

## **DANIEL**

### **Introduction**

#### **Authorship and Date of Writing:**

Most conservative scholars believe that the book of Daniel was written by the prophet himself who lived as a captive of Babylon and Persia for more than 50 years after he was taken into captivity in 605 B.C. But some scholars, who object to the specific details of the prophetic visions that Daniel record, reject this theory.

According to these critics, Daniel's prophecies are not "prophecies" at all, but were written after these events and were attributed to Daniel to show that these great events of world history would eventually happen. According to evidence in the book itself, Daniel's captivity lasted from the time of Nebuchadnezzar's reign in Babylon (1:1-6) into the reign of Cyrus of Persia (10:1), about 536 B.C. He must have written his book some time during this period or shortly thereafter.

Perhaps the most powerful evidence that validates the authenticity of Daniel's writing is that the Lord Himself and the rest of the Scriptures support that fact.

#### **Jesus said:**

**Matthew 24:15-16** When you therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by [Daniel the prophet](#), stand in the holy place, (whosoever reads, let him understand:) 16 Then let them which be in Judea flee into the mountains.

**Occasion of the writing:** God's program for Israel and the course of Gentile history.

Daniel was written to encourage the exiled Jews by revealing God's sovereign program for Israel during and after the period of Gentile domination known as "The Times of the Gentiles." Also, Daniel's writings included the prophecy of the seventy weeks, (9:24-27) which provides the chronological framework for predicting the coming of Christ the Messiah from the time of Daniel to the establishment of Christ's kingdom on earth after the tribulation period.

**Dan 2:28** But there is a God in heaven that reveals secrets, and makes known to the King Nebuchadnezzar **what shall be in the latter days.**

#### **Historical Setting:**

Three hundred and twenty years before the birth of Daniel, Jeroboam I, king of Israel, began to promote the worship of idols, leading the nation of Israel into idolatry and rampant wickedness in the sight of the Lord. One hundred and sixty years later, after various successors, we find Jeroboam II, king of Israel, practicing the same sins.

At this point in time, the nation of Israel was experiencing great prosperity and wealth, but they had forgotten the Lord and had totally departed from the truth of His words. The priests were corrupt and could not endure sound doctrine. God, in His mercy, sent Amos, a prophet of Judah, to warn the Northern Kingdom of Israel of, the coming judgement and captivity by the hands of the Assyrians because of their

sin. Forty years later, Amos prophecies were fulfilled and the children of Israel were taken captive by the Assyrian army.

In the Southern kingdom of Judah, the spiritual and moral fiber of the nation began to deteriorate as well. God in like fashion sent the prophet Isaiah, Micah and Jeremiah to warn the leadership and the nation of Judah of the coming judgement and a seventy-year captivity they would experience in Babylon by the hand of Nebuchadnezzar.

Isaiah's prophecy had been delivered to King Hezekiah of Judah 105 years before Nebuchadnezzar besieged Judah, taking Daniel and the three Hebrew children captives into Babylon. Isaiah tells us:

**Isaiah 39:1-7** At that time Merodach-Baladan the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah, for he heard that he had been sick and had recovered. 2 And Hezekiah was pleased with them, and showed them the house of his treasures—the silver and gold, the spices and precious ointment, and all his armory—all that was found among his treasures. There was nothing in his house or in all his dominion that Hezekiah did not show them. 3 Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah, and said to him, “What did these men say, and from where did they come to you?” So Hezekiah said, “They came to me from a far country, from Babylon.” 4 And he said, “What have they seen in your house?” So Hezekiah answered, “They have seen all that is in my house; there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shown them.” 5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, “Hear the word of the LORD of hosts: 6 ‘Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house, and what your fathers have accumulated until this day, shall be carried to Babylon; nothing shall be left,’ says the LORD. 7 ‘And they shall take away some of your sons who will descend from you, whom you will beget; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.’”

Daniel was of royal blood. He was a direct descendant of Hezekiah, king of Judah, and was taken at the age of 12 in the first siege to Babylon. In 607 B.C. Isaiah's prophecy was fulfilled.

**Daniel 1:1-2** In the year 607 B.C. during the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

## **Survey of Daniel:**

### ***The Personal History of Daniel (Chapter 1)***

The first chapter sets the stage for the rest of the book by introducing Daniel and his three friends, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. These four young Hebrew men are taken captive in one of the Babylonian raids against Judah in 605 B.C.

Intelligent and promising, they are placed in training as servants in the court of King Nebuchadnezzar; then their names and diets are changed to reflect the Babylonian culture in attempt to take away their Jewish identity. But Daniel and his friends rise up to the challenge, proving their Jewish food superior to the diet of the Babylonians. The young men increase in wisdom and knowledge, gaining favor in the king's court.

### ***The Prophetic Plan for the Gentiles (Chapters 2-7)***

In the second major section of the book (chaps. 2-7), Daniel and his friends meet several additional tests to prove that, although they are being held captive by pagan people, the God whom they worship is still in control. Only Daniel can relate and interpret Nebuchadnezzar's disturbing dream of the great statue (ch. 2).

God empowers Daniel to foretell the way in which He will sovereignly raise and depose four Gentile empires. The Messiah's kingdom will end the times of the Gentiles. Because of his position revealed in the dream, Nebuchadnezzar erects a golden image and demands that all bow to it (chap. 3). The persecution and preservation of Daniel's friends in the fiery furnace again illustrate the power of God.

After Nebuchadnezzar refuses to respond to the warning of his vision of the tree (chap. 4), he is humbled until he acknowledges the supremacy of God and the foolishness of his pride. The feast of Belshazzar marks the end of the Babylonian kingdom (chap. 5). Belshazzar is judged because of his arrogant defiance of God.

In the reign of Darius, a plot against Daniel backfires when he is divinely delivered in the den of lions (chap. 6). Daniel's courageous faith is rewarded, and Darius learns a lesson about the might of the God of Israel. The vision of the four beasts (chap. 7) supplements the four-part statue vision in chapter 2 in its portrayal of the Babylonian, Persian, Greek, and Roman empires.

### ***The Prophetic Plan for Israel (Chapters 8-12)***

The focus in chapter 8 narrows to a vision of a ram and goat that shows Israel under the Medo-Persian and Grecian empires. Alexander the Great is the large horn of Chapter 8:1 and Antiochus Epiphanes is the little horn of 8:9. After Daniel's prayer of confession for his people, he is privileged to receive the revelation of the seventy weeks, including the Messiah's atoning death (Chap. 9). This gives the chronology of God's perfect plan for the redemption and deliverance of His people. Following is a great vision that gives amazing details of Israel's future history (chap. 10-11). Chapter 11 chronicles the coming kings of Persia and Greece, the wars between the Ptolomies of Egypt and the Seleucids of Syria, and the persecution led by Antiochus. God's people will be saved out of tribulation and resurrected (chap. 12)

### **Study Helps:**

To assist you in the study of the book of Daniel, please refer to the following study helps at the end of this introduction:

1. Chart outline of the book of Daniel.
2. Matrix of interpretation of the book of Daniel.

Please refer to these helps and the brief commentary at the beginning of each lesson. May God richly bless you as you embark in the study of His Word.

<b>SCRIPTURE</b>	<b>SYMBOL</b>	<b>INTERPRETATION</b>
Dan. 2:31	Great Image	The Gentile World Empires
Dan. 2:32	Head of Gold	Babylonian Empire-Nebuchadnezzar
Dan. 2:32	Chest and Arms of Silver	The Mede-Persian Empire-King Darius and Cyrus
Dan. 2:33	Thigh of Bronze	The Grecian Empire-Alexander the Great
Dan. 2:33	Legs of Iron- Feet of iron and clay	The Roman and revived Roman Empire
Dan. 2:34	Stone cut out without hands	Jesus Christ- The Kingdom of God
Dan. 2:35	Great Mountain	The Kingdom of God
Dan 2:42	Toes of the Feet	Ten Nations or Kings-European Union
Dan. 4:10	A Tree in the midst of the earth	King Nebuchadnezzar
Dan. 4:13, 17	A Watcher	An Angel
Dan. 4:15	Leave the Stump	Do not kill Nebuchadnezzar
Dan. 4:16	Seven Times	Seven Years
Dan. 7:2	The Great Sea	The Mediterranean Sea or the sea of nations and peoples
Dan. 7:3	Four Great Beasts	Four Kingdoms
Dan. 7:4	Lion	Nebuchadnezzar-Babylon
Dan. 7:4	Eagle's Wings	Swift bird of prey
Dan. 7:5	Bear raised on one Side	Medo-Persian Empire-Persia the more powerful side
Dan. 7:5	Three Ribs	Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt
Dan. 7:6	Leopard	Grecian Empire-Alexander the Great
Dan. 7:6	Four Wings of a Bird	Four Swift leaders
Dan. 7:6	Four Heads	Four Generals leading Alexander the Great armies
Dan. 7:7	Fourth Beast	The Roman Empire
Dan. 7:7	Ten Horns	Ten Nations & Kings- The European Union
Dan. 7:8	Little Horn	The Antichrist
Dan. 7:8	Three of the first horns	Three Nations or Kings that do not qualify as part of the New European Union
Dan. 7:9, 22	Ancient of Days	The Lord
Dan. 7:10	A thousand thousands	The Church
Dan. 7:11	The Beast	Antichrist
Dan. 7:12	The beasts	Other European Nations
Dan. 7:13	One like the Son of Man	Jesus Christ
Dan. 7:21	Saints	Jewish and Gentile believers on earth after the rapture
Dan. 8:3	Ram- The higher horn	Persia
Dan. 8:3	The lower horn	Medes
Dan. 8:5	Male Goat	Greece
Dan. 8:8	Notable Horn	Alexander the Great
Dan. 8:8	Large Horn	Alexander the Great
Dan. 8:9	Out of one of them	Seleucids
Dan. 8:9	Little Horn	Antichrist
Dan. 8:9	Pleasant or Glorious Land	Israel
Dan. 8:10	Host or Stars	Priest of Israel
Dan. 8:11	Prince of the Host	Christ
Dan. 8:13	Transgression of Desolation	Desecration of the Sanctuary by Antiochus Epiphanes
Dan. 8:17	Times of the End	End of Gentile Domination
Dan. 8:19	Latter Times of the Indignation	The Tribulation Period
Dan. 8:21	First King	Alexander the Great
Dan. 8:22	Four Kingdoms	Ptolomy, Seleucid, Thrace, Macedonia
Dan. 8:23	A King shall arise	Antichrist
Dan. 8:24	Prince of Princes	Jesus Christ
Dan. 9:24	Seventy Weeks	A period of 70 weeks of 7 years determined for events in the history of Israel and the coming of the Messiah
Dan. 9:24	The Most Holy	Christ the Messiah
Dan. 9:25	Seven Weeks and Sixty Two Weeks	69 Weeks=483 Years or 173,880 Days
Dan. 9:26	Prince who is to come	Titus 70 A.D.
Dan. 9:26	Flood	Disbursement
Dan. 9:27	He	Antichrist
Dan. 9:27	One Week	Seven Years
Dan. 10:5	A Certain Man	Christ (Christophany)
Dan. 10:11	He	An angel

