

A PERSONAL STUDY RESOURCE CREATED BY GLEN HAVEN BAPTIST CHURCH



THE BOOKOF DANIEL







The Book of Daniel offers a blend of historical narrative and apocalyptic prophecy set against the backdrop of the Babylonian and Persian empires. It portrays events from the 6th century BC, focusing on Daniel, a Jewish exile who rose to prominence in the courts of Babylon under King Nebuchadnezzar and later, King Darius of Persia. The book reflects the struggles and faith of Jews in a foreign land, emphasizing themes of God's divine sovereignty and deliverance. It is also notable for its visions and prophecies concerning the future of Israel and the end times, framed in a context of persecution and hope for a divine intervention that would restore justice and establish God's kingdom.

It's important to remember that the book of Daniel is not a compilation of moralistic stories intended to help us behave better. Rather than causing us to admire and copy Daniel, the book should cause us to admire and trust God.





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Approximately 4,000 B.C. THE FIRST CREATION & THE FALL

God created a good world, free of sin and suffering. He created Adam and Eve to fellowship with Him in His creation, and out of love He gave them the choice to love Him in return. Adam and Eve chose to disobey God instead, bringing the consequences of sin into God's good planet. God mercifully responded to their disobedience by promising to send a Messiah who would restore the world back into a relationship with God.









Approximately 2,000 B.C. GOD CALLS ABRAM



God chose a man named Abram (later Abraham) to father a nation called Israel, and God promised to send the Messiah through that nation.

God later entered into a two-way covenant with Israel, promising He would be their God and they would be His chosen people. Throughout history, God was constantly working to provide for and protect the people of Israel in order to bring about His redemptive plan.

Israel, however, was a stubborn, rebellious people group that constantly rejected God and tried to live independently of Him. Because of their rebellion, God often had to punish them. His justice, love, and sovereignty are on magnificent display throughout the Old Testament as we see God pursuing and disciplining His wayward people while still accomplishing His overarching plan.





Approximately 1,500 B.C. EXODUS FROM SLAVERY IN EGYPT

God sovereignly allowed the nation of Israel to experience four hundred years of slavery in the land of Egypt in order to prepare them to live in the land He had promised to Abraham. God used a man named Joseph to protect the Israelites in Egypt during a world wide famine, and God used a man named Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt and through the desert towards the Promised land.







Approximately 1,200 B.C. **ISRAEL ENTERS THE PROMISED LAND**

After a time of slavery in Egypt and a time of wandering in the desert, God used a man named Joshua to lead the Israelites into the land of Canaan that had been promised to Abraham years earlier.

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Approximately 930 B.C. THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

While living in the Promised Land, Israel selfishly asked to have a human king instead of trusting God as their king. God granted their request, and under their first three kings (Saul, David, and Solomon), Israel enjoyed times of prosperity.

Around 930 BC, after the death of Solomon, poor leadership split the nation of Israel into two kingdoms. The Northern Kingdom (Called Israel, with the capital of Samaria) had nineteen kings over the course of its existence. All nineteen of these kings disobeyed God and chose to serve idols. The Southern Kingdom (Called Judah, with the capital of Jerusalem) had twenty kings over the course of its existence. A few of Judah's kings obeyed God, but most followed in the idolatrous practices of the northern kingdom.

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Approximately 722 B.C. **ISRAEL IS CONQUERED BY ASSYRIA**

After years of disobeying God and rejecting the warnings from His prophets, God allowed the reigning world power of Assyria to conquer the Northern Kingdom of Israel in 722 BC and take the inhabitants into exile. This was the end of the Northern Kingdom.

CREATION & FALL

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Approximately 586 B.C. JUDAH IS CONQUERED BY BABYLON

The Southern Kingdom watched the Northern Kingdom's downfall, but continued their own sinful cycle. Eventually, the same fate of the Northern Kingdom befell the Southern Kingdom. Babylon, who had usurped Assyria as the reigning world power, invaded and conquered Judah from 605-586 BC. Babylon's ruthless king, Nebuchadnezzar, sacked the city of Jerusalem, destroyed its temple, and took its inhabitants as exiled prisoners to Babylon.

A man named **Daniel** was one of the prisoners in Nebuchadnezzar's first wave of exiled Jews. The book of Daniel recounts the story of Daniel choosing to live for God in the wicked culture of Babylon. Because of Daniel's obedience and God's favor, Daniel rose to and remained in prominence throughout multiple world empires. The book of Daniel tells fascinating stories of God's sovereignty and power, and it also provides prophetic information about the end times.

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Approximately 400 B.C. THE SILENT YEARS



Over the years, as world power transitioned from Persia to Greece, and then from Greece to Rome, Jews retained their unique identity throughout the world while being controlled by whatever political government was ruling at the time. For about four centuries (known as "The Intertestamental Period" or "The Silent Years") God's people lived without any further prophetical word from God until John the Baptist announced the coming of Christ as the long-awaited messiah.

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After the events that are described in the book of Daniel, many of the Jewish people were finally allowed to once again return to their homeland of Israel. God used men like Ezra and Nehemiah to rebuild the temple and the city of Jerusalem. However, Israel







Approximately 33 B.C. THE MESSIAH



Finally, in due time, the long-awaited Messiah arrived. Jesus Christ was born to a virgin, fulfilling the prophecies of the Old Testament. This Savior was crucified and rose from the dead to pay for sin and restore a broken planet into relationship with its Creator.

Through Christ's death and resurrection, He established His church - an assembly of called out people who have been restored into a relationship with God through faith in Christ's redemptive sacrifice. The Church is comprised of believers all over the world who have been saved by Christ and commissioned to carry His message to every nation on earth until Jesus returns.

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Pending.... THE NEW CREATION



The church now waits for the imminent return of Christ to claim His people, punish sin, and usher in a New Creation where God will reign in peace and harmony over a restored Kingdom that has no sin, sadness, sickness, or suffering in it.







WHERE DANIEL FITS IN ISRAEL'S STORY



DANIEL AND THE DIVIDED KINGDOM OF ISRAEL



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ORDER OF EVENTS IN THE BOOK OF DANIEL















