

The Book of DANIEL

605 BC Assyria and Egypt fall to Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon. Babylon becomes the world power. Daniel and some of the smartest, healthiest, and most promising young men taken to Babylon.

586 BC Temple destroyed and the Babylonian deportation and exile continues

539 BC Cyrus, King of Persia, defeats Babylon and allows exiles to return to Israel

538 BC Zerubbabel returns with Decree of Cyrus Exiles from Northern Kingdom (Israel) and Southern Kingdom (Judah) are allowed to return. They do not regain independence as a nation until AD 1948.

Esther, who doesn't return from exile, becomes Queen, and serves sometime during the 20 year reign of Xerxes (486-465 BC) See Ezra 4:6
Xerxes is the Greek form of his Persian name Ahasuerus (Greek Septuagint)

458 BC 80 years after Zerubbabel, Ezra returns when Artaxerxes was king and finishes rebuilding the temple

445 BC 13 years later Nehemiah (Artaxerxes' cup bearer) returns and rebuilds the wall.

Daniel was a contemporary of Jeremiah and Ezekiel. Daniel was a young man taken captive probably during the first deportation in 605 BC. Daniel was very educated and served in the King's court.

Jeremiah stayed in Jerusalem during the fall of Jerusalem and the Babylonian Exile.

2 Kings 24:12-14 8th year of Nebuchadnezzar would be 597 BC

A revolt led to a major deportation and exile to Babylon.

King Jehoiachin, educated people, upper class, etc were taken in this first major deportation/exile.

Ezekiel was a young man taken in the 597 BC deportation and lived among the people in exile. As a prophet, Ezekiel saw the Shekinah glory of God both leave the temple and return to the temple.

Ezekiel referred to Daniel (Noah, Daniel and Job) in Ezekiel 14:12-14 & 20 and 28:3.

A second revolt led to the destruction of the Temple and Jerusalem, and deportation of most of the people. 586 BC

Prophecy to an unbeliever is impossible since they do not believe in the supernatural, as it relates to the one true God.

Sir Issac Newton said "To reject Daniel is to reject the Christian Religion.

Jesus, who called the Pharisees hypocrites, called Daniel a "prophet." Matthew 24:15

Daniel was a man of Purpose. 1:8 and 6:10

Daniel was a man of Prayer 2:17-23, 6:10, 9:3-19

Daniel was a man of Prophecy Matthew 24:15

OVERVIEW OF DANIEL

The History of Daniel Chapters 1-6
The Prophecy of Daniel Chapters 7-12

The History of Daniel Chapters 1-6

CHAPTER 1 God's Judgement on Judah The Babylonian Captivity

1:1 & 2 God gave Jehoiakim, King of Judah, into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

 God used Nebuchadnezzar to discipline His people. After they had been warned by the prophets.

1:7 Name changes: Daniel to Belteshazzar, Hananiah to Shadrach, Mishael to Mishach, Azariah to Abed-Nego

1:8 Daniel refused to defile himself with the wine and food delicacies of the king.

1:20 In all matters of wisdom and understanding, they were 10 times better than the magicians and astrologers

CHAPTER 2 Nebuchadnezzar's Dream

2:9 Nebuchadnezzar told his wise men to tell him his dream so he would know they could interpret it.

2:13 They were killing the wise men and looking for Daniel to kill him. :17 & 18 Daniel prayed

2:28 "But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets... :29 about what will come to pass"

2:39 After you there will be another kingdom... then another. Babylon, Persians, Greeks, Romans

 The feet of clay- human nature is our weakness. :45 The stone cut out without hands, the Rock of Ages.

2:47-49 Daniel and friends are promoted.

CHAPTER 3 Nebuchadnezzar Makes an Image of Gold to Worship The Fiery Furnace

3:18 Shadrach, Mishach, and Abed-Nego "We will not serve your gods"

3:25 "I see 4 men walking in the fire, and the fourth is like the Son of God.

CHAPTER 4 Nebuchadnezzar's Second Dream

4:1-18 The Dream The huge tree providing food and lodging, then chopped down and humiliated

4:19-17 The Interpretation Nebuchadnezzar's dominion of the world ends

4:28 Nebuchadnezzar eats grass like an ox in the field

4:36-37 He is restored to his right mind and praises God before he dies

CHAPTER 5 Belshazzar and the Handwriting on the Wall

5:26-29 God has numbered your kingdom and finished it. You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting. Your kingdom has been given to the Medes and Persians. :30 He died that night.

