

THE BOOK of DANIEL CHARACTER IN CRISIS



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INTRODUCTION

Why Study the Book of Daniel?

We study the book of Daniel to better understand the times in which we are living. Daniel reveals history and prophecy—both for Israel and the world.

- If we want to see where we are headed as a nation, the book of Daniel will show us through Israel's past.
- If we want to understand what is happening in today's world and what is coming in the future, the book of Daniel will show us.

The book of Daniel's layout...

- Daniel 1-6 is history.
- Daniel 7-12 is prophecy.

History is repeating itself. We only need to examine the book of Daniel to...

- See that a Babylonian worldview is on the rise.
- Understand how dangerous it is when we do not establish God as our authority.
- Know how to reflect more of the Bible rather than Babylon.
- Persevere through fiery trials.
- Be aware and protect against pride.
- And much more!

This study of the book of Daniel helps you answer tough questions about the future.

- What current events are unfolding that line up with biblical prophecies?
- What do Babylon, the four beasts, and the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream represent?
- What do Daniel's dream and vision tell us about the future, and how should we respond?





As part of this free digital Bible study, you have access to...

- 23 video lessons and accompanying questions
- Extra edition video teachings to go even deeper into your study
- An extensive recorded Q & A video session with Abundant Life Lead Pastor, Phil Hopper.

UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD IS DOING NOW AND HOW HE IS PREPARING US FOR AN EVERLASTING KINGDOM!



CHAPTER 1: UNDERSTANDING THE BABYLONIAN WORLDVIEW

Babylon historically is one of the largest, greatest, and most wicked cities of the ancient world. It was built on the Euphrates River in what is the modern-day country of Iraq. It was originally known as Babel, home to the "tower of Babel" (Genesis 11:1-9) and founded by Nimrod whose name means "Lord of Rebellion" (Genesis 10:8-10).

In the Bible, Babylon is a symbol of evil—a wicked world system that is anti-God and anti-Christ. It is...

- Found 280 times in Scripture and is often used as a metaphor for a world system that
 has been in opposition to God's kingdom since the time of Nimrod to the present
 day.
- The origin of all counterfeit and pagan religions from antiquity to the 21st century.
- A wicked religious system that comes to fruition in Revelation 17:5, "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE FARTH."

While the city of Babylon died long ago, the spirit of Babylon lives on—it's alive and well in 21st-century America! Two kingdoms are colliding. One led by the "gods" of Babylon, and the other led by the God of the Bible.

DISCOVER THE THEME OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL AND MORE ABOUT THE RISE AND FALL OF WORLDLY KINGDOMS—ULTIMATELY GIVING WAY TO A KINGDOM THAT WILL ABIDE FOREVER.

VIDEO TEACHING

ADDITIONAL VIDEO TEACHING





STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

Who was Daniel, and why was he carried off to captivity in Babylon?

QUESTION

How does 1 Corinthians 5:12 tie to the book of Daniel?

QUESTION

How is the book of Daniel a call to the Church?

QUESTION

How can we prepare our kids in a "Babylonian" culture?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 1:4

"...young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans."

Daniel 1:8-10

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs. And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, 'I fear my lord the king, who has appointed your food and drink. For why should he see your faces looking worse than the young men who are your age? Then you would endanger my head before the king."



VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Genesis 11:1-9

"Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. Then they said to one another, 'Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly.' They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, 'Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth.' But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, 'Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech.' So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth."

Revelation 18:1-5

"After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, 'Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.' And I heard another voice from heaven saying, 'Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities.'"





CHAPTER 2: REFLECTING BABYLON OR THE BIBLE

Nebuchadnezzar waged a religious war. It was a war for land and material wealth. He stole implements used in worship from the Jewish Temple as "trophies" to be displayed in the temple of his "god" as proof he had conquered the Jews and their God.

But Nebuchadnezzar also waged a cultural war. He stole dozens of Hebrew children and brought them to Babylon to reeducate and indoctrinate them into the beliefs, customs, and culture of the Babylonians.

Nebuchadnezzar knew the destruction and transformation of civilization demanded the indoctrination of the youngest generation.

The same tactics the enemy used in Babylon in 605 B.C. are being used in our Judeo-Christian civilization today. And if you aren't aware of them, you will end up reflecting Babylon more than the Bible.

There are four pillars targeted for destruction...









Family Finances

Freedom

The American Church often reflects more of Babylon than it does the Bible.

DISCOVER HOW TO REBUILD THE WALLS OF OUR NATION AND REPAIR ITS FOUNDATION THROUGH PRAYER AND REPENTANCE.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

What are the four ways the Judeo-Christian culture of America has been attacked?

QUESTION

What were some of Daniel's character traits?

QUESTION

How can you adopt some of those traits in today's culture?

QUESTION

How can you prepare your kids in a "Babylonian" culture?

QUESTION

What are areas or people you tend to put hope in above God?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 1:1-4

"In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god. Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles, young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans."

Ezekiel 22:30

"So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one."



CHAPTER 3: LIVING BY GOD'S AUTHORITY



The spirit of Babylon is battling for the hearts and minds of America's youth.

Nebuchadnezzar's intention was the indoctrination of Hebrew children into the Babylonian beliefs, worldview, and values. Daniel was immersed in a progression of indoctrination. How does this look in modern America?

It starts with...

- Found 280 times in Scripture and is often used as a metaphor for a world system that
 has been in opposition to God's kingdom since the time of Nimrod to the present
 day.
- The origin of all counterfeit and pagan religions from antiquity to the 21st century.
- A wicked religious system that comes to fruition in Revelation 17:5, "MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

ULTIMATELY, A SECULAR SOCIETY LEADS TO SELF-IDOLATRY, WHICH LEADS TO MORAL ANARCHY.



God alone is our authority. But society is teaching our children there is no higher authority than self. Self-governance is self-idolatry – God gets a demotion, and man gets a promotion, which is self-deification.

As the Creator, God has authority over us. He doesn't conform to us. We conform to Him! He created us to bear His image. Sadly, today's culture is demanding God bear ours.

So then, how do we teach our children there is no higher authority than God?

DISCOVER THE PLAN FROM PROTECTION TO PREPARATION SO THAT OUR CHILDREN WILL LEARN NOT TO COMPROMISE IN A BABYLONIAN CULTURE.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

How do you keep God's authority in your home?