Dan. 10:13, 20	Prince of Persia	Satanic angel or demon over Persia (Iran)
Dan. 10:14	Latter Days	Last Seven Years of World History
Dan. 10:20	Prince of Greece	Satanic angel or demon over Greece
Dan. 11:2	Three more Kings	Cyrus I, Cambyses, Darius I Hystaspes (Kings of Persia)
Dan. 11:2	Fourth King	Artaxerxes I
Dan. 11:3	A mighty King	Alexander The Great
Dan. 11:4	Prince of Persia	Four Generals leading Alexander the Great armies
Dan. 11:5	King of the South	Ptolemy King of Egypt one of Alexander's generals
Dan. 11:5	One of his princes	Seleucus King of the North- one of Alexander's generals under Ptolemy
Dan. 11:6	The daughter of the King of the South	Berenice
Dan. 11:7	A branch of her roots	Berenice's son Ptolemy III
Dan. 11:10	His sons	Seleucus's sons- Seleucus III & Antiochus III
Dan. 11:11	King of the South-222-203 B. C.	Ptolemy IV
Dan. 11:13	King of the North	Antiochus III the Great 223-187 B.C.
Dan. 11:14	King of the South	Ptolemy V—203-181 B. C.
Dan. 11:16	Glorious Land	Israel
Dan. 11:17	Upright ones B. C.	Violent Israelites- Upright not in the true since
Dan. 11:17	And he (King of the North)	Antiochus III the Great 223-187 B.C.
Dan. 11:17	Shall give Him (King of the South)	Ptolemy V—203-181 B. C.
Dan. 11:17	The daughter of women (Daughter of Antiochus III the Great)	Cleopatra
Dan. 11:18	A ruler	Roman general- Lucius Asiaticus
Dan. 11:19	He shall stumble and fall (King of the North dies)	Antiochus III the Great 223-187 B.C.
Dan. 11:20	One who imposes taxes	Seleucus the son of Antiochus III the Great
Dan. 11:20	Not by anger or in battle	By poison
Dan. 11:21	A vile person	Antiochus IV (Epiphanes) a type of the antichrist
Dan. 11:22	They- The prince of the covenant.	Egypt- Ptolemy Philometer, Cleopatra's son made a covenant with Antiochus III
Dan. 11:25	King of the South	Ptolemy Philometer, Cleopatra's son.
Dan. 11:28	A holy covenant	A covenant with Israel
Dan. 11:30	Ships out of Cyprus	Roman Navy
Dan. 11:31	The abomination of desolation	Antiochus IV (Epiphanes) sacrificed a pig on the altar in the Jewish Temple.
Dan. 11:32	The people who know their God	Judas Maccabee and the Jewish zealots.
Dan. 11:36	The king that will do his own will	The Antichrist in the last days.
Dan. 11:38	A god of fortress- A god which his fathers did not know	Power- Money-Military strength- Satan- the occult
Dan. 11:39	Strongest fortresses Foreign god	World powers-Strongest nations. His own image- The mark of the beast.
Dan. 11:40	The king of the South The king of the North	Egypt Syria-Iraq-Iran-Turkey (Confederation)
Dan. 11:44	News from the east	From China-Iraq-Asia Minor- Marching armies into Israel for the battle of Armageddon.
Dan. 12:1	Michael Sons of your people	God's Archangel- Protector of the Jewish people
Dan. 12:1	A time of trouble In the book	The great tribulation period. The book of Life.
Dan. 12:2	Many who sleep in the dust shall awake	The first resurrection or the resurrection of the just.
Dan. 12:2	Some to shame and everlasting contempt	The second resurrection of the damned. A thousand years after the first resurrection.
Dan. 12:5-6	Two others on the river banks.	An angel and the Lord Jesus on the waters.
Dan. 12:7	A time, times and half a time	Three and a half years.
Dan. 12:11	Abomination of desolation is set up	The antichrist setting his image in the Most Holy Place and proclaiming to be God.

FOCUS	History of Daniel	Prophetic Plan for the Gentiles				Prophetic Plan for Israel		
REFERENCE	1:1-----2:1-----5:1-----6:1-----7:1-----8:1-----9:1-----10:1-----12:13							
DIVISION	Personal Life of Daniel	Visions of Nebuchadnezzar	Vision of Belshazzar	Decree of Darius	Four Beasts	Visions of Ram and Male-Goat	Vision of Seventy Weeks	Vision of Israel's Future
TOPIC	Daniel's Background	Daniel Interprets Others' Dreams				Angel Interprets Daniel's Dreams		
	Hebrew	Aramaic				Hebrew		
LOCATION	Babylon or Persia							
TIME	605-536 B.C.							

LESSON #1	Daniel's Early Life in Babylon
LESSON #2	Nebuchadnezzar's Dream The Course of World History Outlined
LESSON # 3	Nebuchadnezzar's Pride Uncompromising Believers
LESSON #4	The Humbling and Restoration of Nebuchadnezzar
LESSON #5	Daniel's experience under Belshazzar
LESSON #6	The Medo-Persian Empire - Daniel's Life under Darius the Mede
LESSON #7	Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts - The Coming of Antichrist
LESSON #8	Daniel's Second Vision - Prophecies of Persia & Greek Empires
LESSON #9	Daniel and The Study of Prophecy - Daniel's Prayer
LESSON #10	Daniel's Seventy Weeks

## **DANIEL**

### **Lesson 1 – Daniel 1**

#### **Daniel's Early Life in Babylon**

##### **Day One: Read Daniel Chapter 1**

##### **Questions:**

1. Who came to besiege Jerusalem and take the children of Israel into captivity in verse 1?
2. Who gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon (Verse 2)?
3. Why do you suppose the Lord allowed the children of Israel to be taken captive? Before you answer, please read Jeremiah 25:8-11. Also use any other scripture reference you feel answers this question.
4. Daniel and some of the other captives trusted in the Lord and walked uprightly from their youth. Yet they experienced captivity as the consequence of their rebellious nation. As Christians, why does the Lord allow certain trials, suffering and death even if we live in a "Christian" nation?
5. King Nebuchadnezzar wanted the certain of the elite children of Israel for his own court. According to verses 4-5, what were some of their characteristics? What do you think Daniel's age might have been?

**Memory verse:** This week's memory verse is Micah 6:8 "He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.



**Day Two:** In our study of day one, we recognized that there are consequences when a nation claiming to be God's own people, begin to rebel and forsake their Lord. Unfortunately, we also learn that even the righteous are affected by the consequences of a nation going astray.

Nebuchadnezzar had taken the nation captive to Babylon where he planned to train and mold many of the elite children of Judah in the ways of the world. In our study today, we will examine the difference between Godly wisdom and training versus the wisdom and the training this world.

**Questions:**

1. Read Daniel 1:5-10. According with verse 5, King Nebuchadnezzar, the known ruler of the whole world, had an agenda and a plan to train some of the elite young men of Judah to grow in the wisdom and knowledge of the world. What did Nebuchadnezzar's plan include?

2. What does God think about the wisdom of the world?

1 Cor. 1:20

1 Cor. 1:25

1 Cor. 1:27-28

3. What is the difference between worldly and godly wisdom?

James 3:13-17

4. How does a Christian gain godly wisdom?

Proverbs 9:10

James 1:5

2 Tim 3:14-17

5. What did the chief eunuch do in verse 7, and where did the name Belteshazzar come from, according to Nebuchadnezzar? (Dan 4:8)

**Memory verse:** This week's memory verse is Micah 6:8 *“He hath shewed thee, O \_\_\_\_\_, what is good; and what doth the \_\_\_\_\_ require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk \_\_\_\_\_ with thy God?”*

**Day Three.** In our study today, we will discover what the attitude of committed believers should be even when facing compromising circumstances.

1. Read Daniel 1:8-10. According with verse 8, what would happen to Daniel if he ate of the king's delicacies and drank his wine?

2. How do you think Daniel knew he would defile himself by partaking of the ways of the pagan world?

Acts 15:29

3. What does the Bible teach about Christians getting involved and compromising their walks with the things of the world?

1 John 2:15-16

Romans 12:2

James 1:27

James 4:4

2 Cor. 6:17-18

4. What was Daniel's attitude in verse 8 in the face of pressure to compromise and defile himself?

5. What happens when we honor and obey God's Word (verse 9)? Can you share your own similar experience?

**Memory verse:** This week's memory verse is Micah 6:8 "He hath \_\_\_\_\_ thee, O \_\_\_\_\_, what is good; and what doth the \_\_\_\_\_ require of thee, but to do \_\_\_\_\_, and to love mercy, and to walk \_\_\_\_\_ with thy God?"

**Day Four. Read Daniel 1:8-16 and answer the following questions:**

1. In verse 8, what does it mean to you to “purpose in your heart” not to.....? How did Daniel literally practice this? Use scripture to support your definition if you desire.

2. What was the result of Daniel’s diet after ten days (verse 15)?

3. We have heard the saying “garbage in, garbage out”. If we physically consume junk food, our energy level and health will deteriorate. But if we consume wholesome things, then we will enjoy a healthy life. Spiritually speaking we are what we eat. What are the benefits of consuming and partaking of God’s word?

Proverbs 4:22

1 Pet. 2:2

2 Cor. 3:2-3

4. What did the steward do after seeing Daniel and the three Hebrew friends at the end of the ten-day dietary test?

5. As we grow in Christ and His words are in us, what effect do we Christians have on those with whom we come in contact with?

2 Corinthians 3:2-3

**Memory verse:** This week's memory verse is Micah 6:8 "He hath \_\_\_\_\_ thee, O \_\_\_\_\_, what is good; and what doth the \_\_\_\_\_ require of thee, but to do \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_, and to walk \_\_\_\_\_ with thy God?"

**Day Five: Read Daniel 1:17-21 and answer the following questions:**

In our study of day 4, we learned how Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portions of the king's meat. Daniel's knowledge of the word of God and His commandments strengthened him to remain steadfast & unmovable in the Lord.

Daniel's action became a powerful testimony and witness to those serving Nebuchadnezzar. In our study today, we will be examining God's gifts to His servants and the purpose for God imparting these gifts.

1. In verse 17, what did Daniel and his three friends receive? Who did the giving?
2. Read verse 17 and list the gifts that God imparted to these young men.
3. Based on the gifts in verse 17, are God's gifts to us limited to spiritual things? Please record your finding.
4. Read Ephesians 4:12-14 and record the reasons for God imparting gifts to His servants.
5. Read Daniel 1:18-20. What happened when Nebuchadnezzar interviewed and examined Daniel and his friends? What did God promise He would do when we find ourselves in the same situation as Daniel (Matthew 10:16-20)?

**Memory verse:** This week's memory verse is Micah 6:8 "He \_\_\_\_\_ thee, O \_\_\_\_\_, what is \_\_\_\_\_; and what doth the \_\_\_\_\_ require \_\_\_\_\_, but to do \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_ with thy God?"

**DANIEL**  
**Lesson 2 - Chapter 2**

**Nebuchadnezzar's Dream - The Course of World History Outlined**

A couple of years past since Nebuchadnezzar had examined Daniel and his three friends. This powerful king could conquer empires, but he could not conquer his own anger (V.12). He understood how to defeat his enemy, but he could not understand the message of God. As we get into Daniel chapter 2, we begin to see the sovereignty and the power of God exercised over Nebuchadnezzar and the kingdoms of the world. We will also discover that the world then sought answers to their problems from the same pagan and devilish sources it does today.

Day One: Read Daniel Chapter 2:1-13 and answer the following questions:

1. According with verse 1, what troubled Nebuchadnezzar's spirit?
2. Who did Nebuchadnezzar call for spiritual help? Have things changed today? Please comment.
3. What did Nebuchadnezzar demand from the magicians, astrologers and sorcerers? What were the consequences if they failed to meet the king's demand?
4. According to verses 8 & 9, why did these sorcerers, astrologers and what we call psychics today wanted to hear the dream first?
5. In verse 12 –13, what did Nebuchadnezzar command his officers to do?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Romans 11:36**

“For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen.”

