

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

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Timeline of Daniel

605 B.C.	Pharaoh Necho defeated by Babylonians at Carchemesh Jerusalem taken by Nebchadnezzar Daniel & his 3 friends taken to Babylon
602 B.C.	Daniel & friends complete their 3 years of training Nebuchadnezzar has his 1 st dream & Daniel interprets it
586 B.C.	Jerusalem & the temple destroyed by the Babylonians because they tried to revolt
556 B.C.	Vision of the 4 beasts
554 B.C.	Vision of the ram and he-goat
539 B.C.	Belshazzar's feast Cyrus, King of Persia, captures Babylon & reigns until 530 B.C.
538 B.C.	Cyrus' decree that the Jews can return to Judea & the temple can be rebuilt
537 B.C.	Zerubbabel & Joshua (the High Priest) lead 50,000 Jews back to Jerusalem (Book of Ezra) Daniel has his prophetic vision about the end times (Ch. 10:1ff)
530 – 522 B.C.	Cambyses reigns & construction on the temple is stopped
522 – 486 B.C.	Darius I reigns & the rebuilding is continued in 520 B.C. Temple is completed & dedicated in 515 B.C.

The Book of Daniel Chapters in Chronological Order	
CHAPTERS	DESCRIPTION
1-4	Captivity & interpretation of dreams & visions
7	Vision of the 4 beasts
8	Vision of the ram & he-goat
5	Belshazzar's feast – conquest of Babylon
9	Vision of the 70 weeks
6	Daniel in the lion's den
10-12	Daniel's prayer & vision

THE ORGANIZATION OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL		
Type	Chapter & Description	Language
Historical	1 – Deported as a teenager	Aramaic
	2 – Nebuchadnezzar's dream	Aramaic
	3 – Children in the fiery furnace	Aramaic
	4 – Nebuchadnezzar's pride	Aramaic
	5 – Babylon falls to the Persians	Aramaic
	6 – Daniel in the lion's den	Aramaic
	7:1-14 – Daniel's vision	Aramaic
Visions (Daniel's)	7:15-28 – Four beasts	Hebrew
	8 – The ram & the he-goat	Hebrew
	9 – Vision of the 70 weeks	Hebrew
	10 – Vision of Israel's Future	Hebrew
	11 – Prophecies about Persia, Greece, Egypt, Syria and the Anti-Christ	Hebrew
	12 – Conclusion of Vision	Hebrew

- I. **Chapter 1** – Jerusalem captured and Daniel as a prisoner
 - a. The Warning of Isaiah – Isaiah 13; 21; 39
 - b. Cause of the captivity – ignoring the Sabbath year
 - c. Results of the captivity – Israel carried into Shinar
 - d. Daniel – the man
 - i. Probably of nobility & royalty – verse 2
 - ii. Handsome, intelligent, healthy and talented – verses 3-4
 - iii. Approximately 15-16 years old
 - e. God not only rules, He overrules
 - i. Nebuchadnezzar given victory by God – verses 1-2
 - ii. Daniel and his friends
 - 1. A dedicated remnant – verses 3-4a
 - 2. Tempted to betray their Godly heritage – verse 5
 - 3. Names changed – verse 6-7
 - a. Daniel
 - i. Daniel – God is my judge
 - ii. Belteshazzar – Bel protect his life
 - b. Hananiah
 - i. Hananiah – the Lord shows grace
 - ii. Shadrach – command of Aku (the moon-god)
 - c. Mishael
 - i. Mishael – Who is like God
 - ii. Meshack – Who is as Aku is?
 - d. Azariah
 - i. Azariah – The Lord is my help
 - ii. Abednego – Servant of Nebo
 - 4. The young men are faithful & its results – verses 8-21
 - f. Daniel’s contemporaries
 - i. Jeremiah
 - ii. Ezekiel
 - iii. Zerubbabel

