

Old Testament Survey

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DANIEL PART 1 (chs. 1-7)

NOVEMBER 5, 2017

COMING UP ... •NOV 12 Daniel 8-12 •NOV 19 Revelation part 1 •NOV 26 NO CLASS (Thanksgiving) •DEC 3 Revelation part 2

DANIEL SUMMARIZED IN A WORD OR PHRASE: "Dreams"

ITS AUTHOR

- A real man (Ezek 28:3); wrote through 537 BC
- A royal man (Dan 1:3)
- A righteous man (Ezek 14:14)

ITS LANGUAGE

- In Hebrew for chapters 1 and 8-12
- In Aramaic for chapters 2-7
- The change is purposeful for its message

ITS STRUCTURE

- Chapter 1: who is Daniel?
- Chiasm for 2-7: the times of the Gentiles
- Chiasm for 8-12: the times of the Jews

ITS MESSAGE

- Encouragement:* in spite of how things appear right now, God is sovereignly in control
- Hope:* times of the Gentiles and the Jews
- Confidence:* walk today in courageous faith

THEY'LL NEED ALL THREE

- It's 605 BC
- Nebuchadnezzar has just defeated Egypt at the battle of Carchemish and is now pushing southwest to extend his kingdom's borders
- On his way to Egypt, he enters Jerusalem (for the first of three times) and captures the finest young Hebrew men he can find ...
- ... so that he can turn them into Babylonians

LESSON THEME: Those who know God's plans are responsible to live courageously for Him in their society

In The King's School (1)

- Daniel is pressured to eat food that has been offered to idols and will therefore defile him
- With courageous faith, Daniel ...
 - Knew where to draw the line
 - Humbly asked for an alternative solution
 - Didn't compromise on God's Word
 - Didn't conform to the Babylonian's ways
- Was a great witness to and for YHWH

In The King's Court (2 and 7)

- God revealed His plans for the "times of the Gentiles" to Nebuchadnezzar (2) & Daniel (7)
- Times Of The Gentiles (see "*Identification of the Four Kingdoms*" chart, p. 4)
 - With courageous faith, Daniel ... (2)
 - Humbly asked Nebuchadnezzar for more time
 - Went to God in prayer with his friends
 - Waited on God for an answer
 - Took God's answer to the king
 - Was a great witness to and for YHWH

Through Trials (3 and 6)

Nebuchadnezzar/furnace; Darius/lion's den

With courageous faith, the three friends and Daniel ...

Knew where to draw the line

Didn't panic

Didn't compromise or conform

Didn't compromise in spite of the consequences for disobedience they saw laid before them

In The King's Court (4 and 5)

God warned two kings ... but while He chastened and restored one to his throne, He turned the other over to death

Nebuchadnezzar

Repented from pride

Belshazzar

Unrepentant

Time was up for the Babylonian kingdom

Summary Of Daniel 1-7

God is sovereignly in control ...

Over His people and their paths

Over Gentile kingdoms and their kings

Over preserving and caring for His saints

These events would have encouraged the exiles and given them hope and assurance

➤ Those who knew God's plans were responsible to live courageously for Him in their society

Living With Courageous Faith

Because God was sovereignly in control, His people should walk in courageous faith ...

The exiles weren't to compromise with the Word of God

They weren't to conform to the prevailing culture; they weren't to become Babylonians

They weren't to compromise under pressure in spite of the apparent consequences that might lie before them

APPLICATION: *Those who know God's plans are responsible to live courageously for Him in their society*

Living With Courageous Faith

Today's saint must not *compromise* with the Word of God (John 17:17)

Are you ignoring or neglecting something in God's Word that He's brought to your attention recently?

Are you justifying it ... or repenting of it?

Are you living in passive opposition to the active will of God for your life?

Are you "drawing the line" at God's Word?

Today's saint must not *conform* to the prevailing culture, but instead be transformed into an agent of spiritual change (Ro 12:1-2)

Are you living a compartmentalized life ... one compartment for work, one for home, one for Sunday?

Do these compartments allow you to rationalize and justify differing sets of behavior?

Where are you "too conformed" to our culture?

Today's saint must not *compromise* under pressure based on the apparent consequences that might lie ahead (Php 1:20; Heb 11)

Is profit more important to you than obedience? What would it take (\$) for you to compromise?

Is "surviving" more important to you than obedience in your workplace?

Are prestige and significance more important to you than obeying God?

Are you truly living out a courageous faith?