**Day Two: Read Daniel 2:14-23.**

Nebuchadnezzar was furious at the failure of his “wise men” to reveal his dream and interpretation. In our study today, we will examine Daniel’s godly example of a young man facing difficult circumstances.

1. Read verses 14-16. How did Daniel react toward those who were going to kill him?
2. In verse 15, what should we consider before making decisions or in Nebuchadnezzar’s case ordering the killing of all the wise men?
3. Most people would have feared to approach the king, especially when he had lost faith in all the wise men. In verse 16, why do you think Daniel had the boldness to approach Nebuchadnezzar directly?
4. Nebuchadnezzar had granted Daniel some time to come up with the dream and the interpretation. Faced with enormous pressure, what was the first thing Daniel did (V 17-18)? Please use other scripture reference if you desire to support your answer.

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Romans 11:36**

“For of \_\_\_\_\_, and through \_\_\_\_\_, and to him, are all things: to whom be glory forever. Amen.”

**Day Three: Read Daniel 2:17-30 and answer the following questions:**

1. What principles of prayer can we learn from these godly young men?
2. What happened after Daniel sought the Lord for guidance and answers (V-19)?
3. What should follow prayer, especially after the Lord answers our request (V20-23)?
  - 3a. Have you thanked the Lord for what He has been doing in your life? Take a moment now to thank Him.

4. Examine Daniel's response to God in verse 20-23 and record what Daniel reveals about his personal knowledge of God's character? Share how you may also grow in your personal knowledge of God.

5. What does verse 21 reveal about the sovereignty of our God?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Romans 11:36**

“**For** of \_\_\_\_\_, and through \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_, are **all things**: to whom be \_\_\_\_\_ **forever**. \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Day Four:** We have learned that we must seek the Lord first in any type of circumstance and not rely on our own knowledge, wisdom and understanding. We also recognized that it is God who empowers us and does all of the work. Therefore, we must not forget to thank and glorify Him. In our study today, we will learn from Daniel, the right attitude we should have toward our enemies and unbelievers.

**Questions:**

1. Read verses 24-30. It would have been easy for Daniel to avenge his enemies. What did Daniel do instead (V 24)? What did the Lord command us to do in (Matt. 5:43-44)?

2. Read Verses 25-28. Daniel could have taken all of the glory when Nebuchadnezzar asked him if he could make known the dream and the interpretation. What did Daniel do instead (V27-28)?

3. We must always remember that God places us in various places and situations to represent Him and to bring glory to Him. Our ministry on earth is to bring people of all classes to the knowledge of Christ. In verses 27-28, what did Daniel establish in comparison to Nebuchadnezzar's sources?

4. In verses 28-29, what did Nebuchadnezzar's dream have to do with?

5. For what purpose did God reveal this dream and interpretation to Daniel in verse 30?

**Memory verse: Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Romans 11:36**

“**For** of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_, are **all things**: to whom be \_\_\_\_\_ **forever**. Amen.”

**Day Five:** God is wise. He knows how to communicate to people in ways they can understand. Nebuchadnezzar understood great images. He is known throughout history for the building of Babylon with its enormous palaces, hanging gardens and impregnable city walls. In our study today, we will examine the great image God revealed to Nebuchadnezzar having to do with the course of world empires and the destruction of world empires by Jesus Christ who called this period “the times of the Gentiles” (Luke 21:24).

**Questions: Read Daniel 2:31-45 and answer the following questions:**

1. What does the various parts of the image (V32-33) represent? Refer to attached chart to assist you.
  - a. The image from head to toe:
  - b. The head of Gold:
  - c. The chest and arms of silver:
  - d. The belly and thighs of bronze:
  - e. The legs of iron and feet of iron and clay:
  - f. The ten toes of iron and clay:
  
2. What would happen to the image in verse 34?
  
3. Who is the stone cut without hands in verse 34 and what happened to the stone in verse 35?
  
4. What does Peter say about “Christ the Stone” in 1 Peter 2:6-8?
  
5. According with verse 34, where did the Stone strike the image and when will the Stone strike the image (verses 41-44)?
  - 5a. What does verse 45 reveal about God’s prophetic promise?

**Memory verse: Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Romans 11:36**

“For of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_, are \_\_\_\_\_: to whom be \_\_\_\_\_  
forever\_\_\_\_\_.”



**DANIEL**  
**Lesson 3 - Chapter 3**

**Nebuchadnezzar's Pride - Uncompromising Believers**  
**God's Faithfulness & Deliverance**

In our study of Lesson 2, we learned that the prophetic picture identified by the image in Daniel 2 has been partially fulfilled and will be completely fulfilled at the Second Coming of Christ. There is evidence today that we are living in the period or time of the "Ten Toes" or the "United States of Europe". If according to Daniel 2:44, Christ's millennium kingdom is to be set up on earth during the times of the reign of these Ten kingdoms, according to the overall prophetic calendar, the rapture of the church, since it supersedes His second coming, could happen at any minute.

In our lesson today, we will learn from Nebuchadnezzar's behavior and from committed believers living in an environment which will mirror the events in the last days of Gentile rule. We will also examine God's faithfulness during times of trials.

**Day One: Read Daniel 3:1-6 and answer the following questions**

**Questions:**

1. Go back and read Daniel 2:46-47. Considering Nebuchadnezzar response upon experiencing God's power and revelation, what should have been the king's next step? What does the scripture below warn us against?

Hebrews 3:14-15

2. In Daniel chapter 2, God used Daniel to witness God's power and superiority over all other gods. God also, in His mercy, was faithful to reveal to Nebuchadnezzar what the course of Gentile world history and dominion would be. What did God show Nebuchadnezzar regarding his reign and life (Dan 2:39)? What does James remind us of in James 4:14?

3. Instead of humbling himself and seeking the Lord, what did Nebuchadnezzar choose to do (Dan. 3:1-7)?

4. In Daniel's interpretation of the image, only the head of gold identified Nebuchadnezzar's rule. According to Daniel 3:1-7, Nebuchadnezzar decided to build an entire image of gold. Why do you think he did this? Do you think he was in agreement with the future course of world history?

5. What does the Bible teach about pride?

Isa. 14:12-17

1 Peter 5:5

Prov. 16:18

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is James 4:10**

“Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and he shall lift you up.”

**Day Two:** Read Daniel 3:8-18. Nebuchadnezzar refused to accept the will of God, and in total defiance he build an entire image of gold signifying that his rule and reign would not be temporary. Blinded by his pride, Nebuchadnezzar passed an irrational decree, which affected the people of God. In our study today we will examine the lives of committed believers in the midst of a trying environment.

**Questions:**

1. What can we learn from verses 8-12 about our behavior as Christians in the midst of an unbelieving world?

2. Why do you think Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-Nego refuse to bow down and worship Nebuchadnezzar's image?

Exodus 20:3-5

3. What were the consequences for not bowing down before the image (verse15)?

4. What does the answer of Daniel's three friends reflect about the following?

-Their relationship with God

-The will of God for their lives

-Their commitment and steadfastness

-Their attitude towards Nebuchadnezzar

5. Examine the three Hebrew children's original names. Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. Please use a Bible dictionary to look up their meaning and record your thoughts about their family background and how their names could have encouraged them in time of trial.

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is James 4:10**

“Humble \_\_\_\_\_ in the sight of the \_\_\_\_\_, and he shall \_\_\_\_\_ you up.”

**Day Three:** As we pointed out in the introduction at the beginning of the study of Daniel, most of the prophecies in the book deal with events during the times of the Gentiles. Beginning in chapter 8 through 12, the prophetic theme is primarily directed to the nation of Israel and its remnant in the last days. As we proceed, it is important to point out various typology and symbolism having to do with the church and the people of Israel during the last seven years of world history, “The tribulation period”.

In our study today, we will examine various types and symbols regarding the church, Israel, the antichrist, and God's faithfulness in times of tribulation.

### **Questions:**

1. Read Daniel 3:13-18. What do Nebuchadnezzar and the antichrist (the beast) of Revelation 13:11-15 have in common in the last days?

2. At this point in the book of Daniel many question Daniel's whereabouts. Where was Daniel when the decree was passed to bow down to the image? Although the Scriptures do not tell us, some have suggested that Daniel went on a business trip for Nebuchadnezzar. Read the following Scripture passage and record what Daniel is a type of, during this time of tribulation and the one to come during the last seven years of world history.

1 Thess. 4:17

3. What are Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (the three Hebrew children) a type of, during the tribulation period, according with Revelation 7:1-8 & 13:15-14:4?

4. Read the latter part of Dan. 3:15. What does it reveal about Nebuchadnezzar's attitude and his knowledge of our Lord?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is James 4:10**

“Humble \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, and he shall \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Day Four:** Read Daniel 3:16-18. At this point, we find the three Hebrew children facing the wrath of Nebuchadnezzar for not willing to worship his image. In our study today we will examine the uncompromising examples of these young believers and their steadfast commitment to God.

**Questions:**

1. What does verses 17-18 tells us about the spiritual maturity of these young believers, possibly in their late teens?
2. What does verses 17-18 tells us about our God?
3. What does verses 17-18 tells us about the will of God for us individually? Before you answer please read John 21:17-24.
4. Notice the commitment of these young believers in verse 18. Facing death, they seemed to be at peace. What reasons do the following Scriptures offer to substantiate why believers can experience peace in the midst of difficult circumstances and even death?

Philippians 1:21-24

Galatians 2:20

1 Corinthians 15:54-55, 57

Matthew 10:28-30

2 Timothy 2:11

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is James 4:10**

“\_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_ you \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Day Five:** In day four, we learned about the commitment of these young believers and the various reasons for believers finding peace even in death. In our study today, we will examine the faithfulness, fellowship and deliverance of God in the lives of believers.

**Questions:**

1. Read Daniel 3:19-21. What command did Nebuchadnezzar give against the people of God to display his might and strength?
  
2. As God's children, one of His promises that we find difficult to accept, is that all who live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution (2 Timothy 3:12). Fiery trials will have various effects in people's lives. They will either make us better or bitter. According with verse 22-23, compare what happened to the three Hebrew children and to the unbelieving men of valor when faced by the same flames? Before you answer read the following scriptures (2 Cor. 4:8-11)
  
3. Read verses 24-25. What did Nebuchadnezzar discover in verse 24? What does this reveal to you about Jesus faithfulness, fellowship and deliverance in times of trials? Please support your answer with additional scriptures if you desire.
  
4. Examine verse 24 & 25 carefully and record the benefits that this fiery trial had for these believers. Also compare Nebuchadnezzar's mood in verse 24 with that of the three young believers and the Lord in verse 25.
  
5. Read verses 26-30. People are always watching believers to see how they will react in times of difficult situations. What impact these three Hebrew children have in the life of Nebuchadnezzar? What are various reasons God allows trials in our lives?
  
6. What happened to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego after they endured through the trial while trusting in the Lord (verse 30)? Read 1 Peter 5:10 and record what are the spiritual benefits of enduring through trials.

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is James 4:10**

“\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_.”

**DANIEL**  
**Lesson 4 - Chapter 4**

**Nebuchadnezzar Recognizes the Lord**  
**The Vision and Humbling of Nebuchadnezzar**  
**The Restoration of Nebuchadnezzar**

From the Scriptures, we know that God is longsuffering to all, not willing that any would perish, but that all would come to repent and know Him.