SEE APPENDIX A FOR MIDDLE EASTERN MAP

- II. **Chapter 2** – The king’s lost dream
 - a. Nebuchadnezzar’s dream & his demand – verses 1-3
 - b. Failure of his magicians to know & interpret – verses 4-11
 - c. Order to kill all the wisemen – verses 12-13
 - d. Daniel’s intervention – verses 14-16
 - e. Daniel & his friends praying – verses 17-18
 - f. Dream and its interpretation revealed to Daniel – verses 19
 - g. Daniel’s prayer of thanksgiving – verses 20-23
 - h. Daniel before Nebuchadnezzar – verses 24-45
 - i. Dream remembered: the image
 1. Head of fine gold
 2. Breast & arms of silver
 3. Belly & thighs of brass
 4. Legs of iron
 5. Feet partially clay & iron
 6. Stone cut without hand smites the feet
 - ii. Dream interpreted: the image explained
 1. Head of fine gold – the Babylonian empire
 2. Breast & arms of silver – 2nd empire to arise – Medo-Persian empire
 3. Belly & thighs of brass – 3rd empire to arise – Greece
 4. Legs of iron – 4th empire to arise – Rome
 5. Feet partially of clay & iron – possibly revival of Roman empire during the end-times
 6. Stone cut without hand smites the feet – the Lord Jesus & his kingdom
 - i. Daniel & his friends promoted – verses 46-49
 - j. The everlasting mercies of God
 - k. Daniel’s answered prayer
 - l. God saves the lost for the sake of the righteous
 - m. Nebuchadnezzar’s profession – verse 47
 - n. The Gentile kingdoms
 - o. The declension of the western world
 - p. The stone is not the church
 - q. The Gentile church was a “mystery” not seen by Daniel
 - r. When the stone fell
 - s. Views of the second coming of Christ

Nebuchadnezzar's Statue			
Date	Body Part	Kingdom	Remarks
606-561 B.C.	Head of Gold	Babylonian	Primarily under Nebuchadnezzar
538-330 B.C.	Arms of Silver	Medo-Persian	Fall of Babylon; rule under Cyrus
330 – 146 B.C.	Belly & Thighs of Brass	Grecian	Rule under Alexander & his 4 generals
146 B.C. - ?	Legs of Iron	Roman	
?	Feet partly of iron and partly of clay		
?	Stone made without hands	The Kingdom of God	The Lord Jesus Reigns

SEE APPENDIX B FOR MAPS OF THE 4 EMPIRES

III. **Chapter 3** – Worship of the Golden Image

- a. Nebuchadnezzar constructs a golden image and commands the people to bow down & worship it – verses 1-7
- b. Allegations against the 3 Hebrew young men – verses 8-12
- c. Nebuchadnezzar's ire & his confrontation with the 3 men – verses 13-15
- d. Their refusal & response – verses 16-18
- e. Their divine protection – verses 19-27
- f. Nebuchadnezzar's profession – verses 28-29
- g. The Hebrew's reward for believing in their God – verse 30
- h. Where was Daniel?
- i. One like the Son of God

- IV. **Chapter 4** – A dream of a great tree
 - a. Nebuchadnezzar's opening proclamation of God's greatness and his pronouncement that this is his autobiography chapter – verses 1-3
 - b. His dream – verses 4-18
 - i. A tree
 - 1. Strong & tall, reaching into heaven
 - 2. Seen by all the earth
 - 3. Provided shade & food
 - 4. Good to look at
 - ii. "Holy One" commands the tree to be cut down
 - 1. Leave roots
 - 2. Leave the stump with a band of iron around it
 - 3. Give a beast's heart
 - 4. Know that the Most High rules
 - iii. Change of heart
 - 1. Man's heart replaced by a beast's
 - 2. Seven times pass over him (7 years)
 - c. Daniel's distress – verse 19
 - d. Daniel's interpretation – verses 20-26
 - e. Daniel's call to righteousness – verse 27
 - f. Fulfillment of the dream – verses 28-33
 - g. Nebuchadnezzar's deliverance & recovery – verses 34-36
 - h. Nebuchadnezzar's praise of the Lord – verse 37

- V. **Chapter 5** – Belshazzar's feast and the handwriting on the wall
 - a. The feast – verses 1-4
 - b. The hand writing on the wall – verse 5
 - c. The king's response & the request of his wise men – verses 6-9
 - d. The queen's advice – verses 10-12
 - e. Daniel enters the scene – verses 13-16
 - f. Daniel's admonition – verses 17-23
 - g. The hand writing revealed & interpreted – verses 24-28
 - h. Daniel exalted – verse 29
 - i. Babylon falls & Belshazzar slain – verse 30
 - j. Enter Darius the Mede – verse 31
 - k. The sign of blasphemy
 - l. Will there be another Babylon?