QUESTION

How do you personally stay connected and remember God's authority?

QUESTION

How can you train up your children and grandchildren in the ways of God?

QUESTION

Experiences shape our hearts. How can you help shape your child's heart?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this week's message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 1:3-4

"Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles, young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans."

Daniel 1:8

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself."



CHAPTER 4: KNOWING WHO YOU BELONG TO

The spirit of Babylonian wants to eliminate our children's godly authority, redefine their identities, and reprogram their morality. Where there is an authority crisis, there becomes an identity crisis, which leads to a morality crisis.

Your authority defines your identity. Who you belong to defines who you are. Because God made us, He has authority over us, which means He alone gets to define us.

This is exactly the Babylonian spirit that is attacking our youth today. The Babylonian culture of today is in open rebellion against God's image and kingdom. Modern American society has made a deity out of humanity, which distorts our true identities and leads to moral anarchy.

Babylon is targeting our children for indoctrination because they can't discern between fantasy and reality!

DISCOVER THE THREE THINGS EVERY PARENT SHOULD DO FOR THEIR CHILDREN. FROM DANIEL'S CAPTIVITY IN 605 B.C. TO THE 21ST CENTURY, THE IDOLATRY THAT LEADS TO DISTORTED IDENTITIES WILL ALWAYS LEAD TO DEATH AND CAPTIVITY.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

What does the spirit of Babylon want to do in your children's lives?

QUESTION

As a child of God, what is your purpose?

QUESTION

Who were the four young Hebrew children that were led into Babylonian captivity and refused to be assimilated into the culture?

QUESTION

What do your children need to know for them to find their true identity in Christ?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this week's message?



NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 1:6-7

"Now from among those of the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego.

Genesis 1:26-27

"Then God said, 'Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness,'...So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."



CHAPTER 5: FACING A DILEMMA

We can't invent our own version of right and wrong and be alright. This only creates a moral dilemma.

First, we must decide to stand on the foundation of God's truth, even when it defies cultural norms. Second, we must seek the approval of God rather than man.

We will all face a moral dilemma at some point in our lives. We must decide to defy the tendency in our hearts to conform to the culture around us and not compromise our biblical convictions. Daniel stood on his convictions and followed his Creator.

We are all trying to navigate a morality crisis taking place today. Let's ask God to show us the destination he wants for us.

DISCOVER HOW TO SEEK THE APPROVAL OF GOD RATHER THAN MAN IN TODAY'S WORLD. IT IS TIME TO WALK VICTORIOUSLY WHEN A MORALITY CRISIS SEEMS TO BE SURROUNDING YOU.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

What moral dilemma did Daniel face in Babylon?

QUESTION

What dilemma do you face today?

QUESTION

What was Daniel's decision when he faced a moral dilemma?

QUESTION

What decision do you need to make today that will keep you in line with your kingdom purpose?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE



Daniel 1:5, 8

"And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and three years of training for them, so that at the end of that time they might serve before the king...But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank."

Daniel 1:8-14

Therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs. And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, 'I fear my lord the king, who has appointed your food and drink. For why should he see your faces looking worse than the young men who are your age? Then you would endanger my head before the king.' So Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, 'Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat the portion of the king's delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants.' So he consented with them in this matter, and tested them ten days."



Daniel 1:15-16

"And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies. Thus the steward took away their portion of delicacies and the wine that they were to drink, and gave them vegetables. As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams."

Galatians 1:10

"For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."



CHAPTER 6: THRIVING IN AN UNGODLY SOCIETY

It is possible to thrive in an ungodly society. The enemy doesn't want us to think so. The truth is that even when we don't have power, we can have influence.

Though Daniel was in Babylonian captivity, he was still able to thrive. How? He remained holy, humble, and hopeful.

Daniel teaches us how to thrive while living in a Babylonian culture—being living proof a loving God to a watching world.

Daniel's life proved that even if he was in Babylon, Babylon couldn't get into him. He was humble, made respectful appeals, and didn't get angry or defiant when faced with adversity.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT HOW TO LOVE THE UNGODLY AND THRIVE IN AN UNGODLY SOCIETY. WHEN LIVING IN TODAY'S CULTURE, WE ARE CALLED TO SEEK THE PEACE AND THE WELFARE OF OUR CITIES AND SOCIETY (SEE JEREMIAH 29:4-7).



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

How did Daniel thrive in the Babylonian culture?

QUESTION

How do you have influence when you don't have power?

QUESTION

Why has the Church lost influence in our society?

QUESTION

How do you have hope in today's world?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 1:8

"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself."

Daniel 1:11-15

"So Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, 'Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat the portion of the king's delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants.' So he consented with them in this matter, and tested them ten days. And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies."

Jeremiah 29:4,7

"Thus say the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all who were carried away captive, whom I have caused to be carried away from Jerusalem to Babylon...And seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the Lord for it; for in its peace, you will have peace."

Matthew 10:16

"Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."

Matthew 10:22

"And you will be hated by all for My name's sake."

Matthew 10:24-26

"A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. It is enough for a disciple that he be like his teacher, and a servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebub, how much more will they call those of his household! Therefore do not fear them. For there is nothing covered that will not be revealed, and hidden that will not be known."

Daniel 1:21

"Thus Daniel continued until the first year of King Cyrus." For seventy years, Daniel served pagan kings in Babylon without ever losing hope."

Isaiah 44:28

"Who says of Cyrus, 'He is My shepherd, and he shall perform all My pleasure, saying to Jerusalem, "You shall be built," and to the temple, "Your foundation shall be laid."

Jeremiah 25:12

"Then it will come to pass, when seventy years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity, says the Lord; and I will make it a perpetual desolation."