By reading through the Old Testament, we can see how patient God had been with Israel, always reaching out to them so that they would know the Lord. Because Israel refused to serve the Lord, God, in His love, through persecutions and captivity, would bring the nation of Israel to the place where they would acknowledge their sin and would turn back to God.

In like fashion, God would reach out to Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, many years before he besieged the nation of Israel. In our study today, we will examine and evaluate the depth of Nebuchadnezzar's acknowledgement and commitment to God.

**Day One: Questions:**

1. Re-tracing the events in Nebuchadnezzar's life, review the following scriptures and record how God reached out to Nebuchadnezzar, the king's acknowledgement of God, and what he did about it.

God's Outreach - Dan. 2:27-29, 37-39, 45 - Dan. 3:24-25:

Nebuchadnezzar's Verbal Acknowledgement - Dan.2: 46-47: - Dan. 3:26-28:

Nebuchadnezzar's Reaction - Dan. 3:1, 4-6,14: - Dan. 3:29, 4:1-3:

2. Read Dan 4:1-3. What does Nebuchadnezzar declaration tell us about his knowledge of God?

3. Based on your answer to question 1, where do you think Nebuchadnezzar was spiritually before God? Before you answer read (Matt. 15:8)

4. What do you think the following Scriptures teach us about the consequences and danger of going through the motions, drawing near to God with our lips but not walking the talk?

Psalms 26:2

Psalms 95:7-9

Heb. 12:5-8

5. Approximately thirty years before Nebuchadnezzar besieged Israel, the word of the Lord came to Jeremiah the prophet. Please read Jer. 27:1-8 and record God's plans for and relationship with Nebuchadnezzar.

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is John 3:27**

“A man can receive nothing, except it have been given him from heaven.”

**Day Two:** In our study of day one, we examined how God had not only reached out to Israel, but he dealt with Nebuchadnezzar's heart as well. We recognized the consequences of giving God lip service and the pit-falls of continuing to honor and serve oneself.

In our study today, we will look at the importance of putting God first when we are in need instead of looking to the resources of man.

**Questions:**

1. Read Dan 4:1-8. After all the times and ways in which the Lord revealed Himself to Nebuchadnezzar, what attitude do we find Nebuchadnezzar walking in?

2. God was dealing with Nebuchadnezzar again. This time through another dream which troubled him. Based on the answer to question 1, what does God allow in our lives to keep us from forgetting Him and becoming idle in our spiritual growth (verse 5)?

3. What else happens as the result of resting in our riches, status and strength when a need arises in our lives (verses 6-8)?

4. What does the Scripture teach us about the importance of first acknowledging God in all situations?

Prov. 3:5-6

Jer. 17:5-8

5. What does the scripture teach us about riches, prosperity and the proper balance?

Riches:

1 Tim 6:17

Mat. 13:22

Prosperity:

Joshua 1:7-8

3 John 2:2

Balance:

Prov. 30:8-9

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is John 3:27**

“A man can \_\_\_\_\_ nothing, except it have been \_\_\_\_\_ him from \_\_\_\_\_.”

**Day Three:** In our previous study, we learned that riches and the pride of life are deceitful and cause us to look to and trust in man instead of God. When we allow this behavior to rule in our lives, God has to re-direct our focus back to Him.

In our study today, we will examine Nebuchadnezzar's vision of a great tree and Nebuchadnezzar's humbling by God.

**Questions:**

1. Read Daniel 4:8-17. In short summary, record Nebuchadnezzar's dream.

2. Most of the times, God will use believers as His instruments in our lives to re-direct our focus back to Him. What did Daniel have that enabled him to be used in verses 8& 9?



3. Are you ready & willing to be used by God to encourage, equip, and lead others to the Lord? What does the Scripture teach us?

2 Tim 4:2

1 Peter 3:15

Gal. 6:1

4. What does verses 10-12 describes about Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom and rule?

5. Read verses 13-17, 20-22. According to these verses, who is the great tree?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is John 3:27**

“A \_\_\_\_\_ can receive \_\_\_\_\_, except it have \_\_\_\_\_ given \_\_\_\_\_ from heaven.”

**Day Four:** Nebuchadnezzar is about to experience the trial of his life. Something is about to happen to “the great tree”. Before we learn the hard way, God wants us to understand the following:

Psalm 32:8-10 “I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye. Be ye not as the horse, or as the mule, which have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee. Many sorrows shall be to the wicked: but he that trusteth in the LORD, mercy shall compass him about.”

**Questions:**

1. Read Dan 4:13-27. In summary, what is about to happen to Nebuchadnezzar?

2. According to verse 17 & 25, what was the purpose of this dream and trial?

3. When Daniel heard the dream, what was his reaction in verse 19? How do you think Daniel felt for Nebuchadnezzar?

4. What was the length of Nebuchadnezzar's trial (verse 16 & 25)? What correlation may this have with the Daniel 3:19 furnace trial for the three Hebrew children?

5. According with verse 27, what sound advice did Daniel give Nebuchadnezzar and what seemed to have been Nebuchadnezzar's greatest iniquity?

6. Do you think that by repenting early, man can avoid God's severe judgment? Discuss your insight with your group.

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is John 3:27**

"A \_\_\_\_\_ can receive \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ it have \_\_\_\_\_ given \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_."

**Day Five:** In our study today, we will continue with Nebuchadnezzar is humbling seven-year experience and his restoration.

**Read Daniel 4:26-37 and answer the following questions:**

1. According with verse 26, what did leaving the stump of the tree roots mean for Nebuchadnezzar?

2. In verse 26, when would Nebuchadnezzar regain his Kingdom?

3. According with verse 30, what is the attitude that will promote the chastening of the Lord? What happened as the result of not repenting from that attitude in verse 31?

4. Read verses 32 & 33 and describe what happened to Nebuchadnezzar. According with verse 32, how many years did Nebuchadnezzar take to recognize that the Lord God reigns and controls all things?

5. According with verses 34-35, what did Nebuchadnezzar learn through the trial and suffering? What additional insight can we glean from verse 36 and Heb. 12:9-11 about the fruits of the Lord's chastening?

6. Is Nebuchadnezzar's confession in verse 37 that of a saved man? What do you think?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is James 4:10**

“\_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_.”

**DANIEL**  
**Lesson 5 - Chapter 5**

**Daniel's experience under Belshazzar**  
**Belshazzar defiles the holy vessels-The handwriting on the wall**  
**The end of the Babylonian Empire**

Many years passed between the events in chapter 4 and the beginning of chapter 5. Nebuchadnezzar had died and his son Nabonidus, and Nabonidus' eldest son Belshazzar reigned.

At this point in time, Daniel was between 80-90 years of age and the end of the Babylonian Empire was at hand. The children of Israel had been in captivity for almost seventy years and Daniel would serve into the reign of Darius and Cyrus, the Mede and Persian kings, prior to the end of the captivity.

In our study today, we will examine the danger of departing from the fear of the Lord, Daniel's experience and strong walk in the presence of Belshazzar, as well as the consequences of defiling what belongs to God.

**Day One: Read Daniel 5:1-4**

**Questions:**

1. What is the difference between the end of Nebuchadnezzar's reign in Dan. 4:36-37 and the early reign of his grandson Belshazzar in Dan. 5:1-4?

2. The fear of the Lord that Nebuchadnezzar had learned had been lost in the lives of his son and grandson Belshazzar. What does the Scripture command us, as fathers, to do?

Deut. 6:6-7

Prov. 22:4-6

3. What did Belshazzar partake of at the feast that led him to act in the flesh and defile the vessels of God?

4. What does the Scriptures teach about drinking alcohol or strong drink?

Prov. 20:1

Prov. 23:29-35

Eph. 5:18

5. God's vessels were holy, sanctified for the worship of the Lord in the temple. What happens to those who willingly choose to defile what God considers holy to Him?

1 Cor. 3:16-17

1 Cor. 11:20-30

Rev. 21:27

Titus 1:15-16

**Memory verse: Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Psalms 1:6**

"For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the ungodly shall perish"

**Day Two:** Belshazzar had openly defiled the Lord by misusing the holy vessels. Belshazzar and the Babylonian Empire were about to end. Belshazzar's days were numbered and God's judgment was at hand. Unfortunately, like Belchazzar, many men live today not considering the shortness of life and the consequences of their wicked ways. They live as though they will never be judged by God.

In our study today, we will look at God's handwriting on the wall and Belshazzar's reaction to the coming judgment. We will also examine the impact that Daniel had in the lives of Babylonian rulers.

**Questions:**

1. Read Dan 5:5-9. What did God do in verse 5 to catch Belshazzar's attention?

2. A few minutes before, the king was drinking and having a worldly good time. In verses 6 & 9, what did the mood of the king turn to? What does the following Scripture tell us about the attitude people in the last days would have, prior to God's coming judgement?

King's mood:

1 Thess. 5:2-3

3. Comparing the mood of the king in verses 1-4 with verses 6&9, what does this tell you about the pleasures of this world? Before you answer, read 1 John 2:16.

4. Read Dan 5:10-12. The king was greatly troubled. His lords and astrologers could not help him interpret the writing on the wall. According to verses 10-11, who had been spiritually impacted by Daniel's witness in the past?

5. What do verses 10-12 show us about Daniel's witness and spiritual walk? What do the following scriptures encourage us to be?

V 10-12

1 Cor 15:58

2 Pet 3:14

1 Tim 4:12

**Memory verse: Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Psalms 1:6**

“ For the \_\_\_\_\_ knows the way of the \_\_\_\_\_, but the way of the \_\_\_\_\_ shall perish”

**Day Three:** In our study today, we will continue learning from Daniel's character and witness in the Babylonian court.

**Questions:**

1. Read Daniel 5:10-12. The queen had personally been touched in the past by the life and godly example of Daniel. She remembered that the Holy Spirit lived in Daniel. What does having the Spirit of God in you (v11) mean to you? Share scripture references if you desire.

2. Read Dan 5:13-17. According to this passage, why do you think Daniel did not accept the promotion and gifts?

3. Read verses 18-30. What do verses 18-22 indicate to us about Belshazzar and what do you think he failed to do with what he knew? Before you answer, please read James 4:17.

4. What does the Scripture teach us about not doing what is right after we hear the truth?

James 1:22-25

5. Based on the James 1:22-25, what happens as the result of us hearing and doing the truth?

**Memory verse: Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Psalms 1:6**

“ For the \_\_\_\_\_ knows the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, but the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Day Four:** Read Dan. 5:22-30. Belshazzar had defiled the Lord by choosing to worship his idol gods with the holy vessels knowing full well about the power of God in the life of his grandfather Nebuchadnezzar. In our study today we will focus on Daniel’s statement regarding the weakness of man-made idols and the sovereignty of God over mankind.

**Questions:**

1. What were Belshazzar’s idol gods like, according to Daniel (Verse 23)?

2. What additional insight can we glean from the Scriptures about what is behind a man-made idol, and the consequences when mankind decides to worship idols?

1 Cor. 10:19-21

Romans 1:18-31

3. Consider Daniel’s statement in verse 23 about our God. How does this passage minister to you, if you know the Lord?

4. What other things should mankind consider about our Lord?

Col. 1:16-17

Hebrews 4:13

Proverbs 5:21

Proverbs 15:3

**Memory verse: Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Psalms 1:6**

“ For \_\_\_\_\_ knows \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, but \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ shall \_\_\_\_\_ ”

**Day Five:** Those who know the Lord and understand His sovereignty and justice find comfort, assurance and encouragement to walk closer to Him. Unfortunately, for those who do not know the Lord and many who claim to know the Lord but walk in their own ways defiling God, some day will be found wanting before God, like Belshazzar.