- VI. **Chapter 6** – Daniel, Darius and the lion’s den
- a. Darius appoints wise men – verses 1-2
 - b. Daniel distinguishes himself – verse 3
 - c. Jealousy arises – verses 4-5
 - d. A trap is set – verses 6-9
 - e. Daniel continues in prayer – verse 10
 - f. Trap sprung – verses 11-15
 - g. Daniel stay in the lion’s den – verses 16-18
 - h. Daniel’s God triumphs – verses 19-23
 - i. Daniel’s accusers pay the price – verses 24
 - j. Darius’ decree about the Lord God – verses 25-27
 - k. Daniel prospers – verse 28
 - l. Psalm 63 promises God’s protection because of fellowshiping with Him
 - m. Psalm 64 promises the Lord will reverse the traps set for believers
 - n. Magi
 - i. Created by Daniel
 - ii. Their power
 - iii. Comes to Bethlehem

- VII. **Chapter 7** – Vision of the 4 beasts
- a. Date of vision – verse 1
 - i. Belshazzar’s 1st year – approximately 556 B.C.
 - ii. His 1st year of reign as king of Babylon
 - iii. Daniel records vision
 - b. Description of vision – verses 2-14
 - i. Four winds of heaven
 - ii. Four beasts come from the sea
 1. One like lion with wings of an eagle
 - a. Feathers plucked off of wings
 - b. Lifted up to stand like a man
 - c. Man’s heart was given to it
 2. One like a bear with 3 ribs in his mouth
 - a. Raised itself on 1 side
 - b. Was to arise and eat a lot of flesh
 3. One like a leopard with four wings on its back and four heads
 - a. Wings of a bird
 - b. Dominion was given to it
 4. One dreadful beast with iron teeth and 10 horns and a little one comes up among the 10 replacing 3 of the horns
 - a. Exceedingly strong
 - b. Trampled down with its feet
 - c. Different from the other 3 beasts
 - d. Eyes like the eyes of a man
 - e. Mouth speaking great boasts
 - iii. The Ancient of Days reigns
 1. Thrones set up
 2. Description of the Ancient of Days
 3. Description of His throne
 4. His attendees and audience
 5. Court sits and books opened
 - iv. One like the Son of Man comes
 - c. The vision interpreted – verses 15-28
 - i. Four beasts are four kings
 - ii. Request for explanation of the 4th beast
 - iii. Explanation of the 4th beast
 - iv. The end of the 4th beast
 - v. The Highest One and His kingdom
 - vi. Beast slain and body destroyed

1. Burned in fire
 2. Rest of the beasts lose their dominion but they receive an extension of time until their appointed time arrives
- d. Revelation of the Ancient of Days

- VIII. **Chapter 8** – Vision of the ram and goat
- a. Date & location during vision – verses 1-2
 - i. Third year of Belshazzar’s reign – approximately 553 B.C.
 - ii. Located in Susa (modern day Iran)
 - b. The vision – verses 3-14
 - i. Ram
 1. Two horns
 2. One higher and came up last
 3. Pushes northward, southward and westward
 - ii. He-goat
 1. Came from the west
 2. Didn’t touch the ground
 3. Horn between it’s eyes
 - iii. Battle of the He-goat vs the Ram
 1. Ram’s horns broken off
 2. Ram has no power
 3. Ram is cast down and stomped on
 4. The goat became very strong
 5. The goat’s horn is broken off
 6. Four horns come up in the place of the one
 - a. The little horn arose as one of the four
 - b. The little horn became great toward the “south, east and toward the pleasant land (Israel)”
 - c. The little horn cast down some of the host of heaven
 - d. The little horn magnified himself
 - e. The little horn took away the daily sacrifice
 - f. The place of the sanctuary was cast down
 - g. Timing
 - i. The time for the sanctuary & host to be “trodden under foot: 300 days”
 - ii. THEN the sanctuary will be cleansed
 - c. The interpretation of the vision – verses 15-26
 - i. Given by the angel Gabriel – verse 15-16
 - ii. Daniel’s physical response – verses 17-18
 - iii. Timing of the vision – the time of the end – verse 19
 - iv. Ram
 1. Kings of Media & Persia – verse 20