Those who know God's plans are responsible to live courageously for Him in their society

FOR NEXT TIME: _____

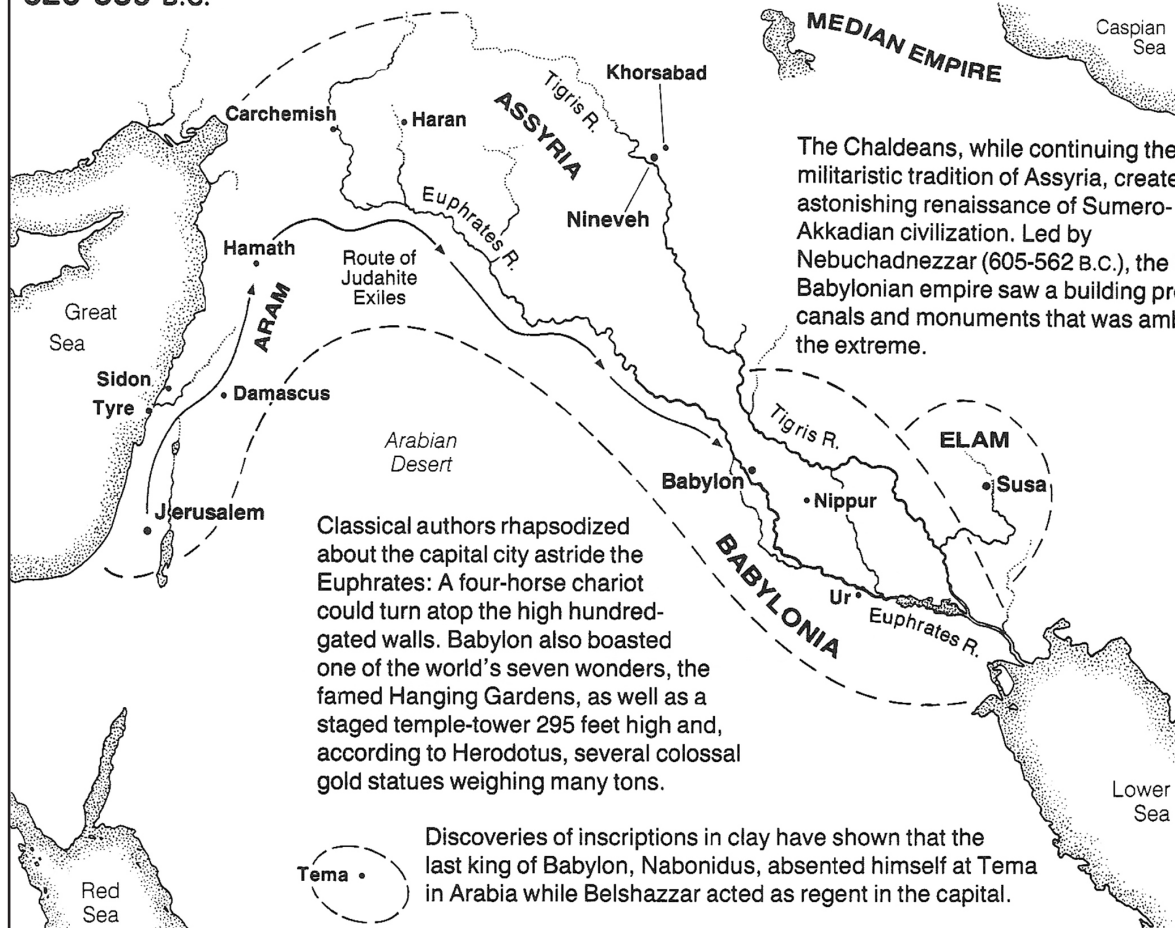
LECTURE AUDIO & HANDOUTS ONLINE:

ccbcfamily.org/sermons/old-testament-survey

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The Neo-Babylonian Empire

626-539 B.C.