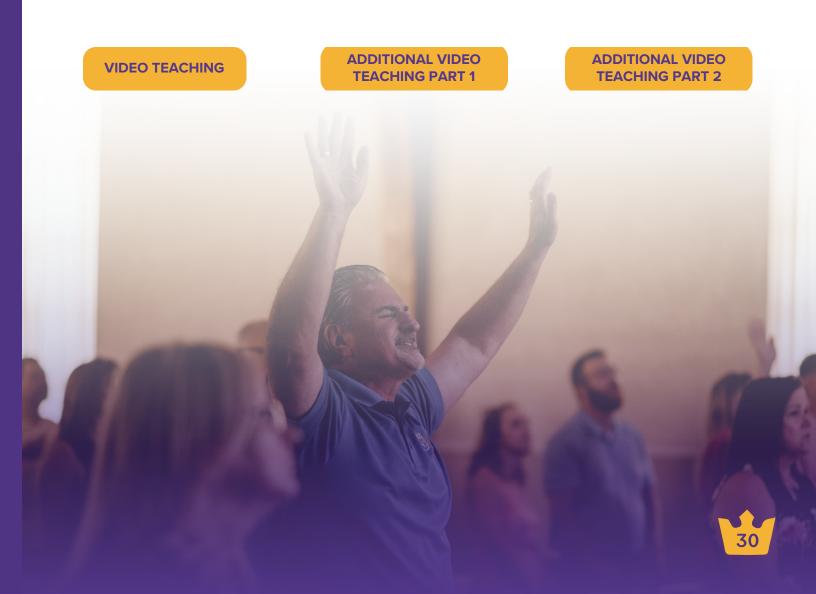
CHAPTER 7: KNOWING WHO IS KING OF YOUR LIFE

There is a benefit to having Jesus as king over your life. You are part of an everlasting kingdom! He is sovereign. He wants to be your king and Savior.

As we move into Daniel 2, we will take a closer look at the characteristics of God as well as the kingdoms that have risen and fallen throughout history.

Daniel correctly prophesied world kingdoms that would rise and fall in their successive order. And he told about what will emerge in the last days.

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THESE WORLD EMPIRES THAT HAVE RISEN AND FALLEN AND THOSE YET TO COME. BUT TAKE HEART BECAUSE JESUS' KINGDOM WILL COME, AND HE WILL REIGN FOREVER.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

What is the theme of the book of Daniel?

QUESTION

Whose kingdom is the only kingdom that will last forever?

QUESTION

How many world kingdoms have already risen and fallen? How many are yet to come?

QUESTION

Our hearts are an idol factory based on what?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 2:1

"Now in the second year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was so troubled that his sleep left him."

Daniel 2:25-26

"Then Arioch quickly brought Daniel before the king, and said thus to him, 'I have found a man of the captives of Judah, who will make known to the king the interpretation.' The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, 'Are you able to make known to me the dream which I have seen, and its interpretation?'"

Daniel 2:31-38

"You, O king, were watching; and behold, a great image! This great image, whose splendor was excellent, stood before you; and its form was awesome. This image's head was of fine gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay. You watched while a stone was cut out without hands, which struck the image on its feet of iron and clay, and broke them in pieces. Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed together, and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; the wind carried them away so that no trace of them was found. And the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth. This is the dream. Now we will tell the interpretation of it before the king. You, O king, are a king of kings. For the God of heaven has given you a kingdom, power, strength, and glory; and wherever the children of men dwell, or the beasts of the field and the birds of the heaven, He has given them into your hand, and has made you ruler over them all—you are this head of gold."



Matthew 21:42-44

"Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes"? Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it. And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."



Daniel 2:46-47

"Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face, prostrate before Daniel, and commanded that they should present an offering and incense to him. The king answered Daniel, and said, 'Truly your God is the God of gods, the Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret.'"



CHAPTER 8: PERSEVERING THROUGH FIERY TRIALS

We will all walk through the fiery trials of life. Sometimes the trials we face aren't for doing anything wrong but for doing everything right. Sadly, we often think as Christians that we should have a life of ease.

In Daniel 3, Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego were thrown into a fiery furnace, not for being out of God's will, but for being in God's will. Out of tens of thousands, these three refused to bow down and worship the golden image of Nebuchadnezzar. A true follower of the living God would rather die for the truth than live for a lie.

Jesus said He came to give us abundant life, yes. But this does not mean He gives us a life free from adversity.

DISCOVER THREE CRITICAL THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN YOU WALK THROUGH THE FIERY TRIALS OF LIFE.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

Has there been a time when you set a "fire" in your life because of a poor decision you made? What did you learn?

QUESTION

What fires have you walked through because of the right decision you made? What did you learn?

QUESTION

Having an abundant life in Christ does not mean a life free from what?

QUESTION

What three things do you need to do when you go through trials in life?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 3:7

"So at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the horn, flute, harp, and lyre, in symphony with all kinds of music, all the people, nations, and languages fell down and worshiped the gold image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up."

Daniel 3:13-18

"Then Nebuchadnezzar, in rage and fury, gave the command to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. So they brought these men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar spoke, saying to them, 'Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the gold image which I have set up? Now if you are ready at the time you hear the sound of the horn, flute, harp, lyre, and psaltery, in symphony with all kinds of music, and you fall down and worship the image which I have made, good! But if you do not worship, you shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. And who is the god who will deliver you from my hands?' Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, 'O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."



1 Peter 3:13-15, 17

"And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled. But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear...For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil."

Galatians 2:20

"I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me."

Galatians 6:14

"But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."

2 Timothy 3:12

"Yes, and all who live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution."

CHAPTER 9: UNDERSTANDING THE PURPOSE OF TRIALS

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego didn't bow to the gold image of Nebuchadnezzar, and they didn't express a lack of confidence in God's ability.

They trusted Him completely when threatened with being burned alive, but they stood firm on the truth and had no need to answer the king. They were confident in His ability to deliver them and knew He still deserved their worship even if they weren't delivered.

DISCOVER THE THREE THINGS YOU GAIN WHEN YOU WALK FAITHFULLY THROUGH FIERY TRIALS. GOD DOESN'T PROMISE TO SAVE YOU FROM THE FIRE, BUT HE DOES PROMISE TO SAVE YOU IN THE FIRE.

VIDEO TEACHING

ADDITIONAL VIDEO TEACHING





STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

How did the three Hebrews view God's sovereignty?

QUESTION

What is a mark of spiritual maturity?

QUESTION

What are three fires you must walk through?

QUESTION

What do you need to "put on" before entering the fire?

QUESTION

What are three things you gain through a trial?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 3:16-30

"Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, 'O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up.'

"Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. He spoke and commanded that they heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated. And he commanded certain mighty men of valor who were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, and cast them into the burning fiery furnace. Then these men were bound in their coats, their trousers, their turbans, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace. Therefore, because the king's command was urgent, and the furnace exceedingly hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

"Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished; and he rose in haste and spoke, saying to his counselors, 'Did we not cast three men bound into the midst of the fire?' They answered and said to the king, 'True, O king.'

"Look!' he answered, 'I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.' "Then Nebuchadnezzar went near the mouth of the burning fiery furnace and spoke, saying, 'Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego, servants of the Most High God, come out, and come here.' Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego came from the midst of the fire. And the satraps, administrators, governors, and the king's counselors gathered together, and they saw these men on whose bodies the fire had no power; the hair of their head was not singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them.



"And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled. But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear...For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil."

John 16:33

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world."

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

"And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. And He said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.' Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong."

2 Corinthians 4:17

"For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory."

Romans 8:18

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."





CHAPTER 10: STRUGGLING WITH PRIDE

C.S. Lewis said, "Pride leads to every other vise: it is the complete anti-God state of mind."

We all struggle with pride. It is God's mercy to rob us of it. Pride whispers, "You don't need God. You're the king. You can fix yourself." Sadly, pride robs us of joy, security, peace, and so much more. It is God's heart to restore all that pride robs from us.

Daniel 10 teaches us about the issue of pride. King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream that revealed a problem he faced: pride. Because we each deal with pride, we each have a decision to make, just like Nebuchadnezzar. Turn to the one true God and follow Him or continue to follow ourselves.

The choice is ours.

DISCOVER HOW GOD HUMBLED NEBUCHADNEZZAR AND RESTORED WHAT PRIDE STOLE FROM HIM. HE WANTS TO RESTORE WHAT HAS BEEN STOLEN FROM YOU TOO.

VIDEO TEACHING

ADDITIONAL VIDEO TEACHING

STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

How does God deal with pride in a person's heart?

QUESTION

What problem did Nebuchadnezzar's dream reveal?

QUESTION

What is the sin that leads to more sin and every vice?

QUESTION

What does God invite you to do in the midst of your "ruin"?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 4:34-37

"...For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand or say to Him, 'What have You done?'

"At the same time my reason returned to me, and for the glory of my kingdom, my honor and splendor returned to me. My counselors and nobles resorted to me, I was restored to my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added to me. Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all of whose works are truth, and His ways justice. And those who walk in pride He is able to put down."

Daniel 4:2-3

"I thought it good to declare the signs and wonders that the Most High God has worked for me. How great are His signs, and how mighty His wonders! His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and His dominion is from generation to generation."



Daniel 4:27

"Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity. All this came upon King Nebuchadnezzar."

Daniel 4:32

"Seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses."

Revelation 3:19-20

"As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent. Behold, (here I am), I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me."





CHAPTER 11: CRASHING YOUR PARTY

As death was knocking at the door, Belshazzar was partying. He was using something for wickedness that God designed for worship, something sacred for something sinful.

Belshazzar was in God's face, and he crossed the line. He rejected God and His grace, leaving nothing but His judgment. God crashed Belshazzar's party.

The "writing was on the wall." God wrote, "MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN," which meant...

- · God has numbered your kingdom and finished it.
- You have been weighed in the balances and found wanting.
- Your kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and Persians.

There comes a point in life when we must choose to reject God's grace and mercy or accept it.

DISCOVER HOW GOD HUMBLED NEBUCHADNEZZAR AND RESTORED WHAT PRIDE STOLE FROM HIM. HE WANTS TO RESTORE WHAT HAS BEEN STOLEN FROM YOU TOO.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

When Belshazzar took and used the sacred cups that Nebuchadnezzar stole from the Jewish temple, what type of act was it?

QUESTION

The fingers of a hand appeared and wrote on the wall in the palace. Whose hand was this?

QUESTION

Why couldn't the king's wise men make known to the king the interpretation of the writing on the wall?

QUESTION

Why did God crash Belshazzar's party?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES



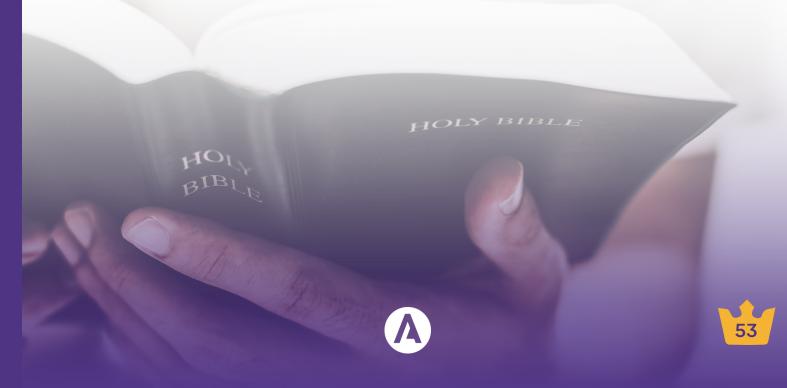


VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 5:1-8

"Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and drank wine in the presence of the thousand. While he tasted the wine, Belshazzar gave the command to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the temple which had been in Jerusalem, that the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines might drink from them. Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken from the temple of the house of God which had been in Jerusalem; and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze and iron, wood and stone.

"In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. Then the king's countenance changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his hips were loosened and his knees knocked against each other. The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. The king spoke, saying to the wise men of Babylon, 'Whoever reads this writing, and tells me its interpretation, shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around his neck; and he shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.' Now all the king's wise men came, but they could not read the writing, or make known to the king its interpretation."



Luke 12:20

"But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?"

Mark 8:36-37

"For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Daniel 5:13, 16-18

"Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king spoke, and said to Daniel, 'Are you that Daniel who is one of the captives from Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah?...And I have heard of you, that you can give interpretations and explain enigmas. Now if you can read the writing and make known to me its interpretation, you shall be clothed with purple and have a chain of gold around your neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.' Then Daniel answered, and said before the king, 'Let your gifts be for yourself, and give your rewards to another; yet I will read the writing to the king, and make known to him the interpretation. O king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar your father a kingdom and majesty, glory and honor."



Daniel 5:22

"But you his son, Belshazzar, have not humbled your heart, although you knew all this."