v. Goat

1. King of Greece – verse 21
2. Large horn between his eyes is the 1st king - Alexander the Great - verse 21
3. Four little horns represent 4 kings that replace the large horn
 - a. Arise after the 1st but not in his power
 - b. Four kings
 - i. Cassandra – Macedonia & Greece
 - ii. Lysimachus – Thrace, Bithynia, most of Asia Minor
 - iii. Seleucus – Syria, lands to the east to India
 - iv. Ptolemy – Egypt, Cyrene, Arabia Petraea, parts of Asia Minor
 - c. Near the end of the 4 kings will arise another king – Antiochus IV (Ephiphanes)
 - i. He will have a fierce countenance
 - ii. He has an understanding dark sentences
 - iii. He has mighty power, but not from his own power
 - iv. He will destroy to an extraordinary degree
 - v. He will prosper
 - vi. He will destroy mighty men and the holy people
 - vii. He will magnify himself in his own heart
 - viii. He will destroy many by peace
 - ix. He will stand up against the Prince of princes
 - x. He will be broken without human hands
 - d. Daniel's physical response – verse 27
 - e. Antiochus IV (Epiphanes)
 - f. The Anti-Christ

- IX. **Chapter 9** – Daniel’s Prayer of Confession, Intercession and Praise; Daniel’s 70 Weeks
- a. Date – verses 1-2
 - i. The 1st year of Darius
 - ii. Approximately 539 B.C.
 - b. Daniel seeks the Lord through prayer & fasting – verses 3-19
 - i. Recognition & confession – verses 3-6
 - ii. Identification & confession – verses 7-14
 - iii. Requests – verses 15-19
 - c. The Lord God sends Gabriel – verses 20-23
 - d. The 70 weeks revelation – verses 24-27
 - i. Seventy weeks decreed – verse 24
 - 1. To finish the transgression
 - 2. To make an end of sins
 - 3. To make atonement for iniquity
 - 4. To bring an everlasting righteousness
 - 5. To seal up the vision & prophecy
 - 6. To anoint the most holy place
 - ii. First 69 weeks – verse 25
 - iii. Quiet period – verse 26
 - iv. Seventh week – verse 27
 - e. 173,880 days
 - f. One week equals a week of years (7)
 - g. The Messiah the King
 - h. The key to end time prophecy

THE 70 WEEKS OF DANIEL CHAPTER 9

ARTAXERXES TO THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST		
ARTAXERXES TO THE FIRST COMING OF CHRIST		483 Years
	(69 Weeks)	
Church Interval		?
	Israel in unbelief	
Tribulation		7 Years
	(70 th Week)	
		490 Years

- X. **Chapter 10** – The 1st part of Daniel’s final vision
 - a. Time & Place – verse 1, 4
 - i. Third year of Cyrus’s reign – approximately 535 B.C.
 - ii. Beside the Tigris River
 - b. Daniel’s seeking – 3 weeks – verses 2-3
 - c. God’s answer – verses 4-5
 - d. The vision of the man – verses 5-6
 - e. Daniel & the other men’s response – verses 7-9
 - f. Daniel comforted – verses 10-11
 - g. Heavenly warfare – verses 12-13
 - h. Vision applies to the latter days – verse 14
 - i. Daniel ministered to & his response – verses 15-19
 - j. The fight the man returns to – verses 20-21
 - k. Angels
 - i. Michael fights for Israel
 - 1. Daniel 9:25
 - 2. Daniel 10:13
 - 3. Daniel 12:1
 - 4. Jude 9
 - 5. Revelation 12:7
 - ii. Gabriel is the announcer
 - 1. Daniel 8:16
 - 2. Daniel 9:21
 - 3. Luke 1:19
 - 4. Luke 1:26
 - l. Satan
 - i. Isaiah 14:12-17
 - ii. Revelation 12:3-12
 - m. God’s armor
 - i. Ephesians 6:11-20
 - ii. Romans 13:12
 - iii. 2 Corinthians 6:7
 - iv. 2 Corinthians 10:4
 - v. 1 Thessalonians 5:8

