**The Destiny of Daniel—The Introduction and Chapter 1**

**Historical Notes: THIS BOOK IS PROPHETICAL AND NARRATIVE HISTORY, “THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF JUDAH.” THE NORTHERN TRIBE HAD FALLEN TWO CENTURIES BEFORE. Daniel means, “God is my Judge.” After the death of Solomon, a civil war ensued. Israel divided into two separate entities, with the northern kingdom going with Jeroboam, and the southern with Rehoboam. In 722 B.C., the northern kingdom was conquered by Assyria. At this point in time, the Book of Daniel’s writing, Nineveh, the capital of Assyria, falls to an alliance of Babylon and Media in 612 B.C. This is the beginning of the breakup of the Assyrian empire. In 609 B.C., Pharaoh Necho leads his army against the remaining kingdom of Assyria. At this time, 2 Chronicles 35:3, Josiah takes up arms against Pharaoh Necho….and Josiah gets killed in this battle. There is a possibility that the Levites had taken the Ark of the Covenant to protect it from Manasseh’s ravaging to Egypt to protect it from Manasseh to Elephantine Island, Egypt, and Josiah was trying to get it back, 2 Chronicles 35:20-24. Maybe it was on an island in Egypt Elephantine Island. Pharaoh Necho was Ethiopian. Then in 606 B.C., at the Battle of Carchemesh, Nebuchadnezzar comes up against Pharaoh Necho on the west bank of the Euphrates, and defeats Necho. See Jeremiah 46:1-6. This is the milestone which marks the beginning of the Babylonian Empire. Nabopolassar was Nebuchadnezzar’s father. Important to note: 2 Peter 1:21, “**For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.” This book we are about to study is the only book in the Bible which previews the future of the “Gentile Nations,” even up to the time of the final ruler, The Anti-Christ. Daniel was written about 573 B.C. DANIEL, EZEKIEL AND JEREMIAH ARE CONTEMPORARIES. GOD SPEAKS HIGHLY OF DANIEL….**Ezekiel 14:14,** “Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord God.”

**Key to Understanding of Daniel**--***Luke 21:24,*** “And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, **until the times of the Gentiles** be fulfilled.