Matthew 12:31

"Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men."

Daniel 5:24-30

"Then the fingers of the hand were sent from Him, and this writing was written. 'And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.' Then Belshazzar gave the command, and they clothed Daniel with purple and put a chain of gold around his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom. That very night Belshazzar, king of the Chaldeans, was slain."



CHAPTER 12: BEING THROWN INTO THE LIONS' DEN

Daniel was as bold as a lion, even in the lions' den. But why was he thrown into the den? Because he did what he had always done. He stood up and stood for God. He had integrity which made him a threat to his enemies. But he overcame!

His "excellent spirit" distinguished him above all the governors and satraps. Daniel had the character of God, confidence in God, and was consecrated to God. His faith in God was worth dying for because he understood the promised reward would be more significant than anything he could live for.

We, too, have times when we are thrown into the lions' den of life.

DISCOVER WHAT WE MUST KNOW TO BE CONSECRATED TO GOD AND WALK CONFIDENTLY DURING THESE TRIALS.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

The lions' den is a place of darkness where you can be devoured. What is threatening to devour you today?

QUESTION

What made Daniel a threat to his enemies?

QUESTION

Where did Daniel find courage?

QUESTION

Why was Daniel willing to lay down his life in the lions' den?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

1 Peter 5:8

"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour."

Proverbs 28:1

"The wicked flee when no one pursues, but the righteous are bold as a lion."

Daniel 6:1-23

"It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred and twenty satraps, to be over the whole kingdom; and over these, three governors, of whom Daniel was one, that the satraps might give account to them, so that the king would suffer no loss. Then this Daniel distinguished himself above the governors and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm. So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him. Then these men said, 'We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God.'





"So these governors and satraps thronged before the king, and said thus to him: 'King Darius, live forever! All the governors of the kingdom, the administrators and satraps, the counselors and advisors, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a firm decree, that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions. Now, O king, establish the decree and sign the writing, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter.' Therefore King Darius signed the written decree. Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

"Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. And they went before the king, and spoke concerning the king's decree: 'Have you not signed a decree that every man who petitions any god or man within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?'

"The king answered and said, 'The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter.'





"So they answered and said before the king, 'That Daniel, who is one of the captives from Judah, does not show due regard for you, O king, or for the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day.'

"And the king, when he heard these words, was greatly displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him. Then these men approached the king, and said to the king, 'Know, O king, that it is the law of the Medes and Persians that no decree or statute which the king establishes may be changed.'

"So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. But the king spoke, saying to Daniel, 'Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you.' Then a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signets of his lords, that the purpose concerning Daniel might not be changed.

"Now the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; and no musicians were brought before him. Also his sleep went from him. Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions. And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, 'Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?'

"Then Daniel said to the king, 'O king, live forever! My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.'

"Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God."

2

CHAPTER 13: UNDERSTANDING GOD'S PLANS FOR THE NATIONS

Biblical prophecy is like a puzzle. As time passes, the pieces of the puzzle God has given us begin to fit together to form a complete picture.

Never forget the theme of the Bible is that God will one day establish an earthly kingdom. But while God's plan is to establish a kingdom, Satan seeks to establish his too.

Daniel 7 retells the same prophecy from Daniel 2 from a different point of view. God describes the kingdoms of men as monstrosities—beasts that are brutal, bloody, and ugly. This is unlike Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a man's image made of things that are beautiful and valuable. Daniel 7 reveals how these kingdoms are actually brutal, deprayed, and made of things that are ugly.

DISCOVER WHAT THE FOUR BEASTS REPRESENT AND WHAT THEY HAVE TO DO WITH US.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

Biblical prophecy is like a puzzle. When will we see how all the pieces fit together?

QUESTION

In Daniel 7, Daniel receives a prophecy related to what?

QUESTION

Daniel 2 and 7 depict the same four kingdoms. What are the different perspectives?

QUESTION

What do the ten horns on the fourth beast represent?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message? Which kingdom do you serve?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 12:4

"But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end."

Matthew 6:9

"In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven."

Daniel 7:1-8

"In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts. Daniel spoke, saying, 'I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other. The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it. And suddenly another beast, a second, like a bear. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: "Arise, devour much flesh!" After this I looked, and there was another, like a leopard, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it. After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns. I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words."

Daniel 7:15-18-20, 23-24

"I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within my body, and the visions of my head troubled me. I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things: 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth. But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

"Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others. exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet; and the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows...Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all other kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, trample it and break it in pieces. The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; he shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings."





Matthew 6:33

"But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness..."

Daniel 7:27

"Then the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him."



CHAPTER 14: HAVING A TRUE VIEW OF GOD

You can't see God clearly unless you see Him biblically. God has preserved His Word so that you can know and see Him. He is not a God of confusion but of clarity.

You need an accurate view of the Lord Almighty to correct any errors in your thinking about Him and His character. Ask Him to expand your view of Him so you can accurately see yourself and the world.

DISCOVER HOW TO SEE GOD BIBLICALLY SO YOU CAN SEE THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE MEANT TO BE SEEN. DANIEL 7 REVEALS SEVEN WAYS TO SEE GOD.



QUESTION

How do you see God?

QUESTION

Your view of God is clear when you see Him ______.

QUESTION

What are the seven ways to see God taken from Daniel 7?

QUESTION

How does your view of God impact the way you live?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 7:9-10

"I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire; a fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, and the books were opened."

Daniel 7:11-14

"I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. 'I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed."



CHAPTER 15: UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF ISLAM IN THE LAST DAYS

Daniel 7 is the prophecy of four world kingdoms that will rise and fall before Christ establishes His Kingdom of everlasting dominion. It is no wonder Islam seeks worldwide dominion. Satan wants what belongs to God—an earthly kingdom. Islam is driven by the spirit of the Antichrist (1 John 2:22) and will, in all probability, be instrumental in ushering in this last kingdom shortly before Christ returns.

The revived Roman Empire probably won't be either entirely European or entirely Arab but rather five European nations and five Arab nations that form a coalition.

Satan will use Islam in the last days to establish an earthly kingdom in opposition to God! Allah is a powerful Satanic spirit—a false god—whom 1.5 billion are currently deceived into worshiping. He is one of the principalities and powers mentioned in Ephesians 6:12.

