

Bible Study – Outline

DANIEL

God is Sovereign

Time Period Written – approx. 571BC

Time Line

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| 605BC | Jerusalem taken by Nebuchadnezzar Daniel is captured and taken to Babylon |
| 602BC | Daniel and his three friends complete their training Nebuchadnezzar's dream interpreted by Daniel (Dan. 2) |
| 586BC | Jerusalem destroyed by the Babylonian army |
| 539BC | Belshazzar's feast (Dan. 5) Cyrus, King of Persia, conquers Babylon and reigns until 530BC |
| 538BC | Cyrus decrees that the Jews can return to Judea |
| 537BC | Approx. 50,000 return to Judea, led by Zerubbabel and Joshua Daniel prophesies about the end times (Dan. 10) |
| 530-522BC | Cambyes reigns. The rebuilding of the Temple is stopped. |
| 522-486BC | Darius I reigns and the rebuilding of the Temple is renewed in 520BC The Temple is completed and dedicated 515BC |

Major Theme(s)

- God is an active powerful God who is in control throughout all generations
- Morals (chapters 1 – 6) – obedience – come before prophecy (chapters 7 – 12)
- God can work out and is involved in the circumstances of your life.

The Six Kingdoms in the Book of Daniel

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| Babylon <i>606BC-539BC</i> | The head of Gold The Winged Lion | 2:32, 36-38 7:4 |
| Media-Persia <i>539BC-331BC</i> | The arms and chest of silver The bear | 2:32, 39 7:5 |
| Greece <i>331BC-146BC</i> | The thighs of brass The leopard | 2:32, 39 7:6 |
| Rome <i>146BC-476AD</i> | The legs of Iron The "dreadful" beast | 2:33, 40 7:7 |
| Antichrist | The ten toes The little horn | 2:41-43 7:8 |
| Christ | The smitten stone that fills the earth The Ancient of Days | 2:34-35, 44-45 7:9-14 |

The Chronological Order of the Book of Daniel

Note:

From 2:4 to 7:28 the book is written in Aramaic because the focus is on the Gentile nations.

Daniel 1:1 – 2:3 and 8:1 – 12:13 are written in Hebrew

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| Chapters 1-4 | Captivity and interpretation of dreams and visions |
| Chapter 7 | Vision of the Four Beasts |
| Chapter 8 | Vision of Ram and He-goat |
| Chapter 5 | Belshazzar's feast – conquest of Babylon |
| Chapter 9 | Vision of the seventy weeks |
| Chapter 6 | Daniel in the lions' den |
| Chapters 10-12 | Daniel's prayer and visions |

Daniel – interpreter of visions (Chap. 1-6) becomes receiver of visions (Chap. 7 – 12)

Daniel

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| DANIEL THE PRISONER | 1:1 – 21 |
| DANIEL THE INTERPRETER | 2:1 – 6:28 |
| Interpreting the image dream | 2 |
| The golden image | 3 |
| Interpreting the tree dream | 4 |
| Interpreting the handwriting on the wall | 5 |
| Daniel in the lions' den | 6 |
| DANIEL THE SEER | 7-12:13 |
| The vision of the four beasts | 7 |
| The vision of the ram and the he-goat | 8 |
| The seventy weeks appointed to Israel | 9 |
| The vision of Israel's future and the end | 10 - 12 |
| Daniel's vision of the strange messenger | 10 |
| The first sixty nine weeks | 11:1-35 |
| The seventieth week (tribulation) | 11:36-12:3 |
| Sealing of the scroll and final words on the time of tribulation | 12:4-13 |

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|-----------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Daniel | God is my judge | Belteshazzar | Bel protects his life |
| Hananiah | The Lord shows grace | Shadrach | Command of Aku |
| Mishael | Who is like God | Meshach | Who is as Aku is |
| Azariah | The Lord is my help | Abednego | Servant of Nebo(Nego) |

Key Scriptures

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| Dan. 1:8 | “But Daniel purposed in his heart he would not defile himself..” |
| Dan. 2:20-22 | God deposes kings and raises up others He reveals deep and hidden things |
| Dan. 2:34-35 | Christ – The King of kings – God as the power behind all earthly kingdoms |
| Dan. 2:44 | God will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed. See also: Dan.7:14-15, and Dan. 7:27 Refer to: Matt. 5:5 Rev. 5:9-10, Rev. 20:1-6 |
| Dan. 3:16-18 | “...But even if He does not, we want you to know, your majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.” |
| Dan. 4:17, 24-25 | God determines the rulers of the earth |
| Dan. 4:30-32 | Nebuchadnezzar’s pride |
| Dan. 4:34-37 | Nebuchadnezzar acknowledges, praises, exalts, and glorifies the King of Heaven |
| Dan. 6:10 | Daniel’s example of prayer |
| Dan. 8:26-27 | Vision is for the future. Daniel – worn out and exhausted Daniel was appalled by the vision; it was beyond understanding. |
| Dan. 9:3-19 | Daniel’s prayer |
| Dan. 9:24 | 70 weeks |
| Dan. 10:12-14 | Latter days – “...the vision concerns for a time to come.” Evil forces detained the answer to Daniel by 21 days |
| Dan. 10:18 | Be strong |
| Dan. 11:5-6 | Cleopatra? |
| Dan. 11:25-45 | The battle of the kings of the North and South |
| Dan. 12:1 | God’s people to be delivered |
| Dan. 12: 4 | Words of the scroll sealed until the time of the end |
| Dan. 12:8-13 | “...I heard, but I did not understand. So, I asked, “My Lord, what will the outcome of all this be?” |

PROPHECIES

| | | |
|---|--------------|----------------|
| Already fulfilled | Dan. 11:1-35 | |
| About Persia | | Dan. 11:1-2 |
| About Greece | | Dan. 11:3-4 |
| About Egypt and Syria | | Dan. 11:5-20 |
| About Antiochus Epiphanes and Syria | | Dan. 11:21-35 |
| Yet to be fulfilled | | |
| The rise of the Antichrist | | Dan. 11:36-39 |
| The tribulation | | Dan. 12:1 |
| War and invasions | | Dan. 11:40-43 |
| The battle of Armageddon | | Dan. 11:44-45a |
| The return of Christ to defeat Antichrist | | Dan. 11:45b |
| The resurrection of the dead | | Dan. 12:2 |
| The glorious kingdom | | Dan. 12:3 |

Compare to: Matt. 24:3-22

Discussion Questions

1. What were the attributes of those Israelites brought into the king's service? (1:3-4)
2. What was wrong with the diet demanded by Nebuchadnezzar?
3. Is there such a thing as a trial of prosperity? How is Daniel tried in this way?
4. Do you believe God is involved in every circumstance in your life?
5. In the first 6 chapters, Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were witnesses. How have you served as a witness? How has God put you in a position to do so?
6. What do we learn from Dan.10 about prayer being answered?
7. What was Darius' mistake? Chapter 6.
8. Are we in the last days? Does it make you anxious or excited?
9. What parts of scripture should we be studying besides prophecy to be truly prepared for Christ's return?

Resources Used

www.biblestudytools.com

www.biblegateway.com

www.biblehub.com

www.raystedman.org