CHAPTER 6 The Plot Against Daniel The Lion's Den King Darius Honors God

6:5 The only way to defeat Daniel is to get him to sin against his God.

 Numbers 22:28-25:9 Balaam's Donkey Speaks, Balak- King of Moab, Israel's sin and 24,000 died.

6:7 Anyone who prays to anyone except the king shall be cast into the den of lions

6:8 A decree in the Law of Medes and Persians can't be changed.

 Esther 1:19 and Chapter 7-8 Haman's plan to annihilate the Jews.

 You can't change the law, but you can add to it. 8:11 Jews can defend themselves

6:10 Daniel goes home and prays

6:15 No one is above the law, and the law isn't to be ignored because of circumstances.

6:16 Darius tells Daniel, "Your God will deliver you." :24-26 Darius honors God in a Decree

The Prophecy of Daniel Chapters 7-12

CHAPTER 7 A Parallel of Nebuchadnezzar's Dream in Chapter 2

- 7:1 Chronologically before chapter 5
- 7:4 The Four Beasts: The Lion with wings- an image of Babylon,
- 7:5 The Bear- the Persian Empire defeated Babylon in 539 BC
- 7:6 The Leopard- Greece, Alexander the Great defeated the Persians in 331 BC
Alexander died in 331 BC and the empire was divided by the 4 generals
- 7:7 The Terrible Beast- Roman Empire
- 7:15-28 The interpretation
- 7:17 The 4 beasts are 4 kings
- 7:24 The 10 horns are 10 Kings

CHAPTER 8 The Ram and a Goat

- 8:2 Shushan is the capitol of Persia Esther 2:5-7 Mordecai and Esther were there.
- 8:3-4 The Ram refers to Persia. 2 heads, Medes and Persians 8:20
- 8:5&8 The Goat with 1 great horn was Greece under Alexander the Great but became 4 when he died. 8:21-22
- 8:9-14 "The Glorious Land" refers to Israel
History records Antiochus Epiphanes as the General who stopped temple worship and sacrificed a pig on the altar.
- 8:21 Alexander the Great
- 8:22 The 4 Generals of Alexander the Great divide into 4 kingdoms
Josephus, the Jewish historian working for the Romans in the first century, writes about Jaddua the High Priest who went out to meet Alexander the Great and showed him a copy of the Book of Daniel in which he was mentioned. Instead of destroying Jerusalem, Alexander came in peacefully and worshiped at the Temple
- 8:23-26 See Matthew 24:15 & 29-31
- 8:25 The Anti-Christ "Broken without human means"
- 8:26 Seal up the vision Save for the Future

Chapter 9 Daniel Prays for the People

The Seventy Weeks Prophecy

- 9:2 70 years of Babylonian Captivity Jeremiah 25:11&12 Leviticus 26:31-35
- 9:3-4 Daniel prays for the people
- 9:11 Israel has transgressed
- 9:16-19 Turn back your fury. Hear and forgive.
- 9:20-27 The 70-week prophesy
- 9:24 70 "weeks" (7-year periods) 490 years
483 prophetic years between the decree and the Palm Sunday entry of Jesus into Jerusalem
- 9:25 Nehemiah 2:5 The return of Nehemiah to rebuild the wall was in 445 BC

CHAPTER 10 The Glorious Man Christ Glorified

- 10:4-9
- 9:23, 10:11-12 & 19 "I am here because of your words and your humility"
Daniel is "greatly beloved" John "the beloved" wrote the Revelation
- 10:20 Persia will be defeated and The Prince of Greece will come. (Alexander the Great)
Jeremiah 25:11 & 12 70 years of desolation then Babylon will be destroyed.

CHAPTER 11

- 11:3 A mighty king Died in 323 BC
- 11:4 The 4 generals of Alexander will divide the land
Cassander- Macedonia, Lysimachus- Turkey, Seleucus- Syria and Middle East, Ptolemy- Egypt.
- 11:21 Antiochus Epiphanes came to power in 175 BC

CHAPTER 12 END TIME PROPHECY