it

Isa 10:5 Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger And the staff in whose hands is My indignation,

Isa 10:6 I send it against a godless nation And commission it against the people of My fury To capture booty and to seize plunder, And to trample them down like mud in the streets.

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God uses Assyria as His tool of destruction without them knowing it

Isa 10:7 Yet it does not so intend, Nor does it plan so in its heart, But rather it is its purpose to destroy And to cut off many nations.

Isa 10:12 So it will be that when the Lord has completed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, He will say, "I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria and the pomp of his haughtiness."

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God uses Assyria as His tool of destruction without them knowing it

Isa 10:13 For he has said, "By the power of my hand and by my wisdom I did this, For I have understanding; And I removed the boundaries of the peoples And plundered their treasures, And like a mighty man I brought down their inhabitants,

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God uses Assyria as His tool of destruction without them knowing it

Isa 10:14 And my hand reached to the riches of the peoples like a nest, And as one gathers abandoned eggs, I gathered all the earth; And there was not one that flapped its wing or opened its beak or chirped."

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God uses Assyria as His tool of
destruction without them knowing it

Isa 10:15 Is the axe to boast itself over the one who chops with it? Is the saw to exalt itself over the one who wields it? That would be like a club wielding those who lift it, Or like a rod lifting him who is not wood.

Isa 10:16 Therefore the Lord, the GOD of hosts, will send a wasting disease among his stout warriors; And under his glory a fire will be kindled like a burning flame.

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God uses Assyria as His tool of
destruction without them knowing it

Isa 10:24 Therefore thus says the Lord GOD of hosts, "O My people who dwell in Zion, do not fear the Assyrian who strikes you with the rod and lifts up his staff against you, the way Egypt did.

Isa 10:25 "For in a very little while My indignation against you will be spent and My anger will be directed to their destruction."

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God uses Assyria as His tool of
destruction without them knowing it

2Ki 19:32 'Therefore thus says the LORD concerning the king of Assyria, "He will not come to this city or shoot an arrow there; and he will not come before it with a shield or throw up a siege ramp against it.

2Ki 19:33 "By the way that he came, by the same he will return, and he shall not come to this city," declares the LORD.

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God uses Assyria as His tool of
destruction without them knowing it

2Ki 19:34 'For I will defend this city to save it for My own sake and for My servant David's sake."

2Ki 19:35 Then it happened that night that the angel of the LORD went out and struck 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians; and when men rose early in the morning, behold, all of them were dead.

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God uses Assyria as His tool of
destruction without them knowing it

2Ki 19:36 So Sennacherib king of Assyria departed and returned home, and lived at Nineveh.

2Ki 19:37 It came about as he was worshiping in the house of Nisroch his god, that Adrammelech and Sharezer killed him with the sword; and they escaped into the land of Ararat. And Esarhaddon his son became king in his place.

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Before Christ, God Ruled The
Nations

1. Before Christ, God ruled the nations to accomplish His purpose
2. Ways nations vainly try to overrule God's judgments
3. Some examples of God judging the nations

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Some Examples of God Judging The Nations

1. 1385 BC God used Israel to judge Canaan
2. 722 BC God used Assyria to judge Israel (Northern Kingdom)

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Some examples of God judging the nations

- Before Christ, God judged the nations according to His standard of righteousness
- He also judged them to carry out His purpose to bring about His spiritual kingdom and salvation of humanity through Jesus
- He used unrighteous nations to judge other unrighteous nations
- God used the nations, with most never knowing it, without violating their free will ⁶⁸

612 BC God used Babylon to judge Assyria

Nah 1:7 The LORD is good, A stronghold in the day of trouble, And He knows those who take refuge in Him.

Nah 1:8 But with an overflowing flood He will make a complete end of its site, And will pursue His enemies into darkness.

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612 BC God used Babylon to judge Assyria

Nah 3:1 Woe to the bloody city, completely full of lies *and* pillage; *Her* prey never departs.

Nah 3:7 "And it will come about that all who see you Will shrink from you and say, 'Nineveh is devastated! Who will grieve for her?' Where will I seek comforters for you?"

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586 BC God used Babylon to judge Judah

Jer 25:8 "Therefore thus says the LORD of hosts, 'Because you have not obeyed My words,

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586 BC God used Babylon to judge Judah

Jer 25:9 behold, I will send and take all the families of the north,' declares the LORD, 'and I will send to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, My servant, and will bring them against this land and against its inhabitants and against all these nations round about; and I will utterly destroy them and make them a horror and a hissing, and an everlasting desolation.

