

“DANIEL”

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INTRODUCTION

- A. The book of Daniel illustrates God’s care for His people.
 - B. BUT WHO IS DANIEL?
 - 1. “Daniel” means, “God is my judge.”
 - 2. Nothing at all is known of his parentage or family.
 - 3. We do know from reading this book that he had fine instruction.
 - 4. He was taken captive and carried to Babylon by king Nebuchadnezzar in 3rd year of reign of Jehoiakim. (1:1).
 - 5. He was a very young man.
 - C. **He was determined to serve the God of Heaven**, even in the presence of heathenism, and was absolutely unswerving in his religious convictions.
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MEETING THE CRISIS

- A. Daniel chosen for a position full of glory and honor.
 - 1. How exciting this must have been.
 - 2. Even tho he is in a strange land...the honor of being selected to serve king.
 - 3. **Brings a crisis to his life:**
 - a. Must eat at the King’s table.
 - b. Unclean food (would violate his religious training).
 - c. What will he do?
 - B. MANY YEARS LATER: The decree....for a period of 30 days, on the pain of death....no one could offer a petition to gods or man, except to the king. (Darius).
 - 1. What is Daniel going to do?
 - 2. Skip praying for 30 days?
 - 3. Hid....Let no one see him...
 - 4. NO...As was his custom....as he always did...prayed unto God three times a day.
 - C. **HOW DID DANIEL MEET EACH CRISIS?**
 - 1. “But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s meat. (1:8).
 - 2. Regardless of what the devil offers....remember that God is there.
 - 3. Daniel just said “**NO**”

*****Later we will see what God did:**
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The Dream; & Interpretation

- A. Nebuchadnezzar had a dream, couldn’t remember or understand it.
 - 1. The Dream is recorded in Daniel 2:31-35. READ
 - 2. The Interpretation in Daniel 2:36-45. READ.
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DREAM, cont.

B. Brief Outline Leading To Everlasting Kingdom.

1. Nebuchadnezzar: “Thou art the head of gold. And the student of both secular and sacred history will note:
2. Medo-Persian: Represented by the breasts and arms of the image.
3. A young man, **Alexander**, son of Philip conquers empire after empire...and weeps because there were no more to conquer....This the third Kingdom of the dream.
4. The ruins of these kingdoms merged into the Roman Empire. Represented by the legs, feet and toes of iron and clay. This is the kingdom with which “stone cut out without hands” comes in contact. “The stone that smote the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.”

C. NOW HEAR DANIEL:

1. Chapter 2:14: READ.
 2. The N.T. picks up the story.
 - a. “In those days came John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, Repent ye; for the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand”
 - b. What days? Herod...The Roman Empire...4th of the dream.
 - c. Mark 9:1: “There are some here of them that stand by, who shall in no wise taste of death, till they see Kingdom of God come with power.”
 - d. Luke 24:49, “tarry in Jerusalem unto....receive power from on high.
 - e. Acts 1:8, ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.
 - f. Then Acts 2.
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Handwriting on the Wall!

- A. THE STORY in Daniel chapter 5.
 - B. Note and read v. 25.
 - C. Can you see the writing on the wall?
 - D. All the ways in can be applied today.
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Book Preserve Because

A. Jehovah's nation in the eyes of the world.

1. For a 1000 years God has nurtured the Hebrew nation.
2. Now Jehovah's nation had been destroyed by a nation that worshiped idols.
3. In the eyes of the world....was the gods of Babylon more powerful than the God of the Jews?

B. THREE TIMES....EVEN FOUR THE BOOK OF DANIEL declares that “GOD IS ABLE.” Let's notice:

1. **DANIEL:** you remember refused the King's food...after a time of eating pulse and drinking water...How did they look. (v. 14).
2. **THE FIERY FURNACE:**
 - a. The story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.
 - b. READ 3;17-18, “God whom we serve is able.
 - c. The final results.
3. **DANIEL AND THE LIONS DEN:** Perhaps the most famous of all.
 - a. The decree that was passed and why.
 - b. Daniel as was his custom...prayed..
 - c. Arrested and placed in the Lion's Den.
 - d. Darius comes early....**Read 6:19-22.....GOD IS ABLE!**
4. **THE GOD WHO WAS ABLE TO DO ALL THIS...IS ALSO THE GOD WHO WAS ABLE TO ESTABLISH AN ETERNAL KINGDOM!**

C. THE ETERNAL MESSAGE OF BOOK OF DANIEL IS THAT GOD IS ABLE!!
