

**“The Book of Daniel -
Introduction”
Daniel 1: 1-2**

June 23, 2019

Daniel = God is my judge

Daniel bridges the entire 70 years of Babylonian captivity

Daniel was written to encourage the exiled Jews by revealing God's program for them (*both during and after the time of Gentile power in the world*).

Why God Judged Israel - 2 reasons:

Reason #1 - Israel did not obey *the land sabbath*

What is a land sabbath?

Leviticus 25: 1-7

Why did Israel not obey the land sabbath?

They did not trust God!!

The Consequence:

70 years of captivity in Babylon

2 Chronicles 36: 20-21

LESSON:

***WHEN GOD SAYS SOMETHING,
HE MEANS IT!!!!***

Why God Judged Israel - 2 reasons:

Reason #2 - Israel was immersed
in IDOLATRY

Peaked with the sins of
Manasseh = 2 Kings 21: 2-9

Babylon was used by God to
crush Judah because of the sins
of Manasseh - 2 Kings 24: 3-4

IMPORTANT:

All the nation was complicit with the sins of Manasseh

LESSON:

- God will cause you to choose between Him and your idols
- God will not accept a divided heart!!

“Choose you this day whom you will serve” - Joshua 24: 15

Timeline for The Book of Daniel

(please see your handout)

Why Study Bible Prophecy?

(excerpted from Austin Precepts)

Many in the modern church minimize the teaching of Bible Prophecy - *it's too scary, too controversial, no one knows what the symbolism means, and on it goes*

The following are reasons why we study Bible Prophecy:

- 1) 20% of Scripture is prophecy. Daniel contains the basic prophecies that form the background for God's plan for the ages
- 2) Cults misuse Bible prophecy - making it imperative that you have knowledge of the subject

- 3) The study of prophecy increases your faith. If God fulfilled them in the past, He will fulfill in the future**
- 4) Daniel demonstrates you can live in Babylon and not succumb to anti-God influences**
- 5) Daniel teaches that God is sovereign and can sustain His children in bad circumstances**

- 6) As America plunges into paganism, we can take heart that God always preserves a remnant of faithful followers
- 7) Daniel teaches that history is “*His Story*”; to understand our world today, you need to understand Daniel
- 8) As we come to know God better, we will be able to stand firm and to take action in the midst of a Godless society

- 9) Knowledge of the future should affect our conduct in the present
- 10) Future hope stimulates present purity
- 11) Miracles and fulfilled prophecy clearly establishes *God as the only God!!!*
- 12) Daniel is the key to a full and accurate interpretation of the Book of Revelation

Verse 1 - 2

Time of the Gentiles

Theme of Daniel:

God's sovereign control over nations and rulers

What is the time of the Gentiles?

The time from Babylonian captivity to the Second Coming of the Messiah - Luke 21: 24

Why the siege of Jerusalem?

King Jehoiakim heeded the false prophets - Jeremiah 27: 9-11

We are presently living in the Time of the Gentiles

When the Jewish people rejected Messiah, God's focus became global - His Church

The Church Age ends with the Rapture of the Church

God will refocus on Israel during the Tribulation Period

God will break the will of the Holy People and the nation will recognize their national sin of rejecting Messiah and plead for Him to return

Jesus returns and puts down anti-christ's revolt

- the Time of the Gentiles ends
- Jesus establishes His Millennial Kingdom

CONCLUSION: *Introduction to The Book of Daniel*

It often appears as though things are spiraling out of control -

FEAR NOT, God is at the helm!
God is steering the course of human events!

Everything is on schedule!

The signs are all around us!
Hear the words of Jesus:

“Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near.” - Luke 21: 28

Final Thought:

The Key to Spiritual Discernment (Harry Ironside)

*“If you want enlightenment in divine things, see to it that you walk in the power of the ungrieved Spirit; for **“The secret of the Lord is with them that fear Him.”** -*

Psalm 25: 14

*May we come with
prepared hearts,
ready to receive from
God truths about the
future, as we study
“The Book of Daniel”*