1. **Review the sieges of Jerusalem.**
   1. **Why is “The first siege” of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar important?** Jehoikim released as a vassal, temple is plundered; Jeremiah and Ezekiel warn Jehoikim not to go against Babylon Nebuchadnezzar, on his way home from the Battle at Carchemish, goes to Jerusalem and takes young men and things from the temple. This begins the 70 year period of “The Servitude of the Nations.” **605 B.C**
      1. **Why is this important in Daniel’s story?** This is where Daniel and his companions are taken hostage.
      2. **Who else were taken captives?** Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego
      3. **Why were “princes” taken as hostages?**
      4. **What is “Servitude of the Nation?” See 2 Chronicles 36:5-6.** This begins the 70-year captivity for Judah. 2 Chronicles –failed to keep the Sabbatical years of the land…owed God 70 years
   2. **What is the “second siege” of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar?** Jehoikim listens to false prophets, and not Jeremiah and Ezekiel, and goes against Nebuchadnezzar. **597 B.C**.—take away lots of the artisans; Ezekiel taken.
      1. **Why does Jehoikim ignore Jeremiah’s warnings? Review the 5-year battle in Jeremiah 22:17-19.** Jehoikim dies
      2. **See Jeremiah 22:24-30. Who replaces Jehoikim?** His son, Jehoiachin or Jeconiah, or Koniah—
         1. **Discuss the blood line of Mary in Jeremiah 22:30**—where God pronounces a blood curse on the royal line…genealogies in Luke, the bloodline of Mary, where in David, he goes through the second son, Nathan, and then to Mary; in Matthew, the bloodline through Joseph.
      3. **When is Jeconiah captured? Captured with 10,000 captives, including Ezekiel. JEREMIAH STAYS IN JERUSALEM..**See Ezekiel 1:1-3, 2 Kings 24:8-20, 2 Chronicles 36:6-10.
      4. **Who is installed as vassal king?** Zedekiah, his uncle. **Ezekiel begins prophesying from Babylon, and Jeremiah is still in Jerusalem prophesying.**
   3. **Discuss “Siege 3” of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar**. In 587 B. C. Zedekiah ignores Jeremiah’s and Ezekiel’s warnings and listens to the false prophets and rebels against Nebuchadnezzar. **See Jeremiah 32:5, 39:6-7, Ezekiel 12:13, and 2 Kings 25:1-7. 586 B.C.—completely destroys Jerusalem.**
      1. **What is the “The Desolation of Jerusalem?”** This siege, Nebuchadnezzar wipes out the city of Jerusalem. He destroys the temple; this starts the 70-year “The Desolation of Jerusalem.” **Refer to 2 Kings 24:17-20; 25:1-21.**
      2. **Refer to Ezekiel’s prophesy about this in Ezekiel 12:13 and Jeremiah 39:5,7……the precision of Zedekiah’s eyes being put out and carried to Babylon.**
2. **Why do we study prophecy?** 2/3 of all scriptures are prophetic, either in type, symbol, or direct statement, and ½ are yet to be fulfilled.
   1. **Descriptive—insight**
   2. **Predictive—foresight**
3. **How does Psalm 94:12-15 apply to our study? Psalm 94:12-15, “Blessed is the man whom thou chastenest, O Lord, and teachest him out of thy law;that thou mayest give him rest from the days of adversity, until the pit be digged for the wicked.For the Lord will not cast off his people, neither will he forsake his inheritance. But judgment shall return unto righteousness: and all the upright in heart shall follow it.”**
   1. **Read Amos 3:7-8; discuss. Amos 3:7-8, “Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. The lion hath roared, who will not fear? The Lord God hath spoken, who can but prophesy?**
   2. **Examine 2 Peter 1:21, “21for 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.”**
   3. **2 Peter 3: 3-8, “3Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts,and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation.5For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:6Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished:7But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men.8But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.”**
   4. **2 Peter 1: 19-20, “19We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:20Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation.”**
4. **Why study the Book of Daniel? It reveals all of Gentile history in advance.**
5. **Ezekiel mentions Daniel three times. Review Ezekiel 14:14, 20 and Ezekiel 28:3.**
6. **Daniel himself claims to be the author of this book. See 8:1, 9:2, 20, 10:2.**
7. **What are the requirements of prophecy validated?**
   1. **Must have been told prior to fulfillment**
   2. **Must be beyond human foresight**
   3. **Details must be given**
   4. **Time lapse has to occur**
   5. **Clear fulfillment of statement must be achieved**
8. **Refer to Matthew 24:15. Why does Jesus speak of Daniel the prophet?**
9. **Study the important Vocabulary for this study:**
   1. **What are the “Three Classes of Humanity?”**
      1. **Who is the Jew?—mentioned in Old Testament and New Testament**
      2. **Who are the Gentiles (Greeks), as outlined in Daniel, mentioned in both O.T. and N. T.**
      3. **Can the Church have both Jews and Gentiles? Name other titles of the Church.**
         1. **A new body**
         2. **Christ’s body**
         3. **The bride of Christ**
         4. **Not seen in Old Testament, N. T. only**
         5. **A mystery that was born in Pentecost and revealed by Paul**
         6. **See Ephesians 1:22-23, Col. 1:18, Gal. 3:27-28, Col. 3:10-11.**
10. **What is the important “Key to all Bible prophecy**?”—the Jews
    1. **See** Deuteronomy 32:8, “When the Most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam; he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel.”
    2. **When did the “Times of the Gentiles” begin? When the last King of Israel was done and title was transferred to the Gentile King of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar. LUKE 21:24, “AND THEY SHALL FALL BY THE EDGE OF THE SWORD, AND WILL BE LED CAPTIVE INTO ALL NATIONS AND JERUSALEM SHALL BE TRODDEN DOWN OF THE GENTILES, UNTIL THE TIMES OF THE GENTILES BE FULFILLED.**
11. **What Old Testament (Tenach) texts were in use in O.T. times? The original Hebrew, “Vorlage,” was in the days of Ezra and Nehemiah; the Septuagint Translation, LXX, 285-270 B.C., 72 scholars at Alexandria compiled this one—and it is the translations primarily quoted in the N.T.; Masoretic Text (MT), derived from the Council of Jamnia, 90 A.D.**
12. **Review Acts 17:11….be a Berean, and check out everything for yourself in the Bible.**
13. **Why do critics try to discredit Daniel?**
    1. **Discuss what happened in 332 B.C., as Alexander was on his conquest of Jerusalem, that the High Priest Jaddua showed him references to himself in Daniel. Did that influence Alexander sparing the city of Jerusalem? According to Josephus.**
14. **Where does Jesus directly quote Daniel in the Bible? See Ezekiel 14:14, 20; 28:3**
15. **Is Daniel a traditional prophet?** The Jews treated him as a government official, not a prophet
16. **Who are the two persons in the Bible, other than Jesus, of which no evil is spoken of?** Daniel and Joseph…nothing negative said about them….faithful, professional executives.
17. **What does the phrase, “Times of the Gentiles” mean?—**began when God transferred earthly rule from the Kings of Israel to the Gentile King, and will continue until the church is Raptured.
18. **Why is Daniel noted as, “The Apocalypse of Old Testament?”—Daniel; Apocalypse of New Testament—Revelation**
19. **Who are the “two beloveds” of the Bible?** Daniel and John, wrote the two major prophecies of the Bible
    1. **Daniel called “Beloved of God” three times—Daniel 9:23, 10:11, 10:19)**
    2. **John called the beloved, John 19:26, “When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son!”**
    3. **These two saw the future from 606 B.C. until the Millennium.**
20. **Review the organization of the Book of Daniel.**
    1. **Historical—Chapters 1-6**
       1. **Chapter 1—Daniel deported as a teenager--Hebrew**
       2. **Chapter 2—Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream, statue--Aramaic**
       3. **Chapter 3—The Fiery Furnace--Aramaic**
       4. **Chapter 4—Nebuchadnezzar’s Pride--Aramaic**
       5. **Chapter 5—Fall of Babylon--Aramaic**
       6. **Chapter 6—Revolt of the Magi, the Lion’s Den--Aramaic**
    2. **Prophetical—Visions of Daniel—Chapters 7-12**
       1. **Chapter 7—Daniel’s Vision of Four Beasts--Aramaic**
       2. **Chapter 8—The Ram and the He-Goat--Hebrew**
       3. **Chapter 9—The Seventy Weeks--Hebrew**
       4. **Chapter 10—A Glimpse of the Dark Side--Hebrew**
       5. **Chapter 11—The “Silent Years” in Advance—Hebrew (four hundred years between the O.T. and the N.T.)**
       6. **Chapter 12—The Final Wrap-up of All Things--Hebrew**
    3. **Chronological Order of Daniel**
       1. **Babylonian Captivity—606 B.C.—chapter 1**
       2. **Nebuchadnezzar’s Dream—602 B.C.—chapter 2**
       3. **Nebuchadnezzar’s Image—602 B.C.—chapter 3**
       4. **Nebuchadnezzar’s Pride—602 B.C.—chapter 4**
       5. **The Vision of the 4 beasts—556 B.C.—chapter 7**
       6. **Ram the He-goat vision—554 B.C.—chapter 8**
       7. **Babylon falls to the Persians—539 B.C.—chapter 5**
       8. **Vision of seventy weeks—538 B.C.—chapter 9**
       9. **The Lions’ Den—chapter 6**
       10. **Closing Visions—chapters 10-12**
21. **Why was the book of Daniel written in two languages? (**The Book of Daniel was originally written in two languages. From the beginning of the book to Chapter 2 verse 3 it was written in Hebrew. In verse 4 Daniel switched to Aramaic, the language of the Babylonians, and remained so through the end of chapter 7. This corresponds with the portion of the book dealing primarily with Gentile Dominion. Beginning in chapter 8, the rest of the book is in Hebrew again, since the focus of the last 5 chapters is primarily on Israel.)