In our study today, we will examine the handwriting on the wall and its meaning for Belshazzar and for all that walk in his ways. We will also examine the standard by which a believer is weighed and judged versus that of a non-believer.

**Questions:**

1. Read Dan. 5:24-30. In verse 24, God sent the fingers of a hand to write a message in the Aramaic language for Belshazzar. According with verses 25-28, what was the message and its three-part interpretation?

2. Examining the first part of the interpretation, how does it relate to mankind as individuals? What additional insight can we glean from the following Scriptures?

Psalms 90:9-12

Psalms 139:15-16



3. In the second part of the interpretation, we find Belshazzar being weighed in God's balance, by God's standard. According with verse 27, how did Belshazzar measure up? What do the following Scripture references indicate about the chances of even a good man passing God's test?

Verse 27:

Romans 3:10-11

Romans 3:23

Isaiah 59:2

Isaiah 64:6

4. As believers, by what weight or standard is God going to judge us by? What do you think the outcome will be and why? Before you answer, please consider the following Scriptures. Philippians 3:8-9, 1 Pet 3:18, John 1:12, James 2:23

God's weight or standard:

Our outcome and why?

5. What will be the difference between the judgement of the believer and unbeliever?

Believers (Psalms 103:10-12) (1 Corinthians 3:12-15)

Unbelievers (Revelation 20:12-13)

**Memory verse: Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Psalms 1:6**

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ”  
\_\_\_\_\_

**DANIEL**  
**Lesson 6 - Chapter 6**

**Beginning of the Medo-Persian Empire**  
**Daniel's Life under Darius the Mede**  
**The Plot against Daniel-Daniel in the Lion's Den**

Belshazzar, King of Babylon, was slain. Historians tell us that Cyrus, King of Persia, with the help of two Babylonian deserters, had discovered that the foundations of the walls surrounding the city of Babylon were decaying by the waters of the River Euphrates. While Belshazzar celebrated with his lords, Darius diverted the waters of the Euphrates, thus exposing various tunnels under the city walls, allowing him to take over the city of Babylon with ease.

The prophecies of the image that Nebuchadnezzar saw were being fulfilled. The chest and arms of silver (Medo-Persian Empire) was taking over the head of gold (Babylon).

Darius the Mede, who reigned in Babylon until Cyrus the Persian king took over, was named Gobryas by the Babylonians. His new name means "Conqueror of Babylon". Daniel, at this time, was a very old man, probably over 90, and Darius, the conqueror of Babylon, immediately placed Daniel in charge of the Babylonian government. This was probably because Daniel had just foretold the victory of the Medes (5:28).

In our study today, we will examine Daniel's unswerving devotion to his own God, his faith and courage in the midst of the Medo-Persian rulers.

**Day One:**

**Questions: Read Daniel 6:1-5**

1. What happened to Daniel when Darius the Mede took over the Babylonian kingdom (verses 1-2)?
2. What did Darius find in Daniel that made him promote him (verses 2 & 3)?
3. Where does promotion come from according to the following Scripture?

Psalm 75:6-7

4. In verse 4, how did the leadership of Darius' government react to Daniel's great character and godly spirit?

5. What do the following Scripture teach us about the way some people will react towards our Christian influence?

2 Corinthians 2:14-16

Matthew 5:11

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 1 Cor. 15:58**

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, un-moveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, for as much as you know that your labor is not in vain in the Lord"

**Day Two:** With privileges come responsibility and accountability. Daniel was promoted again because of his excellent spirit and character. Daniel was made chief governor of Babylon and his position made some of the leadership jealous and critical towards him. Therefore, these other government officials sought out to destroy Daniel's credibility and godly reputation.

In our study today, we will examine Daniel's example of a believer above reproach, at work and in his devotion to God.

**Questions: Read Daniel 6:1-5**

1. Daniel had just been promoted to a high and visible position. God has placed many of us in leadership roles at work. In these roles, we are being watched carefully by our employer and by subordinates. Many watching us do not approve of our Christian profession of faith and look for an excuse in our behavior to reject coming to Christ. What did the government officials find about Daniel, with regards to his work ethic in verse 4-5?

2. What does the answer of question 1 have in common with the attitude and character found in those believers being rewarded by Christ at the judgment (Matthew 25:23)?

3. What does the Scripture teach us about what our work ethic should be and why?

Colossians 3:22

Ephesians 6:5

1 Timothy 6:2

Titus 2:9-10

4. Because these governors could not find fault against Daniel regarding his work ethic, what area of Daniel's life were they going to try to find fault or disagreement with, (verse 4)?

5. Today, many that dislike Christians tend to find fault by, using the Word of God against them. They say, "If you're a Christian ...." Fill in the blanks with statements people have made against you.

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 1 Cor. 15:58**

"Therefore, my \_\_\_\_\_ brethren, be ye \_\_\_\_\_, un-moveable, always \_\_\_\_\_ in the work of the \_\_\_\_\_, for as much as you \_\_\_\_\_ that your labor is not in vain in the \_\_\_\_\_"

**Day Three:** In our study today, we will look at the plot against Daniel and the danger of conforming and being influenced by others to do wrong.

**Questions:**

1. Read Daniel 6: 6-12. According to verse 7, what was the plot of these governors to find fault with Daniel?

2. Based on what you read about King Darius in verses 6-9, what were his governors trying to do with Darius?

3. The governors attempted to deceive Darius by exalting him to the level of known deities in order to get him to sign the decree. What do the following Scriptures teach believers about influencing people?

Romans 12:2

Acts 4:13

Acts 17:5-6

4. The Scriptures command Christians to be the salt of the earth. What is salt good for?

5. There are two types of Christians. Those that are like thermometers and those that are like the thermostat. Can you explain the difference? Which one do you think the Lord would want you to be?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 1 Cor. 15:58**

“Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_ brethren, be ye \_\_\_\_\_, un-moveable, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in the work \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, for as \_\_\_\_\_ as you \_\_\_\_\_ that your labor is  
not in \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_”

**Day Four: Read Dan. 6:10-17.**

King Darius had been influenced by his wicked governors to sign a decree that would allow them to solidify accusations against Daniel. As we look back to the early studies of Daniel, we recognize that Daniel was a man of purpose. He purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the king's meat.

As we will examine in our study today, Daniel was also a man of prayer. Many biblical scholars believe that it was Daniel's prayer life and deep communion with God that produced his godly and spirit-filled character.

**Questions:**

1. Knowing full well about the consequences of praying to someone other than the king, what did Daniel do in verse 10?

2. What does verse 10 tell us about what encompasses prayer and about Daniel's customs?

3. What was the custom of the early church regarding prayer?

Acts 1:13-14

Acts 3:1

Acts 6:4

4. Why do you think prayer is important?

5. What are some of the benefits of prayer according to the Scriptures?

Jer. 33:3

Mark 11:24

Philip. 1:19

Philip. 4:6-7

James 5:16

1 Pet. 3:12

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 1 Cor. 15:58**

“Therefore, \_\_\_\_\_ brethren, be \_\_\_\_\_, un-\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in the work \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, for as \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_ that your  
\_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_”

**Day Five:** Daniel was a man of prayer. From his youth he developed a wonderful prayer life with God. Through prayer, Daniel understood God’s character, mercy and love for His people. Through prayer, Daniel had a powerful impact on people and the environment around him.

In our study today, we will examine the effects of Daniel’s prayer, the deliverance from the lion’s den, and the impact Daniel had on King Darius’ life.

**Questions:**

1. Based on his knowledge of the decree in verse 10 and its consequences, what do you think Daniel was praying and making supplication for in verse 11?

2. How did King Darius feel about the decree he signed in verse 14 after finding out that it was Daniel who was praying to his God?

3. In what way did Daniel's prayer life impact King Darius in verse 16?

4. Daniel had walked steadfast before the Lord and that had been evident to King Darius. What did the king do on his own to help Daniel out in verse 18?

5. What do verses 20-27, describe to you about the faith of King Darius?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 1 Cor. 15:58**

“ \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_”  
\_\_\_\_\_

**DANIEL**  
**Lesson 7 - Chapter 7**

**PROPHETICAL SECTION BEGINS**

**Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts**  
**The Coming of Antichrist**  
**The Second Coming of Christ**  
**Interpretation of Daniel's Vision**

Up to this point, our study has covered the life of Daniel during the Babylonian and Medo-Persian Empires under the rule of King Nebuchadnezzar and Darius the Mede. As indicated in the study outline, between Daniel chapters 1 and 6 we have examined, in summary form, the rule of Gentile World Empires as defined in the dream of Nebuchadnezzar's image. This section of the book is known as the "historical section" of Daniel.

Daniel chapter 7 begins the section of the book identified as the "prophetical section". In this section, detailed prophecies were revealed to Daniel regarding future events such as the beginning and end of the Medo-Persian, Greek and Roman Empires.

Additionally, prophecies were revealed to Daniel which have yet to be fulfilled regarding the coming of Antichrist, the Second Coming of Christ and the Millennium reign of Christ. Daniel's prophecies were so amazingly detailed that some critics could not believe that they were written by Daniel, but argued that they were written much later, after some of the events had come to pass.

In our study today, we will examine Daniel's vision of the Four Beasts that God revealed to him after the death of Nebuchadnezzar. These Four Beasts represent the same kingdoms Nebuchadnezzar saw in his image in Daniel's chapter 2. In this vision, God revealed to Daniel greater detail regarding these kingdoms and their Kings, their character, military strategies, victories and defeats.

To assist you in this study, please refer to the interpretation chart previously provided with the study outline.

**Day One:**

**Questions: Read Daniel 7:1-28**

1. According to verse 1, Daniel recorded the sum of his dream. Why do you think Daniel decided to record his dream?

2. What does the great sea that Daniel saw in verse 2 represent? See Revelation 17:15 and the prophecy interpretation matrix for assistance.



3. What came up out of the sea of nations, according to verse 3?

4. What did the first beast look like, according to verse 4, and what kingdom and king does it represent?  
See Dan 4:28-34

5. What world empires does the second beast, the bear, represent in verse 5? Please refer to the matrix of interpretation for assistance?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Matthew 24:44**

“Therefore be ye also ready for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.”

### **Day Two:**

In our study of day 1, we learned that approximately 60 years after Daniel had interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the Great Image, God revealed to him the vision of the Four Beasts, representing the same four kingdoms of King Nebuchadnezzar's image.

God had revealed to Daniel events that would shortly be fulfilled in his lifetime under the reign of King Darius and Cyrus of the Medo-Persian Empires. God would also reveal to him details of events that would take place 105 years after his vision concerning the rise, division and fall of the Grecian Empire under Alexander the Great.

Lastly, God would show Daniel the rise of the revived Roman empire with the Antichrist as its leader rising out of Ten Kingdoms that make up the revived Roman Empire. Daniel's vision of the Four Beasts finishes with the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ and the setting up of His Millennium kingdom on earth. Daniel recorded only the summary of the vision, which we have in Daniel chapter 7.

In our study today, we will examine the Third and Fourth Beast, the Grecian and Roman Empires.