DISCOVER SATAN'S PLAN TO STEAL AND HOW HE PLANS TO USE ISLAM IN THE LAST DAYS.



QUESTION

Satan's desire is to be _____ as God, to sit on the ____ of God, and to steal the ____ from God.

QUESTION

What will Islam seek in the last days?

QUESTION

What will form the "power base" of the anti-Christ?

QUESTION

What are the similarities between Muslim end-time beliefs and biblical end-times truth?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 7:7

"After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns."

Daniel 7:23-25

"Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be a fourth kingdom on earth, which shall be different from all other kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, trample it and break it in pieces. The ten horns are ten kings who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; he shall be different from the first ones, and shall subdue three kings. He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time."



Revelation 6:1-2

"Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals; and I heard one of the four living creatures saying with a voice like thunder, 'Come and see.' And I looked, and behold, a white horse. He who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer."

Matthew 24:24

"For false christs and false prophets will rise and shall show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect."

Revelation 6:7-8

"When He opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature saying, 'Come and see.' So I looked, and behold, a pale horse. And the name of him who sat on it was Death, and Hades followed with him. And power was given to them over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword, with hunger, with death, and by the beasts of the earth."

CHAPTER 16: UNDERSTANDING THE NEW WORLD ORDER

The New World Order is an effort to unite the nations and become one global community. However, apart from God's authority, this unity of the nations will be corrupt and fall under Satan's authority. The Bible says that we can do nothing apart from God. Historically, when the nations attempted this unification, it led to the abuse of power and authority.

When you examine the current events of our day, you find the pieces are being set for this New World Order to emerge. Daniel 8 describes the Antichrist who will reign as Satan's counterfeit king. He will be the political leader who will unite the nations under the New World Order.

DISCOVER THE FOUR THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE RULER OF THE NEW WORLD ORDER AND HOW TODAY'S EVENTS ALIGN FOR THESE PROPHETIC ACTS TO BE FULFILLED.



QUESTION

What has always been God's purpose for humanity?

QUESTION

What has been Satan's desire since the moment of his insurrection?

QUESTION

Who is Satan's counterfeit king?

QUESTION

What are the four things you need to know about the ruler of the "New World Order"?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Isaiah 2:4

"They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."

Daniel 8:16-17

"And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai, who called, and said, 'Gabriel, make this man understand the vision.' So he came near where I stood, and when he came I was afraid and fell on my face; but he said to me, "Understand, son of man, that the vision refers to the time of the end."

Daniel 8:23-27

"And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their fullness, a king shall arise, having fierce features, who understands sinister schemes. His power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; he shall destroy fearfully, and shall prosper and thrive; he shall destroy the mighty, and also the holy people. Through his cunning he shall cause deceit to prosper under his rule; and he shall exalt himself in his heart. He shall destroy many in their prosperity. He shall even rise against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without human means. And the vision of the evenings and mornings which was told is true; therefore seal up the vision, for it refers to many days in the future. And I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it."

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4

"Let no one deceive you by any means; for that Day will not come unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God."

2 Thessalonians 2:8-9

"And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord will consume with the breath of His mouth and destroy with the brightness of His coming. The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders."

Revelation 6:3-4

"When He opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature saying, 'Come and see.' Another horse, fiery red, went out. And it was granted to the one who sat on it to take peace from the earth, and that people should kill one another; and there was given to him a great sword."

CHAPTER 17: PRAYING LIFE-CHANGING PRAYERS

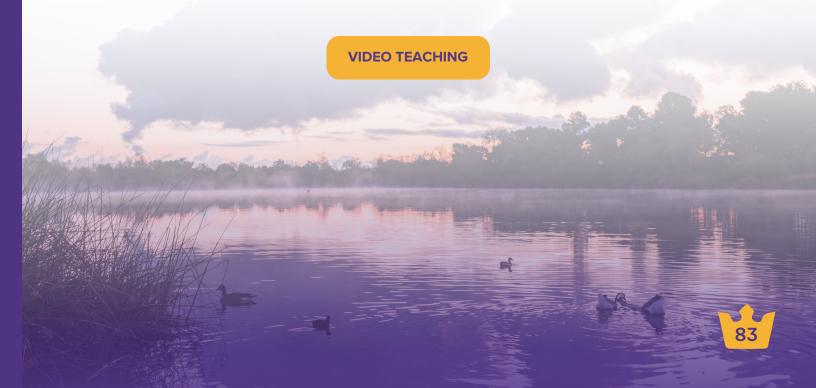
Unfortunately, prayer is often our last resort when it should be our first response. We know we should pray, but when we bow our heads, we often don't know what to say. As a result, many of us neglect the practice of prayer.

There are five things to help you begin praying life-changing prayers.

- 1. <u>Know God's Word</u>. Read and reflect on God's promises and pray according to those promises.
- 2. <u>Know God's character</u>. When you understand God's character and see Him as worthy of all praise, your prayer life will begin to shift.
- 3. <u>Confess sins</u>. Once you understand God's greatness, you start to see your sinfulness. Revival begins with confession and repentance.
- 4. <u>Plead with God</u>. When you understand the heaviness of your sin and the power of God, you begin to see your dependency on Him and plead with God in prayer.

Believe in faith. If you are praying according to God's promises and His Word, you can believe in faith that your prayers will be heard by God. You learn to pray in line with God's will by being a student of God's Word.

DISCOVER HOW TO PRAY LIFE-CHANGING PRAYERS BY LOOKING AT DANIEL'S PRAYER IN DANIEL 9.



QUESTION

Why is prayer a neglected practice by many Christians?

QUESTION

What should direct your prayers?

QUESTION

What are the four characteristics Daniel 9 gives us about God?

QUESTION

Prayer doesn't change God's mind. What does it change?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 9:1-4

"In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the lineage of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans—in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the Lord through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. And I prayed to the Lord my God..."

Jeremiah 29:10-12

"For thus says the Lord: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you."

Daniel 9:3-6

"Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. And I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, 'O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments. Neither have we heeded Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings and our princes, to our fathers and all the people of the land."

Daniel 9:9

"To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him."

Daniel 9:19

"O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name."