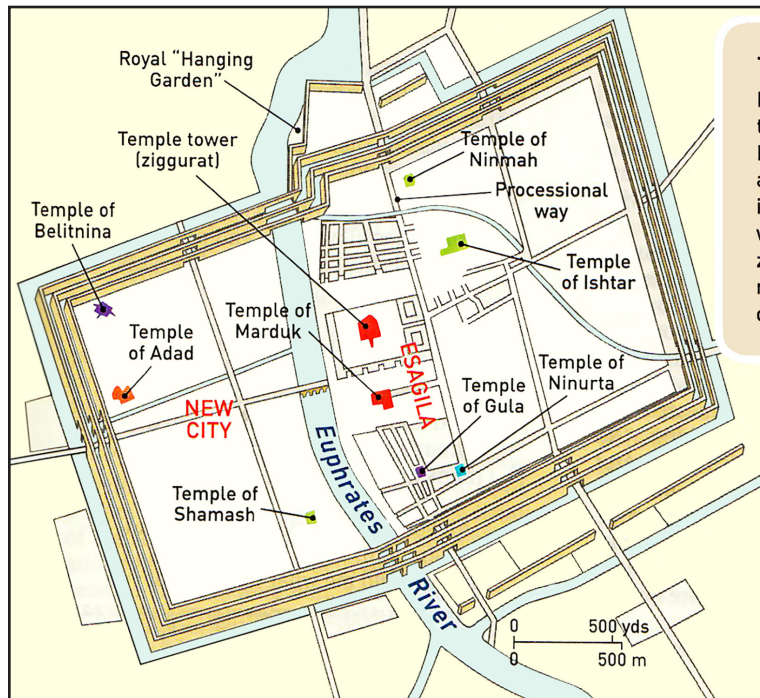


The Chaldeans, while continuing the militaristic tradition of Assyria, created an astonishing renaissance of Sumero-Akkadian civilization. Led by Nebuchadnezzar (605-562 B.C.), the Neo-Babylonian empire saw a building program of canals and monuments that was ambitious in the extreme.

Classical authors rhapsodized about the capital city astride the Euphrates: A four-horse chariot could turn atop the high hundred-gated walls. Babylon also boasted one of the world's seven wonders, the famed Hanging Gardens, as well as a staged temple-tower 295 feet high and, according to Herodotus, several colossal gold statues weighing many tons.

Discoveries of inscriptions in clay have shown that the last king of Babylon, Nabonidus, absented himself at Tema in Arabia while Belshazzar acted as regent in the capital.

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THE CITY OF BABYLON

Babylon was located along the banks of the Euphrates River, in central Mesopotamia, and it was a magnificent and influential city in the ancient world. During Nebuchadnezzar's reign, it was the cultural, religious, and political heart of the Babylonian Empire.

Dan 1:3

"Belshazzar's Feast" (1635) by Rembrandt



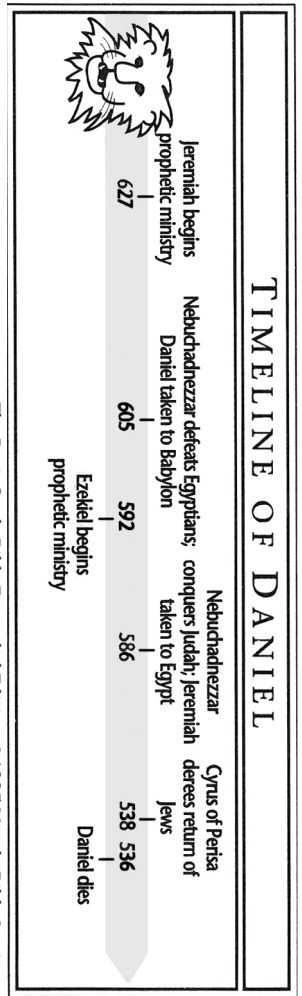
KINGS DANIEL SERVED	Name	Empire	Story told in	Memorable event
	Nebuchadnezzar	Babylonia	chapters 1–4	Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego thrown into blazing furnace; Nebuchadnezzar became insane for 7 years
	Belshazzar	Babylonia	chapters 5, 7–8	Daniel read the writing on the wall, which signaled the end of the Babylonian Empire
	Darius	Medo-Persia	chapters 6, 9	Daniel thrown into a lions' den
	Cyrus	Medo-Persia	chapters 10–12	The exiles return to their homeland in Judah and their capital city, Jerusalem