**Questions: Read Daniel 7:5-28 and answer the following questions.**

1. The Third beast “the leopard” is equivalent to the Third Kingdom of Nebuchadnezzar's image in Daniel 2:39. According to history, what Empire and King does the Third Kingdom represent?

2. Alexander the Great was the leader of the Grecian Empire. According with Daniel 2:39, how extensive would his rule be?

3. We have learned that Alexander the Great was the leader of the third beast or the Grecian Empire. Alexander died at the early age of thirty-two and did not have children to leave his inheritance to, but he had four generals leading his armies. How are these four generals represented in the third beast (verse 6)?

4. In verse 7, Daniel sees the fourth beast. This fourth beast is the same as the fourth kingdom of Daniel 2 with its legs of iron and the feet of iron mixed with clay. What kingdom does this fourth beast represent, and what are its characteristics?

5. With what does the Roman Empire (the fourth kingdom) trample the other kingdoms in verse 7?

**Memory verse: Matthew 24:44 Therefore \_\_\_\_ ye also ready: for in \_\_\_\_ an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.**

### **Day Three:**

In our study of day 2, we looked at the rise of the Roman Empire as represented by a dreadful and terrible beast, so different from all others that Daniel could not find a name for this beast.

In our study today we will examine the Fourth Beast, the revived Roman Empire with its ten nations, its leaders, and the rise of Antichrist as its primary leader.

**Questions: Read Daniel 7:7-28 and answer the following questions.**

1. In verses 7 & 24, we learned that the “Ten Horns” represent “Ten Kings” that will come out of ten kingdoms that make up the revived Roman Empire, or as we call it today, the European Union. According with verses 8 & 24, what came up in the midst of these ten horns that caught Daniel’s attention?

2. What characteristics does this “little horn” have in verses 8 & 24-25? Who do the Scriptures teach this “little horn” is?

1 John 2:18

3. What other name is Antichrist called in the Scripture? What are Antichrist's goals and desires and where does the Antichrist get his power?

2 Thessalonians 2:3-9

4. According with verse 8, what is Antichrist, as the ruler of the revived Roman Empire, going to do with three of the ten kings or kingdoms that make up the revived Roman Empire?

5. What will the Antichrist do during the last three and one half years of his earthly reign (verses 22 & 25)?

**Memory verse: Matthew 24:44** "Therefore ---- ye also \_\_\_\_: for in \_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_ as ye think not the \_\_\_\_\_ of man \_\_\_\_\_."

#### **Day Four:**

Daniel's vision has provided us with the events that will take place prior to and during the last seven years of world history. In these last days, the antichrist will become ruler over the revived Roman Empire and will deceive many to follow Satan. Those who refuse to follow him will be persecuted by the Antichrist. In our previous lesson, we learned about the rise of antichrist and his desire to become like God. Fortunately, according with God's plan, that will never happen.

In our study today, we will examine the destruction of Antichrist and the end of the revived Roman Empire. We will also look at the events in heaven prior to the Second Coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and the judgment of Antichrist and his kingdom.

#### **Questions: Read Daniel 7:9-28 and answer the following questions.**

1. In verse 9 & 13, Daniel's vision now turns towards heaven. Daniel sees the "Ancient of Days" sitting on the throne and One like the Son of Man coming to the Ancient of Days. Who do you think is the Ancient of Days?

2. Read Mark 9:2-3 and Revelation 1:9-15. What common characteristics can you record between what Mark and John saw about the Lord Jesus, and what Daniel saw about God the Father in verse 9?

3. Who do you think are the thousand thousands and ten thousand times ten thousand standing and ministering before the Ancient of Days in verse 10? Refer to the Scripture below before you answer the question.

Rev. 5:9-12

4. Read verses 10-12 & 24-27. What is God about to do in this passage?

5. How will the Antichrist be judged according with verses 11-12, 26-27 & Revelation 20:10?

**Memory verse: Matthew 24:44** Therefore ---- \_\_\_\_\_ also \_\_\_\_\_ : for in \_\_\_\_\_ an \_\_\_\_\_ as ye  
\_\_\_\_\_ not the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Day Five:**

The Scriptures teach that because of Christ's work of redemption, God the Father has given Him all power, dominion, authority and judgment over all things. The Antichrist and the world in the last days will be judged for their open rebellion against God, and for the persecution of God's people.

God's prophetic calendar shows the rapture of the church and the Second Coming of Christ preceding the judgment of this world. In our study today, we will focus on the events in heaven prior to the Second Coming of Christ to earth and the setting up Christ's Millennium Kingdom on earth.

### **Questions: Read Daniel 7:9-28 and answer the following questions.**

1. Chronologically, Daniel's vision recorded in verses 9-12 will take place after the events in verses 13-14. The Second Coming of Christ precedes the judgment. In verses 13-14, who is brought before God the Father?

2. What is the reason Christ is brought before God the Father in verse 14?

3. Verse 14 indicated that God the Father has given all authority and dominion over all kingdoms and peoples to Christ. What other insight can you glean from verses 22 & 27?

4. In verse 21, we are told that the Antichrist made war on earth with the saints (Jewish and Gentile believers that came to Christ after the rapture) and prevailed against them. At this time, verse 22 indicates that the Ancient of Days, (a name used for both God the Father and the Son) in this case Jesus Christ, came. This is a description of Christ's Second Coming to earth to judge and establish His Millennium reign on earth. Read the Scriptures below and record details of Christ's Second Coming.

Revelation 19:11-16

Zechariah 14:3-11

5. So the Lord will come again, as He promised by Daniel, Zachariah, and many other prophets. According with Daniel 7:27, what is the inheritance believers will enjoy with the Lord? How did Daniel feel after such a revelation from God (verse 28)?

**Memory verse: Matthew 24:44** \_\_\_\_\_ ---- \_\_\_\_\_ : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .

**DANIEL**  
**Lesson 8 - Chapter 8**

**PROPHETICAL SECTION CONTINUES**  
**Daniel's Second Vision**  
**Detailed Prophecies of Persian & Greek Empires**  
**Alexander The Great**  
**Antiochus Epiphanes & The Antichrist**

In our study of lesson 7, we examined Daniel's first vision concerning the prophecies of the four Gentile world empires that would rule the world until the Second Coming of Christ. Daniel's first vision occurred during the first year of the reign of Belshazzar, King of Babylon.

Two years after Daniel had received the first vision, while in Babylon, Daniel received a second vision and saw himself standing by the river Ulai in Persia. This second vision will be the focus of our study in lesson 8.

Daniel's second vision primarily deals with the defeat of the second empire, (Medo-Persian) represented by the ram with two horns, by the third empire, (Grecian) represented by the goat with four horns.

In our study today, we will look at details about the life and death of Alexander the Great. Also we will examine the reign of the Eighth-Seleucid king, Antiochus Epiphanes. Antiochus was the descendant of one of Alexander's generals, Seleucus I, who took over Syria after the death of Alexander the Great. Antiochus Epiphanes persecuted the Jews, sought to be worshiped as god and defiled the temple of God, just as Daniel predicted.

As we study chapter 8, it is important to differentiate between the "Little Horn" of chapter 7:8 coming out of the fourth kingdom (the Antichrist) and the "Little Horn" of chapter 8:9 coming out of the third kingdom (Antiochus Epiphanes). It is also important to mention that all of the prophecies in this chapter concerning Antiochus Epiphanes were fulfilled between (171-164 BC), while the prophecies regarding the Antichrist (8:23-25) remain to be fulfilled in our near future.

Additionally, in chapter 8, we will recognize that some of the prophecies for Antiochus Epiphanes have double application for the future Antichrist. In the last days, the Antichrist will persecute the Jewish people, will command to be worshipped as god and will defile God's temple, (the abomination of desolation) following in the footsteps of Antiochus Epiphanes.

To assist you in this study, please refer to the interpretation chart previously provided with the study outline.

## **Day One:**

### **Questions: Read Daniel 8:1-27**

1. Where was Daniel when he received the second vision (verse 1)?
2. Although Daniel received the vision in Babylon, where did Daniel see himself standing in the vision (verse 2)?
3. According to Daniel, what was standing beside the river? Based on the description given in verses 3 & 20, what does it represent?
4. According with verse 3, one of the ram's horns was higher than the other. What nation was stronger, the Medes or Persia?
5. Verse 4 tells us that the ram (Persia) pushed westward, northward and southward conquering. The Medo-Persian Empire had conquered Babylon, Egypt and Lydia. How does Daniel in 7:5 identify these three nations?

### **Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Proverbs 27:1**

“Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

## **Day Two:**

In our study of day 1, we learned about the Medo-Persian Empire, the strength of the Persian side of the kingdom and their conquering of Babylon, Egypt and Lydia.

At the time Persia ruled the known world, Greece was nothing but an insignificant, small province somewhere in the Mediterranean. Greece versus Persia could be compared today, in size and military might, with Guatemala against the United States. Nobody would have thought Greece would someday overcome Persia and conquer the world.

In our study today, we will focus on the defeat of the Medo-Persian Empire (the ram) by the Grecian Empire (the goat). We will examine the Grecian Empire's leader (Alexander the Great), his victory, and character.

**Questions: Read Daniel 8:4-27**

1. What did Daniel see coming out of the west, towards Persia in verse 5?
2. Examine verses 5-7 and record at least three important characteristics of the goat?
3. Who do you think the goat is and the notable horn? Read verse 21 before you answer.
4. According with verses 5-7, what did Alexander the Great (Grecian Empire) do to the Medo-Persian Empire (the ram)?
5. By the age of 32, Alexander the Great had conquered the known world; but history tells us that he was empty, depressed and that he wept because he didn't have anything else to conquer. What do the following Scriptures teach us about mankind's attempt to find fulfillment in life?

Ecclesiastes 2:11

Isaiah 64:6

Matthew 16:26

Romans 8:19-20

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Proverbs 27:1**

“Boast \_\_\_\_ thyself of \_\_\_\_\_; for thou knowest not what a \_\_\_\_\_ may bring forth.



### **Day Three:**

At 32, Alexander had become a military genius, conquering Persia, Babylon, Asia Minor, Syria and Egypt. Alexander the Great had conquered the world, but he could not conquer emptiness and the void in his life. Historians tell us that Alexander loved to drink and to party. One night, after one of his military victories, Alexander got drunk, went home in the rain and fell to sleep upon his bed with wet clothes.

Alexander contracted pneumonia and died at the age of 32. Alexander did not have any children to leave his inheritance to, so his kingdom was divided among his four generals. According to history, Lysimachus took over the area of Thrace (Asia Minor), Ptolemy took over Egypt, Seleucus took over Syria and Antigonus took over Macedonia.

In our study today, we will look at how the Grecian Empire was divided among Alexander's four generals as well as Daniel's prophecies concerning the eighth Seleucid King, Antiochus Epiphanes, "the illustrious one", and his impact on Israel and the rest of the world.

### **Questions: Read Daniel 8:8-27**

1. Alexander the Great grew very strong, and by the age of 32 had conquered the world in a very short time. What happened to Alexander after he had become strong (verse 8)?
2. It is sad that Alexander's life was cut short. Because he did not have any children to pass his inheritance to, who took over everything Alexander owned (verse 8)?
3. Four generals took over Alexander's possessions. Lysimachus, Ptolemy, Seleucus and Antigonus. According with verse 9, out of Seleucus came out a "little horn". This horn was the Eight-Seleucid king. What was his name?
4. Antiochus Epiphanes, "the illustrious one", grew exceedingly great toward the South, East and towards the Glorious Land. What do you think is the Glorious (or pleasant) Land (verse 9)? Before you answer, please read Jeremiah 3:18-19.
5. Antiochus Epiphanes came against the land of Israel and persecuted the Jewish people with great cruelty. Who did Antiochus persecute most in Israel, and what does "some of the host and the stars" (verse 10) refer to?