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586 BC God used Babylon to judge Judah

Jer 25:10 'Moreover, I will take from them the voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the sound of the millstones and the light of the lamp.

Jer 25:11 'This whole land will be a desolation and a horror, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

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586 BC God used Babylon to judge Judah

2Ki 25:9 He burned the house of the LORD, the king's house, and all the houses of Jerusalem; even every great house he burned with fire.

2Ki 25:10 So all the army of the Chaldeans who *were with* the captain of the guard broke down the walls around Jerusalem.

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Jer 25:12 'Then it will be when seventy years are completed I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation,' declares the LORD, 'for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans; and I will make it an everlasting desolation.

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Jer 25:13 'I will bring upon that land all My words which I have pronounced against it, all that is written in this book which Jeremiah has prophesied against all the nations.

Jer 25:14 '(For many nations and great kings will make slaves of them, even them; and I will recompense them according to their deeds and according to the work of their hands.)'''

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Jer 51:11 Sharpen the arrows, fill the quivers! The LORD has aroused the spirit of the kings of the Medes, Because His purpose is against Babylon to destroy it; For it is the vengeance of the LORD, vengeance for His temple.

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Isa 44:28 "It is I who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd! And he will perform all My desire.' And he declares of Jerusalem, 'She will be built,' And of the temple, 'Your foundation will be laid.'"

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Isa 45:1 Thus says the LORD to Cyrus His anointed, Whom I have taken by the right hand, To subdue nations before him And to loose the loins of kings; To open doors before him so that gates will not be shut:

Isa 45:2 "I will go before you and make the rough places smooth; I will shatter the doors of bronze and cut through their iron bars.

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Isa 45:3 "I will give you the treasures of darkness And hidden wealth of secret places, So that you may know that it is I, The LORD, the God of Israel, who calls you by your name.

Isa 45:4 "For the sake of Jacob My servant, And Israel My chosen one, I have also called you by your name; I have given you a title of honor Though you have not known Me.

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Isa 45:5 "I am the LORD, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God. I will gird you, though you have not known Me;

Isa 45:6 That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun That there is no one besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other,

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Isa 45:7 The One forming light and creating darkness, Causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these.

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Dan 5:3 Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God which was in Jerusalem; and the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines drank from them.

Dan 5:4 They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Dan 5:5 Suddenly the fingers of a man's hand emerged and began writing opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, and the king saw the back of the hand that did the writing.

Dan 5:6 Then the king's face grew pale and his thoughts alarmed him, and his hip joints went slack and his knees began knocking together.

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Dan 5:26 "This is the interpretation of the message: 'MENE'--God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it.

Dan 5:27 " 'TEKEL'--you have been weighed on the scales and found deficient.

Dan 5:28 " 'PERES'--your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians."

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

Dan 5:30 That same night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain.

Dan 5:31 So Darius the Mede received the kingdom at about the age of sixty-two.

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

2Ch 36:22 Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia--in order to fulfill the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah--the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, so that he sent a proclamation throughout his kingdom, and also put it in writing, saying,

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539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon

2Ch 36:23 "Thus says Cyrus king of Persia, 'The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth, and He has appointed me to build Him a house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all His people, may the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up!'"

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God used Rome to judge nations and bring forth Jesus

Luk 2:1 Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth.

Luk 2:2 This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.

Luk 2:3 And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city.

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God used Rome to judge nations and bring forth Jesus

Luk 2:4 Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David,

Luk 2:5 in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child.

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God used Rome to judge nations and bring forth Jesus

Joh 19:10 So Pilate *said to Him, "You do not speak to me? Do You not know that I have authority to release You, and I have authority to crucify You?"

Joh 19:11 Jesus answered, "You would have no authority over Me, unless it had been given you from above; for this reason he who delivered Me to you has the greater sin."

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God used Rome to judge nations and bring forth Jesus

Joh 19:12 As a result of this Pilate made efforts to release Him, but the Jews cried out saying, "If you release this Man, you are no friend of Caesar; everyone who makes himself out to be a king opposes Caesar."

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1. Before Christ, God ruled the nations to accomplish His purpose
2. Ways nations vainly try to overrule God's judgments
3. Some examples of God judging the nations

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Some Examples of God Judging The Nations

1. 1385 BC God used Israel to judge Canaan
2. 722 BC God used Assyria to judge Israel (Northern Kingdom)
3. 612 BC God used Babylon to judge Assyria
4. 586 BC God used Babylon to judge Judah

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Some Examples of God Judging The Nations

5. 539 BC God used the Medes and Persians to judge Babylon
6. God used Rome to judge nations and bring forth Jesus

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