- XI. **Chapter 11** – Coming conflicts – a continuation of Chapter 10
- a. Revelation of the man – verse 1
 - b. There will be 3 more kings in Persia with the 4th richer than all – verse 2
 - i. Cambyses – 529-522 B.C.
 - ii. Pseudo-Smerdis – 522-521 B.C.
 - iii. Darius I Hystaspes – 521-486 B.C. (Ezra 5, 6)
 - iv. Zerxes I – 486-465 B.C. (Ezra 4:6)
 1. Richer than all
 2. Will stand up against Greece
 - c. A mighty king will arise – verses 3-4
 - i. Alexander the Great
 - ii. Kingdom divided among his 4 generals
 - iii. Not to his descendents
 - d. King of the South vs King of the North – verses 5-35
 - i. King of the south likely to be Ptolemy I Soter
 - ii. King of the north likely to be Seleucius
 - iii. Marriage of convenience between the 2 families
 - e. Rise of the Anti-Christ – verses 36-45
 - i. To this point Antiochus IV Epiphanes is a “type” of anti-Christ
 - ii. Final World Religion
 - iii. Time of the end

KINGS OF THE SOUTH		VS	KINGS OF THE NORTH	
Daniel Chapter 11				
5	Ptolemy I Soter 323 – 285 B.C.		5	Seleucus I Nicator 312-281 B.C. Antiochus I Soter 281 – 262 B.C.
6	Ptolemy II Philadelphus 285 – 246 B.C.		6	Antiochus II Theos 262 – 246 B.C.
7-8	Ptolemy III Euergetes 246 – 221 B.C.		7-8	Seleucus II Callinicus 246 – 227 B.C.
			10	Seleucus III Soter 227 – 223 B.C.
11-12	Ptolemy IV Philopater 221 – 204 B.C.		10-19	Antiochus III the Great 223 – 187 B.C.
17	Ptolemy V Epiphanes 204 – 181 B.C.			

			20	Seleucus IV Philopater 187 – 176 B.C.
25	Ptolemy VI Philometer 181 – 145 B.C.		21- 35	Antiochus IV Epiphanes 175 – 163 B.C.

XII. **Chapter 12** – The time of the end – continuation of Chapters 10 & 11

- a. Time of great distress – verses 1-3
 - i. Michael stands guard over the sons of Israel
 - ii. Great distress never seen before comes
 - iii. Everyone whose name is written in the book of life will be rescued
 - 1. Those in the book will awake to everlasting life
 - 2. Those not in the book will awake to disgrace & everlasting contempt
- b. Daniel told to seal up the book until the end of time – verse 4
 - i. Daniel 8:26
 - ii. Revelation 10:4
 - iii. Revelation 22:10
- c. Two men standing on the river banks – verses 5-7
 - i. “How long will it be until the end of these wonders?” (NASB)
 - ii. “... it would be for a time, times and a half time” (3 ½ Years) (NASB)
- d. Daniel asks about the outcome of these events – verse 8
- e. Daniel receives his answer – verses 9-13
 - i. “... those who have insight will understand.” (NASB)
 - ii. “From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the abomination of desolation is set up, there will be 1290 days.” (NASB)

"SEVENTY TIMES SEVEN"

Abraham to the Exodus

Promise	Gen. 12:4	75 years	
		+430 years	505 years
Ishmael	Gen. 16:16: 21:5		-15 years

490 Years

Exodus to the Temple

Begun	1 Kings 6-8	594 years	
Completed	1 Kings 6:38	+ 7 years	601 years
Servitudes	Judges 3-13		-111 years

490 Years

The Temple to the Edict of Artaxerxes

	1 Kings 8:1- 66	1005 B.C.	
	Nehemiah 2:1	445 B.C.	560 years
Babylonian Captivity			- 70 years

490 Years

Artaxerxes to the Second Coming of Christ

	Artaxerxes to the 1 st coming (69 x 7)		483 years
	The Church Interval		-???
	The 70 th Week		+ 7 years

490 Years



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