

Five Cycles of National Discipline **Leviticus 26:14-39**

1. First Cycle of Discipline: loss of health, decline of agriculture prosperity, fear and death in combat, loss of personal freedoms due to negative volition toward Bible doctrine (Lev.26:14-17).

2. Second Cycle of Discipline: economic recession and depression; increased personal and individual discipline for continued negative attitude in spite of the first warning (Lev.26:18-20).

3. Third Cycle of Discipline: violence and breakdown of law and order; cities broken up (Lev.26:21-22).

4. Fourth Cycle of Discipline: military conquest and/or foreign occupation; scarcity of food (reduced to one/tenth the national supply); the breaking up of families (Lev.26:23-26).

5. Fifth Cycle of Discipline: destruction of a nation due to maximum rejection of Biblical principles (Lev.26:27-39).

See also Deuteronomy 28:15-48 for the five cycles, where their listing is not progressive, but is specified as part of the same curse. Verse 49 begins the description of the fifth cycle.

Three main points should be remembered throughout the study of Daniel:

1. God blesses in *adversity*.

2. God rewards *spiritual* faithfulness. Between 516 B.C. and 323 B.C., Israel reached her Golden Age, a period built upon Bible Doctrine and unparalleled in the history of any nation.

3. God *disciplines* nations. The discipline of Assyria took place shortly before Daniel's captivity. The eventual discipline of Chaldea, Persia, and Greece (under Alexander the Great) followed.