Introduction to Daniel—“Prophetic Fore view of the Gentile nations and their last, great ruler, The Antichrist.”

**Chapters 1-6--.History and Chapters 7-12--.Prophecy**

Chapters 2-7-- written in Aramaic, focusing on the Gentile World

Chapters 7-12—visions (not in chronological order)

` Ch.7—the Times of the Gentiles

Ch. 8—The Ram and the Goat--***(Chapters 7 and 8 occur between Chapter 4 and 5)***

Ch. 9—Seventy Weeks***—(Occurs between Chapters 5 and 6)***

Ch.10—A Glimpse of the Dark Side

Ch.11—the “Silent Years” --between the Testaments written in advance

Ch. 12-The Consummation of all of history

**BOOK OF DANIEL**

**Historical Prophecies**

1. Introduction
2. King’s Dream
3. Bow or Burn!
4. King’s Ego Trip
5. Times of Gentiles
6. Ram and Goat
7. Fall of Babylon

9. The 70 Weeks

1. Plot of the Magi—The Lion’s Den
2. The Dark Side
3. & 12. Conclusion
4. Chapters 8-12 are written in Hebrew for Daniel and his people.

**The Destiny of Daniel—Chapter 1**

**Historical Intro.: In 721 B.C., the ten tribes were transported into captivity by Assyria by King Sargon. And in 606 B.C., 115 years later, began the 70 year captivity of the other two tribes as described by Jeremiah in Jeremiah 25:11. In 605 B.C., Pharaoh-Necho came against Nebuchadnezzar in the Battle of Carchemesh on the west bank of the Euphrates River and was defeated, making Nebuchadnezzar the newest ruler of the world for Babylon.**