CHAPTER 18: UNDERSTANDING GOD'S PROPHETIC CLOCK

Daniel 9:24-27 is one of the most amazing prophecies in the entire Bible. When you carefully examine these scriptures, you can understand God's prophetic clock. Furthermore, you can begin to see where we are in the timeline. Time is ticking, so it is critical we understand...

- What has happened
- What needs to happen
- What caused the clock to stop
- What will cause it to start up again

DISCOVER THE MEANING OF THE "70 WEEKS" MENTIONED IN DANIEL 9 AND WHAT CAUSED THE CLOCK TO STOP TICKING.





QUESTION

What are the two keys to understanding the prophecy mentioned in Daniel 9?

QUESTION

God told Daniel there would be exactly how many years from the command to rebuild Jerusalem to the coming of the Messiah.

QUESTION

The coming "prince" will broker a 7-year ______ between Israel and her enemies.

QUESTION

What actually begins the 7-year tribulation?

QUESTION

What is God revealing to you through this message?



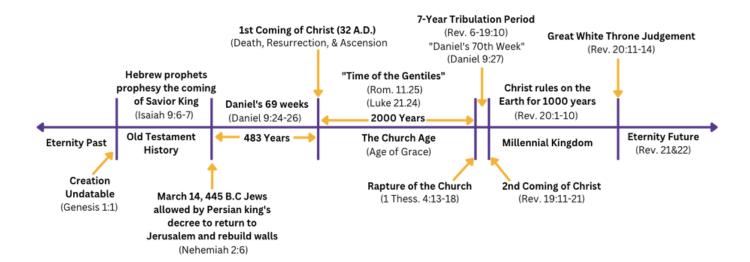


NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE



Daniel 9:24-27

"Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, there shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times. And after the sixty-two weeks Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined. Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; but in the middle of the week he shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate."



Luke 21:24

"And they will fall by the edge of the sword, and be led away captive into all nations. And Jerusalem will be trampled by Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled."

Romans 11:25

"For I do not desire, brethren, that you should be ignorant of this mystery, lest you should be wise in your own opinion, that blindness in part has happened to Israel until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in."

Matthew 24:15-22

"Therefore when you see the "abomination of desolation," spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place' (whoever reads, let him understand), 'then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. And unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the elect's sake those days will be shortened."



CHAPTER 19: UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND THE POWER OF PRAYER

Daniel 10 reveals the heavens as a great angelic battlefield. Because Daniel understood the battle and how to wage war, he entered this spiritual warfare through prayer and fasting.

Through prayer and fasting, you become a danger to the enemy. Daniel prayed and fasted for three full weeks as he entered a major battle for his people. Daniel was a humble man, and his heart of humility prepared him for revival and to stand in God's presence.

DISCOVER THE MEANING OF THE "70 WEEKS" MENTIONED IN DANIEL 9 AND WHAT CAUSED THE CLOCK TO STOP TICKING.

- How does the Bible depict angels?
- What are the assignments of dispatched angels?
- What is the "chain of command" among angels?
- How do angelic armies impact nations, regions, places, and people?



Q	U	E	S	П	O	N
Y	•	_		-	-	

Daniel 10 reveals the heavens as a _____.

QUESTION

How many "heavens" does the Bible says exists?

QUESTION

Prayer does more than prepare you for the battle. Prayer is the _____.

QUESTION

When do you become a danger to the enemy?

QUESTION

What is God saying to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 10:1-14

"In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision. In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled. Now on the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is, the Tigris, I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude. And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength. Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground. Suddenly, a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands. And he said to me, 'O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for I have now been sent to you.' While he was speaking this word to me, I stood trembling. Then he said to me, 'Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. Now I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come."



Hebrews 13:2

"Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels."

2 Corinthians 12:7

"And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure."

Colossians 1:16

"For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers."

Daniel 10:20-21

"Then he said, 'Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. (No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince..."





CHAPTER 20: UNDERSTANDING THE BOOKS IN HEAVEN AND THE THRONE OF JUDGMENT

There are two books in heaven. The Lamb's Book of Life records the name of everyone who has received eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. The book of works records every sinful deed of every person who has died without Christ.

God will eventually judge every human being from these two books. Daniel 12 tells us that we all will stand before Jesus as He sits on His throne of Judgment, opens the books in heaven, and reveals the names in the books.

The final judgment of those not found in the Lamb's Book of Life is at the Great White Throne Judgment, where God will judge all those who have died in their sin. The rich and powerful and the small and insignificant will all face God's judgment. Let this truth spur us to earnestly seek God and accept the forgiveness of sin offered through Jesus.

DISCOVER HOW DANIEL 12 IS CONNECTED WITH END-TIME PROPHECY AND WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE TWO BOOKS ARE OPENED.



QUESTION

Every human being will be resurrected one day after they die—some to eternal ______and others to eternal _____.

QUESTION

What is the "Book of Works"?

QUESTION

Where is the final judgment of those not found in the Lamb's Book of Life?

QUESTION

What is the Lake of Fire?

QUESTION

What is God saying to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 12:1-3

"At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people shall be delivered, every one who is found written in the book. And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the firmament, and those who turn many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever."

Revelation 21:27

"But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life."

Romans 6:23

"The wages of sin is death..."



Revelation 20:11-15

"Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire."

John 5:26

"For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, and has given Him authority to execute judgment."

Revelation 14:11

"The smoke of their torment ascends forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night."

Mark 9:43-44

"...into the fire that shall never be quenched—where 'their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.'"





CHAPTER 21: UNDERSTANDING THE REWARDS AT THE BEMA SEAT OF CHRIST

Daniel 12 is closely tied to 1 Corinthians 3, telling us that there will come a day when the works of believers will be inspected and tested by fire. God will give rewards at the bema seat of Christ to those who have worked for His kingdom with purity, righteousness, and humility.

The bema seat of Christ is about what you have done for Christ. He is to be the foundation of everything you do. "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ."—1 Corinthians 3:11

DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE BEMA SEAT AND HOW THE REWARDS GIVEN ARE RELEASED.

VIDEO TEACHING



QUESTION

What does the Bema mean?

QUESTION

What are the three things to know about the Bema seat?

QUESTION

How are you distracted from what matters most?

QUESTION

What three things will be tested at the Bema seat based on how you built for Christ?