### **Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Proverbs 27:1**

"Boast \_\_\_\_ thyself \_\_\_\_\_; for thou \_\_\_\_\_ not what a \_\_\_\_\_ may bring forth.

## **Day Four:**

Antiochus Epiphanes developed extreme hatred for the Jewish people. He cruelly persecuted the Jews, especially those who served in the priesthood in the sanctuary. Historians have recorded how Antiochus hated the Jewish form of worship, and how he profaned the temple by placing a pig's head on the altar, and an image of his god, Jupiter, in the holy place.

We are told in Daniel's prophecy that he would oppose the truth by military force would demand that all people in his kingdom adopt Gentile customs of worship. Antiochus succeeded and caused the daily sacrifices and Jewish worship to cease.

Outraged with Antiochus' actions, Mattathias, an aged Jewish priest, father of Judas Maccabee, rounded up a band of heroic Jews to oppose Antiochus Epiphanes persecution. Two thousand, three hundred days after Antiochus had profaned the sanctuary, Judas Maccabee and his men cleansed it, putting an end to the transgression of desolation (8:13). This event is commemorated by the Jewish festival of Hanukkah. Judas was eventually killed in battle. Jonathan, who was appointed high priest until his own untimely death, succeeded him. Peace and Jewish independence were established by Simon (another member of the Maccabee family) through an alliance with the Romans in 142 BC.

The historical account can be found in the apocrypha's book of The Maccabees. Apocrypha means "Hidden", and is the name given to certain ancient books which found a place in the Latin Vulgate versions of the Old Testament. These books were appended to all the great translations made in the sixteenth century, but have no claim to be regarded, in any sense, as parts of the inspired Word.

In our study today, we will examine Antiochus' persecution of the Jewish people and the restoration of the sanctuary by Judas Maccabee.

### **Questions: Read Daniel 8:11-19 and answer the following questions.**

1. Daniel's prophecy indicates that Antiochus would persecute those serving in the Jewish priesthood (verse 10). According with verse 11, what did Antiochus really desire?
2. What happened to the daily sacrifices after Antiochus came against the priesthood and the sanctuary in verse 12?
3. As we examine verse 12 regarding Antiochus and Daniel 11:31 regarding the Antichrist, what do they have in common?
4. In verse 13, we find a holy one speaking to another holy one in heaven asking how long would the sanctuary remain trodden under foot? What did the holy one answer in verse 14?

5. According to history, who cleansed the sanctuary after two thousand three hundred days?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Proverbs 27:1**

“Boast \_\_\_\_ thyself \_\_\_\_\_; for \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_ a \_\_\_\_\_ may bring \_\_\_\_\_.”

### **Day Five:**

In our study today, we will examine the ministry of angels in the lives of God's people. We will also examine prophecies concerning the future Antichrist, his characteristics and persecution of the Jewish people.

**Questions: Read Daniel 8:15-27 and answer the following questions.**

1. God had revealed to Daniel a vision of future events regarding the persecution and final restoration of the nation of Israel. In verse 15, Daniel sought for the meaning of the vision. How do you think Daniel went about it?

2. In verse 16, we find Gabriel the Archangel. In the Bible, we know of three Arch-angels created by God: Gabriel, Lucifer (Satan) and Michael. Gabriel was sent by God to reveal to Daniel the meaning of the vision. According to the following Scriptures, what other significant mission was Gabriel sent to do?

Dan 9:21-27

Luke 1:11

Luke 1:26

3. According with verses 18-19, for what period in time was the meaning of the vision intended for?

4. Beginning in verse 23-25, Gabriel reveals to Daniel that Antichrist will be coming. According to these verses, what are some of his characteristics?

5. Verse 24 tells us that Antichrist's power will be mighty, but will not be his own. Where does Antichrist's power and deceit come from?

2 Thess. 2:9-10

6. According with verse 25, in what way will the Antichrist destroy many? How will he be destroyed (2 Thess. 2:8)?

Verse 25

2 Thess. 2:8

7. What three things in verse 25 differentiate Antiochus Epiphanes from the Antichrist?

1.

2.

3.

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is Proverbs 27:1**

“ \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ .”

**DANIEL**  
**Lesson 9 - Chapter 9**

**PROPHETICAL SECTION CONTINUES**  
**Daniel and the Study of Prophecy**  
**Daniel's Prayer**

In our study of lesson 8, we examined Daniel's second vision concerning the life and death of Alexander the Great, the reign and persecution of the Eight Seleucid kings, Antiochus Epiphanes, and details concerning the coming of Antichrist.

Even though Daniel received visions from God and could interpret dreams, Daniel still read the Scriptures and sought to understand them. A year after Daniel had received his second vision, during the first year of King Darius' reign, while pondering Jeremiah 25, he understood that the seventy years of Jewish captivity would soon end.

Knowing with certainty that God's Word would come to pass, Daniel sought God with prayer and fasting to find out God's will for himself and for the future of the nation of Israel.

In our study today, we will examine the importance for God's people to study Bible prophecy. We will learn from Daniel to be aware of the signs of the times in light of God's prophetic calendar and how to approach God in prayer. To assist you in this study, please refer to the interpretation chart previously provided with the study outline.

**Day One:**

**Questions: Read Daniel 9:1-3**

1. Daniel had outlived the kings of the Babylonian Empire. By the signs of the times he knew that the end of the Jewish captivity was just about over. According with verse 2, how did Daniel verify that the Jewish captivity was surely almost over?

2. In verse 2 we are told that Daniel studied the books of the prophets, specifically the book of Jeremiah. From the passage below, what two key points do you think revealed to Daniel that the captivity was just about over?

Jeremiah 25:1-13

3. One hundred and twenty years before any of the kings of the Medo-Persian empire (Darius & Cyrus) were born, Isaiah the prophet had prophesied regarding the king of Persia and what he would do for the Jewish people in captivity. It is very possible that Daniel also studied Isaiah's prophecy of the seventy-year captivity. According to the passage below, who was Isaiah prophesying about and what might have brought excitement and encouragement to Daniel about the prophecy?

Isaiah 44:24-26, 45:1-4

4. Why should we study prophecy today? Before answering read the passage below.

1 Peter 1:19-21

Your answer:

5. Daniel wanted to study and inquire about God's plan for the future of the nation of Israel. He did this by looking into the Word of God. As God's people today, what are some topics of prophecy we should be studying that concern us in the days to come?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 2 Peter 1:21**

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

**Day Two:**

In our early studies of Daniel, we discovered that Daniel was a man of spiritual integrity, not willing to compromise with the things of this world. We also noticed, that Daniel was a man of the Word. He stayed focused on God by studying the Word of God.

In Daniel chapter 9, we will recognize that Daniel was a man of humility and of prayer, he was quick to recognize the sinfulness of the Jewish nation, and God's loving character. In our study today, we will look at the importance of confession, fasting and prayer.

**Questions: Read Daniel 9:2-19**

1. What motivated Daniel to pray in verses 2-3?

2. The study of prophecy is intended to lead us to a deeper spiritual life. How did it affect Daniel's attitude and prayer life in verse 2?

3. Read verse 2 and record five ways Daniel used to make a request of the Lord.

4. Using a dictionary, record the definition of prayer and supplications. Based on the definition, have you ever made a supplication to the Lord?

Prayer:

Supplications:

5. Daniel mentions that he requested of the Lord by prayer, supplications and fasting. Why do you think Daniel practiced fasting? What benefits can fasting provide believers?

6. Read the following Scriptures and record the types of situations in which fasting was used throughout the Bible.

2 Sam 12:15-16

Neh. 1:1-4

Matt. 4:1-2

Matt. 17:15-21

Act 13:1-3

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 2 Peter 1:21**

“For the \_\_\_\_\_ came not in old time by the \_\_\_\_\_ of man: but holy \_\_\_\_\_ of God spake as they were \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Ghost.”

### **Day Three:**

Daniel, concerned about the end of the Jewish captivity, felt encouraged to look and study the prophecies of Jeremiah. From our previous study, we noticed that the subject of Bible prophecy promotes a desire for prayer and consecration to God on the part of believers.

Upon discovering that the end of Jewish captivity was at hand, Daniel felt encouraged to pray, fast and make confession for the spiritual condition of the nation of Israel. In our study today, we will examine the structure of Daniel's prayer, and learn how he approached the Lord.

### **Questions: Read Daniel 9:4-19**

1. As you focus on verses 4-9, Daniel said that he made his confession to God. What two parts of his confession make up Daniel's prayer?
2. What is Daniel establishing in verse 4? How should we begin our prayer or confession?
3. It is important that we come to God on the basis of who He is and what He has done for us. It is because of what Christ did for us on the cross, that we are able to approach God at all. Daniel was a man above reproach, of great integrity and beloved of God. What did Daniel have to say about himself and the nation of Israel in verse 5-6? What does this passage teach us about approaching God?
4. According with verses 5-7, how did Israel sin against God and why?
5. Someone said "This book (The Bible) will keep you from sin, but sin will keep you from this book." Not abiding in the Word of God will result in believers departing from the truth and sinning against God. According to verses 7-8, how did God deal with Israel's sin?

### **Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 2 Peter 1:21**

"For the \_\_\_\_\_ came \_\_\_\_\_ in old time \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of man: but holy \_\_\_\_\_ of God \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_ were \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ Ghost."



## Day Four:

In our study today, we will continue examining Daniel's prayer.

**Questions: Read Daniel 9:9-19 and answer the following questions.**

1. What does verse 9 tell us about Daniel's knowledge of God's grace?
2. Israel had sinned and had long rebelled against the Lord. Even after God, in His mercy, sent judges and prophets to guide them, Israel chose to disobey. According with the Scriptures below, what was the curse Daniel mentions in verses 10-14?

Lev 26:13-36

3. According with the passage in Leviticus 26, the children of Israel had failed to give the land of Israel rest from cultivation. God would now give the land of Israel the rest it should have, by allowing the children of Israel to go into captivity. If the Israelites spent seventy years in captivity, how many years did they not give the land of Israel rest, if we follow the seven times curse promised in Leviticus 26?
4. God would allow the land of Israel to rest for seventy years because the Jewish nation had not obeyed the Word of the Lord. What did Israel's sin cause in their spiritual lives, according with verses 17-18?
5. Sin always causes spiritual desolation and waste. Daniel cried out to the Lord to hear his prayer and to quickly restore Israel. For whose sake did Daniel ask that God would answer? On what basis did Daniel and (should believers today) approach the Lord?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 2 Peter 1:21**

“For \_\_\_\_\_ came \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ time \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_: but \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_ were \_\_\_\_\_ by the \_\_\_\_\_ Ghost.”

**Day Five:**

**Questions: Read Daniel 9:20-23.**

1. How did the Lord respond in verse 21& 23, to Daniel's request in verse 19?
2. What does this passage teach us about God's response when believers pray?
3. Just like God dispatched Gabriel the Archangel to answer Daniel's prayer, what has God dispatched your way to answer your prayer? Share your experience.
4. According to verse 24, what was Daniel in need of that Gabriel provided?
5. Per the Scriptures below, how does God provide understanding of the Scriptures for us today?

Luke 24:36-45

1 John 2:27

1 John 5:20

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is 2 Peter 1:21**

“ \_\_\_\_\_ :  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.”