1. **Who is Jehoiakim in verse 1-2? Nebuchadnezzar?** 
   1. **Why did Nebuchadnezzar take Daniel into captivity?** 
      1. **Jeremiah 25:8-11 places this captivity when?** Fourth year of Jehoiakim
   2. **How did Daniel react?**
   3. **In verses 7-14, who were some of the other youths taken into captivity? What were their new names?**
2. **Where is the land of Shinar? See Genesis 11:2, 14:1, Isaiah 11:11, Zechariah 5:11. “Shinar” occurs seven times in O.T. and always stands for “Babylon.” Babylon, where the tower of Babel had been built by Nimrod. Nebuchadnezzar takes over after his father, Nabopolassar (627-605 B.C.), dies and reigns from 605-562 B.C. Nebuchadnezzar has four children; and they reign after him in this order: 1. Evil-Merodach (562-560), 2. Unnamed daughter who marries but does not rein, 3. Neriglasser (560-556), 4. Nitocris married Nabonidus (he is not interested in being king, so he has a son, Balshazzar, who is co-reigning with him when the Medes come in….Nabonidus was in Arabia when that happened—Daniel 5). Shinar**--the old name of Babylonia ([Genesis 11:2](http://www.biblestudytools.com/genesis/11-2.html) , [14:1](http://www.biblestudytools.com/genesis/14-1.html) , [Isaiah 11:11](http://www.biblestudytools.com/isaiah/11-11.html) , [Zechariah 5:11](http://www.biblestudytools.com/zechariah/5-11.html) ).
3. **In verses 3-4, who is Ashpenaz? How does he relate to Daniel and the other captives?**
   1. **How were the captives trained?**
   2. **Did Nebuchadnezzar try to convert them?**
   3. **In verse 3, the children of “Israel” are used for the Judah tribe. Does this prove that there are not “ten lost tribes**?” Israel and Judah are used connotatively
   4. **Describe the captives. These were from royalty.**
4. **In verse 5, what is the king’s meat and wine?**
   1. **Why did Daniel and his friends refuse to eat the king’s food?**
5. **What are the Hebrew names of the children of Judah in verses 6-7?** Daniel (God is my Judge), Hananiah (Beloved of the Lord), Mishael (Who is as God), and Azariah (The Lord is my Help).
   1. **What are the Babylonian names assigned to them in verse 7?** Daniel became Belteshazzar (Prince of Bel), Shadrach—Illumined of the Sun god (Hananiah), Meshach—who is like unto the Moon god (Mishael), Abednego—Servant of Nego (Lucifer), a shining fire (Azariah). These are names after their pagan gods.
6. **Explain Daniel’s mandate in verse 8. What did Daniel actually “purpose in his heart?” Some of the meats had been offered to idols, unclean.**
   1. **Daniel 1:8, “**8But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.” **What did Daniel purpose in his heart? Why?**
7. **In Verse 9, how did Daniel earn the eunuch’s admiration? Why did Daniel and his friends refuse to eat the King’s food?**
   1. **Why was the chief of the eunuchs afraid of Nebuchadnezzar, vs. 10?**
   2. **Who is Melzar, verse 9?**
   3. **What is pulse? pulse**--The Hebrew expresses any vegetable grown from seeds, that is, vegetable food in general.
8. **In verse 9, explain “Now.”**
9. **In verse 11-12, what was the test that Daniel proposed to the men in charge?**
   1. **At the end of ten days, what was the condition of the captives?**
   2. **What was the condition of the captives after 20 days, verses 14-16?**
10. **What was the outcome of the dietary test?**
    1. **Why did Daniel and the other captives show respect to the guardians placed over their care?**
    2. **Does this illustrating** [**Deuteronomy 8:3**](http://www.biblestudytools.com/deuteronomy/8-3.html)? "Man doth not live by bread only, but by every word that
11. **Verse 17 explains that God gives “the four” young men, taken captive, knowledge, skill, and wisdom. What special gift was given to Daniel?** Understanding all visions and dreams. “Learning” means books and writings. This is an implication of “science” and learning.
12. **In verse 17-21, explain their appearance before Nebuchadnezzar.**
    1. **Read Verse 19. What was Daniel’s status with King Nebuchadnezzar?**
    2. **What is the last prediction in the summary sentence of verse 21?**
13. **Summarize the “moral heroism” that was evident in this chapter.**
    1. **Where would these young men have learned to be true to God? See Deut. 6:4-9.**
    2. **Did they have courage? Did the eunuchs also have courage? Perseverance?**

**Side Note: God predicts judgment on Israel, Ezekiel 4:1-8, God predicts 430 years of judgment on the nation. 70 of those years are to be in Babylon. 430-70=360. Lev.26:18, 21, 24, 38—“if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins.” 360 X 7=2520. God deals in 360 day years, and that would be 2483 years, with 9 mos. And 21 days left over, in comparison to the 365 day years. If you calculate this, factoring in leap years, etc., 907, 200 days in 360-day years. Take the 2520 years from the date of “The Servitude of the Nation,” you will come to the restoration of Israel on May 14, 1948. And, if you take this 2520 from the Decree of Artaxerxes, you will come to June 7, 1967, when the Biblical City of Jerusalem was restored to the Jews.**

**And, here are the promises…**

***Daniel 1:8, “But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.”***

***Daniel 1:9, “Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.”***

***Daniel 1:20, “And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.”***