QUESTION

What is God saying to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 12:10

"Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand."

1 Corinthians 3:9-15

"...You are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw, each one's work will become clear; for the Day will declare it, because it will be revealed by fire; and the fire will test each one's work, of what sort it is. If anyone's work which he has built on it endures, he will receive a reward. If anyone's work is burned, he will suffer loss; but he himself will be saved, yet so as through fire."

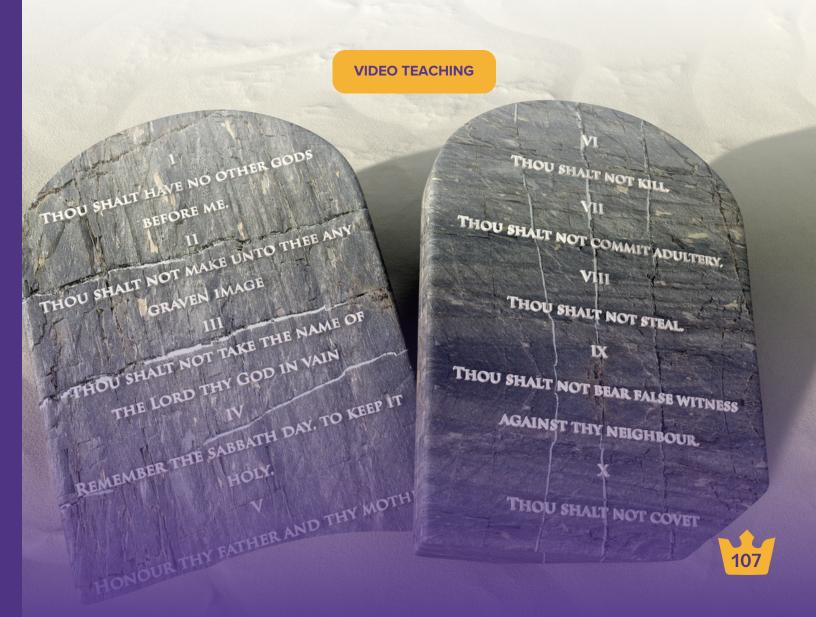


CHAPTER 22: UNDERSTANDING THE 7-YEAR TRIBULATION

The books of Daniel and Revelation are God's letters that warn us about the 7-year tribulation that will occur before Jesus returns to reign in His kingdom. The Bible gives us the information we need to know to respond with wisdom and understanding in these last days.

The most important thing you can do to prepare in these last days is to trust Jesus for your salvation.

DISCOVER WHO THE TRIBULATION IS FOR, WHAT HAPPENS AT THE HALFWAY POINT, AND HOW BAD IT IS GOING TO GET.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

What does Daniel see in the vision toward the end of his life?

QUESTION

How many years will the entire tribulation last?

QUESTION

Who is the tribulation for?

QUESTION

What are the five things you need to do in response to God's letter written about the tribulation?

QUESTION

What is God saying to you through today's message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 12:1

"At that time Michael shall stand up, the great prince who stands watch over the sons of your people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time."

Daniel 12:5-13

"Then I, Daniel, looked; and there stood two others, one on this riverbank and the other on that riverbank. And one said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, 'How long shall the fulfillment of these wonders be?' Then I heard the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand to heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever, that it shall be for a time, times, and half a time; and when the power of the holy people has been completely shattered, all these things shall be finished. Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, 'My lord, what shall be the end of these things?' And he said, 'Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand. And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the abomination of desolation is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days. But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days.""



CHAPTER 23: KNOWING WHAT BIBLICAL PROPHECIES HAVE BEEN FULFILLED

The Second Coming of Christ is one of the major themes of the Bible. More than 2400 verses describe His return. This tells us that God wants us to watch for and anticipate the King's return! As we get closer to Christ's return, we can see biblical prophecies that have been fulfilled.

The Bible is clear that we won't know the day or hour of His return. In recent years, there have been four fulfilled and revealed prophecies that have taken place.

DISCOVER WHAT THOSE FOUR PROPHECIES ARE AND HOW THEY RELATE TO GOD'S PROPHETIC TIMELINE.



STUDY QUESTIONS

QUESTION

Does the Bible have more verses about the first or the second coming of Christ?

QUESTION

As members of God's kingdom, what should we be anticipating?

QUESTION

What prophecies related to Christ's return have recently been unsealed?

QUESTION

What does Babylon symbolize in the Bible?

QUESTION

What is God saying to you through this message?





NOTES





VERSES FOR REFLECTION AND REFERENCE

Daniel 12:9

"And he said, 'Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end."

1 Thessalonians 5:4

"But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief."

Matthew 22:32-34

"I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.' And when the multitudes heard this, they were astonished at His teaching. But when the Pharisees heard that He had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together."

Matthew 21:19

"And seeing a fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it but leaves, and said to it, 'Let no fruit grow on you ever again.' Immediately the fig tree withered away."





Ezekiel 12:15

"Then they shall know that I am the Lord, when I scatter them among the nations and disperse them throughout the countries."

Ezekiel 11:16-17

"Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord God: Although I have cast them far off among the Gentiles, and although I have scattered them among the countries, yet I shall be a little sanctuary for them in the countries where they have gone.' Therefore say, 'Thus says the Lord God: I will gather you from the peoples, assemble you from the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel.'"

Daniel 12:4

"But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase."

Luke 21:28

"Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

Revelation 22:5

"There shall be no night there: They need no lamp nor light of the sun, for the Lord God gives them light. And they shall reign forever and ever."





BONUS VIDEO:

Check out this bonus video and get FAQs about the book of Daniel answered.

LEARN MORE

There Is Hope Beyond the Impending Apocalypse

The book of Daniel is critical for this generation to study and understand. We are quickly approaching the end of this age, and it is important for us to be a light in the darkness and point people to Christ.

Jesus will return one day soon and set up His everlasting kingdom. It is up to us to wage war and stand firm in the faith with wisdom and without compromise so our children and grandchildren will also know the King of kings and Lord of lords!

Continue Your Spiritual Education & Stay Connected

Check out "Weapons of Spiritual Warfare" by Pastor Phil Hopper at livingproof.co/Weapons.

Follow Pastor Phil Hopper on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/PhilHopperKC/

