

We encourage you to read through the book of Daniel and a couple of NT passages. Below is the schedule for this series. Circle, highlight, and journal key thoughts and ideas as it relates to this series.

June 5 th	Daniel 1 and 2
June 12 th	Daniel 3 and 4
June 19 th	Daniel 5 and 6
June 26 th	Daniel 7 and 8
July 3 rd	Daniel 9 and 10
July 10 th	Daniel 11 and 12
July 17 th	Matthew 24 and 25
July 24 th	1 Thessalonians 4 and 5

For a great overview of Daniel watch The Bible Project Daniel video. https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/daniel/

ESV STUDY BIBLE: THEME OF DANIEL: The central theme of the book of Daniel is God's sovereignty over history and empires, setting up and removing kings as he pleases (2:21; 4:34-37). All the kingdoms of this world will come to an end and will be replaced by the Lord's kingdom, which will never pass away (2:44; 7:27). Though trials and difficulties will continue for the saints up until the end, those who are faithful will be raised to glory, honor, and everlasting life in this final kingdom (12:1-3).

ESV STUDY BIBLE THEME FOR DANIEL 1: It is possible to live a faithful life in exile, surrounded by pagan influences and propaganda if one sets one's mind to serve the Lord wholeheartedly.

READ JEREMIAH 10 = Prophetic warning to the nation of Israel about their disobedience to God and the consequence of exile. This provides a background for Daniel.

READ DANIEL 1

Daniel had to resolve not to defile himself (v8) because the values that he held as a faithful follower of God were in contrast to the values of the nation of Babylon where he was in exile.

What does it look like when you "resolve" not to do something?

Make your list of the world's values today that you know you need to "resolve" to not be defiled by. What are your top three? (See also I John 2:15-16; Galatians 5:16-25).

READ DANIEL 2

Notice how Daniel and his friends seek God in the face of crisis (v17-18). And how Daniel continually gives credit and glory to God as God enables him. (19-23; 28-30).

See in verse 44 the description of God's kingdom that will ultimately rise victoriously over all the kingdoms of the earth and will stand forever.

What impact does the doctrine of the Sovereignty of God have in your daily Christian life? How does the reality of God being in control effect your thinking and processing everything when the world can seem so out of control?

Prayer: Lord, I want to have the faith and "resolve" of Daniel. Oh, how I need your strength and wisdom which your grace and Holy Spirit provide. Guide me as I navigate life in this "Babylon" type world. Amen