**DANIEL**  
**Lesson 10 - Chapter 9:20-27**

**PROPHETICAL SECTION CONTINUES**  
**Daniel Seventy Weeks**

In our study of lesson 9, we examined how Daniel sought God with prayer and fasting, to find out God's will for himself and for the future of the nation of Israel.

God answered Daniel, by sending Gabriel the Archangel. Gabriel provided Daniel with understanding of the visions and prophecies he had received, concerning future events for the Jewish people, known as "Daniel's Seventy Weeks."

The study of Daniel's Seventy Weeks prophecy, is the key to understanding the rest of Bible prophecy. First and foremost, the "Seventy Week" prophecy has to do directly with Israel, Not the church. Many have made the mistake of interpreting and believing that God is finished with Israel and the church has now become spiritual Israel. Nothing can be further from the truth!

Daniel was told that "seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city."(Dan. 9:24) Seventy weeks of seven years each, is a period of 490 years or 173,880 days using a 360 days prophetic year calendar, in which various events would be fulfilled in Israel's history.

In Daniel 9:25-27 and Nehemiah 2:1, we are given the date when the seventy weeks would begin. The date was 445 B.C. Exactly 93 years after Daniel received the prophecy; Nehemiah received the decree of King Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem.

From the time of the decree to rebuild Jerusalem, sixty-nine weeks of sevens would transpire until Messiah would come (Dan 9:25), and after the sixty-nine weeks, Messiah would die (Dan. 9:26). In the year 32 A.D, Jesus the Messiah, made his triumphal entry (John 12:12-16) and four days later was crucified, thus fulfilling and concluding the sixty-nine weeks. In Luke 19:41-42 we are given the account of how Israel failed to recognize the fulfillment of the sixty-nine weeks:

Luke 19:41-42 And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it, 42 Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.

Sixty-nine weeks have been fulfilled. According to Daniel, one more week of seven years remain to be fulfilled. This last week is known as "Daniel's Seventieth Week," and it is basically the last seven years of world history in which the Antichrist will come on the scene, and will deceive Israel and the world in believing that he is Messiah. The first three and a half years, or half of the week, the Antichrist will establish a covenant with Israel, facilitating the construction of the new temple in Jerusalem, and re-instituting Jewish worship and sacrifices. Suddenly, at the end of the three and a half years, the Antichrist will break his covenant with the Jews and trigger desolation (Matthew 24).

Unfortunately, the remaining or last three and a half years, known as the "Great Tribulation" period, will be a literal hell on earth, as God unleashes His judgment on the earth.

Jesus said: “And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.” (Matthew 24:22)

At the end of the Seventieth Week, Jesus the Messiah will come back to earth with his saints (Rev.19:11-16) (Dan. 12:11) God would triumph, the antichrist would be destroyed, Jerusalem would become truly a holy city, and the church would rule and reign with Christ in His millennium kingdom.

In our study today, we will examine Daniel’s Seventy Weeks. To assist you in this study, please refer to the interpretation chart previously provided with the study outline, and the timeline at the end of this study.

### **Day One: Read Daniel 9:20-26**

1. According with verse 24, who does the “Seventy Weeks” prophecy concern?
2. In the period of seventy weeks of seven years each, what was Israel to do in verse 24? Please record six things.
3. According with the following Scriptures, how did Israel “finish the transgression”?

Mark 15:6-14

4. The word “make” an end of sins in verse 24, is the Hebrew word “Kaphar,” and speaks of atonement. How was atonement accomplished? What does this passage indicate that had to be done? Read Hebrews 9:28 before you answer.

5. According to verse 24, reconciliation for iniquity had to be made. Per the following Scripture, how was reconciliation for iniquity accomplished?

Colossians 1:19-20

### **Memory verse: This week’s memory verse is John 5:39**

John 5:39 “Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me.”

## **Day Two:**

In our previous study, we learned that within a period of seventy weeks of seven years, six things would be accomplished in the history of Israel concerning Messiah. With certainty, Jesus Christ has completely fulfilled the first three events in the first sixty-nine weeks of the “Seventy Weeks” prophecy. The last three events have not yet been fulfilled, and will be fulfilled by Christ in the Seventieth Week period.

In our study today, we will examine the last three events of Daniel 9:24 in detail.

### **Read Daniel 9:24**

1. In verse 24, we are told that everlasting righteousness was going to come through the nation of Israel. How do you suppose that would happen, since no one in Israel could keep the law? Before you answer, read the following Scripture: Romans 3:21-26

2. It was through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, that everlasting righteousness could be provided. Per Romans 3:21-26, how is this everlasting righteousness acquired by a person?

3. It is wonderful to know that man can become positionally righteous by just believing in Christ. Apart from the everlasting righteousness that comes by faith in Christ, Daniel 9:24 is revealing the everlasting righteousness of Christ’s future kingdom on earth. According with the following Scripture, how will this everlasting righteousness be implemented by Christ, and who will assist Him?

Isa. 9:6-7

Revelation 19:15

2 Timothy 2:12

4. The next event that is to come through Israel in verse 24 is to seal up the vision and prophecy. According to the following Scriptures, how will this be accomplished and why?

John 5:39

Hebrews 10:7

Hebrews 1:1-3

2 Peter 1:16-20

Matthew 5:17

5. The last event that is to come through Israel in verse 24 is to anoint the Most Holy (Messiah the King). This will occur immediately following Christ's Second Coming. What can we learn from the passage in Zechariah 14?

Zechariah 14:1-9

Zechariah 14:16-17

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is John 5:39**

John 5:39 "Search the \_\_\_\_\_; for in them ye think ye have eternal \_\_\_\_\_: and they are \_\_\_\_\_ which testify of \_\_\_\_\_."

**Day Three: Read Daniel 9:25-27**

In our previous studies, we learned how Christ would fulfill all six events of Daniel 9:24 within the "Seventy Week" prophetic calendar. In our study today, we will examine the events that were prophesied to be fulfilled in the first sixty-nine weeks. Included in these are: The commandment by King Artaxerxes to Nehemiah the prophet to rebuild Jerusalem (Neh. 2:1-6), Christ's triumphal entry to Jerusalem (Luke 19:29-42), Christ's suffering and death (Dan. 9:26), the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 AD by Titus "the prince that shall come" (Dan. 9:26) and the dispersion of the Jewish people from their land.

1. What is the first thing Gabriel the Archangel commanded Daniel to do in verse 25, and why?
2. It was important for Daniel to understand the prophecies concerning the coming of Messiah the Prince, and to know when the prophetic seventy-week timeline would begin and end. According to verse 25, when would the seventy-week prophecy begin?
3. In Nehemiah 2:1-6, the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem came by King Artaxerxes. The date was March 14th, 445 BC. According with verse 25, how many weeks of seven years would transpire until Jesus the Messiah would come into Jerusalem as Israel's Messiah?
4. Sixty-nine weeks of seven years give us a total of 483 years or 173,880 days using a Biblical calendar of 360 days. From the time of the commandment to rebuild Jerusalem until the coming of Messiah would be 173,880 days. According to Luke 19:29-42, did the Jews know, and were they watching for the coming of Messiah? What did Jesus have to say?

5. The religious Jews failed to recognize the signs of the time and the coming of Jesus their Messiah. Although they had the Scriptures, they were ignorant of who Messiah was and the plan of God for their lives. What can we do, as Christians, to avoid the same thing happening to us regarding the rapture and the Second Coming of Christ?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is John 5:39**

John 5:39 "Search the \_\_\_\_\_; for in \_\_\_\_\_ ye think \_\_\_\_\_ have eternal \_\_\_\_\_: and they are \_\_\_\_\_ which \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

#### **Day Four:**

In our study today, we will continue examining the events of the first Sixty-nine weeks, and other prophecies in Scripture pertaining to Daniel's prophecy.

**Read Daniel 9:25-27 and answer the following questions.**

1. We previously learned that the Jewish people failed to recognize the coming of their Messiah. Jesus pointed that out when He said in Luke 19: 42 "Saying, If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things which belong unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes." God had provided the Jewish people plenty of prophecies regarding the coming Messiah. What do they reveal about Messiah?

Isa. 7:14

Micah 5:2

Zech. 9:9

Zech. 11:12-13

Psalms 22:14-16

Psalms 34:20

Isa. 53:7-9

2. At the end of verse 25, Gabriel reveals to Daniel that the work to rebuild Jerusalem would not be easy. What does Gabriel reveal, and what additional insight can we gain from Nehemiah that fulfilled what Gabriel was describing?

Nehemiah 2:9-20

Nehemiah 4:1-3

Nehemiah 4:7-9

3. As we can see, Daniel's prophecy of the rebuilding of Jerusalem came to pass with much opposition, as Daniel had indicated. Moving into the prophecy, what would happen after sixty-two weeks, according to verse 26?

4. As we examine verse 26, what important detail does Daniel reveal about the death of Messiah? What other New Testament Scriptures can you record that supports the fulfillment of the important detail?

5. Daniel revealed that Messiah would come and die for the sins of the world, thus fulfilling the events of the sixty-nine weeks. Roughly thirty-seven years after the death of Christ, Israel was morally and spiritually corrupted. God would judge Israel by sending Titus, the Roman general, against the city of Jerusalem. According with verse 26, what is Titus identified as, and what would the Roman army do to the city of Jerusalem, and what would happen to the Jewish people (Luke 19:42-44)?

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is John 5:39**

John 5:39 "Search the \_\_\_\_\_; for in \_\_\_\_\_ ye think \_\_\_\_\_ have \_\_\_\_\_: and \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_ which \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_."

**Day Five:**

So far, we have examined all the events of the sixty-nine weeks (Dan. 9:24-26). At this point in our study, it is important to mention that the seventy weeks of seven years are not continuous. There is a break between the end of the sixty-nine weeks (9:26) and the seventieth week (9:27). We are currently living in this break period known as "the church age."

In our study today, we will examine the prophecy of Daniel 9:27 concerning "Daniel's Seventieth Week." This prophecy has yet to be fulfilled. Upon the rapture of the church, Antichrist will come on the scene to rule over the nations of the world. He will apparently bring peace to the Middle East and will confirm a covenant with the Jewish people for seven years (9:27) (Isa. 28:15).

Three and a half years into the covenant, the Antichrist will break his covenant and will desecrate the Jewish temple. He will place an image of himself in the holy place and will force people to worship him as God. He



will cause Jewish sacrifices and worship to cease and bring desolation (Mat. 24:15). This event will usher the Great Tribulation period and God's judgment on earth.

**Read Daniel 9:27 and answer the following questions.**

1. We know from the Scriptures that the Antichrist will come on the world scene proclaiming peace as a false Messiah. According to verse 27, what will the Antichrist confirm with the Jewish people?

2. What does Isaiah call this covenant?

Isa. 28:15

3. Why do you think the Jewish people will accept the Antichrist and agree to a covenant with him? What did Jesus say would happen?

Your Opinion:

John 5:42-43

Matthew 24:23-26

4. According with verse 27, what will happen three and a half years into the covenant with Antichrist and why? Before you answer, read the following Scripture.

Matthew 24:15-22

5. After the great tribulation period (last 3 ½ years of Daniel's seventieth week), will the Jewish people recognize and accept the true Messiah?

Hosea 3:4-5

**Memory verse: This week's memory verse is John 5:39**

John 5:39 " \_\_\_\_\_ ; \_\_\_\_\_  
: \_\_\_\_\_ ."