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DANIEL

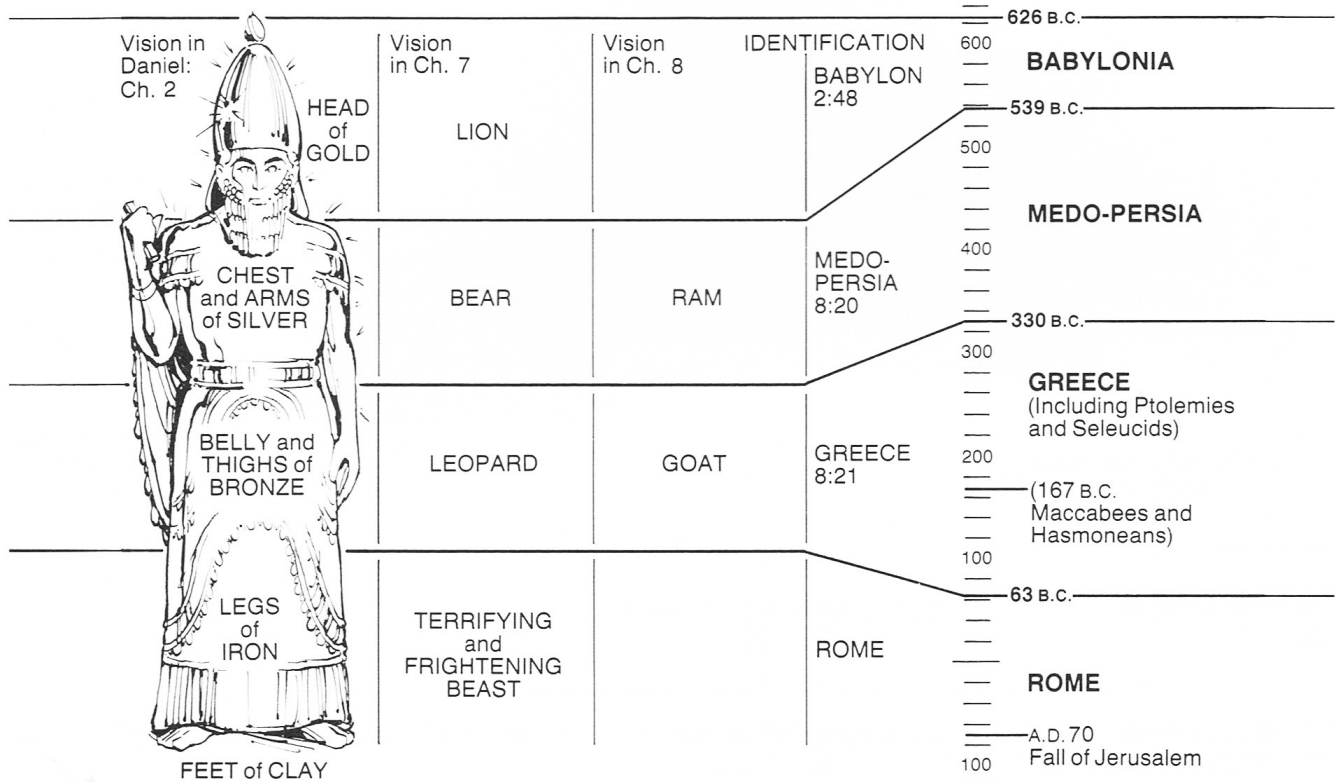
Personal History	Lessons from the Times of the Gentiles					Hope for the Times of Israel's Future				
Hebrew	Aramaic					Hebrew				
Daniel in the court of the Gentiles	Pronouncement: Nebuchadnezzar's vision of the statue	Preservation: 3 boys in the fiery furnace	Power: Nebuchadnezzar's vision and Belshazzar's handwriting	Preservation: Daniel in the lion's den	Pronouncement: Daniel's 4 beast vision	Preservation: Daniel's vision of a ram & a goat	Pronouncement: Daniel's "70 weeks"	Preservation: God will rescue a remnant		
1:1 1:21	2:1 2:49	3:1 3:30	4:1 5:31	6:1 6:28	7:1 7:28	8:1 8:27	9:1 9:27	10:1 12:13		

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Identification of the Four Kingdoms

Chronology of Major Empires in Daniel



What The Bible Is All About: Reproducible Maps, Charts, Timelines & Illustrations, ©1989 Gospel Light

THE STRUCTURE OF DANIEL

CHAPTER LANGUAGE/PERSON TITLE

FOCUS

1-6 **STORIES**

INTRODUCTION

1	Hebrew 3rd person	God vindicates his faithful servants in exile	Test = diet	
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THE DESTINY OF THE NATIONS OF THE WORLD

2	Aramaic 3rd person	A > Nebuchadnezzar dreams of 4 kingdoms & God's kingdom	Dream 1 = large statue		visionary statue
3		B > Nebuchadnezzar sees God's faithful servants rescued	Test = gold statue Threat = fiery furnace		real statue
4		C > Judgement on Nebuchadnezzar	Dream 2 = enormous tree		
5		C > Judgement on Belshazzar	Act = writing on the wall		
6		B > Darius sees God's faithful servant Daniel rescued	Test = prayer Threat = lions		real animals

7-12 VISIONS

7	Aramaic 1st & 3rd person	A > Daniel has a vision of 4 kingdoms & God's kingdom	Vision 1 = 4 beasts & Son of Man		visionary animals
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THE DESTINY OF THE NATION OF ISRAEL

8	Hebrew 1st person	Daniel's vision of a ram & a goat	Vision 2 = 2 beasts	
9		Daniel's prayer & vision of the 70 'sevens'	Vision 3 = 70 'sevens'	
10		Daniel's vision of Israel's future	Vision 4 = 'a great war'	
11				
12				