



RESOLVED

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL



Book of Daniel

Written approx. 535 BC,
recording events that
occurred from 605-535 BC.



Turkey

Iraq

Syria

Tigris River

Euphrates River

Israel

Jordan

Babylon

Iran

Mediterranean Sea

Jerusalem

Egypt

Persian Gulf

The Babylonian Empire

606-536 BC



Biography of Daniel

- Hebrew name means “God is my judge” or “God has judged.”
- Descended from one of the noble families of Judah (Dan. 1:3), and probably born in Jerusalem about 623 BC, during the reign of Josiah.
- He was physically attractive and mentally sharp (Dan. 1:4).
- At the first deportation of the Jews by Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel and other three noble youths were carried off to Babylon, along with part of the vessels of the temple.
- Daniel served as advisor to two Babylonian kings (Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar) and two Medo-Persian kings (Darius and Cyrus).
- A man of prayer and a statesman with the gift of prophecy.
- He lived at least until the third year of Cyrus, that is, till 536 BC (10:1). He must have been a young man when he was taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar in 605 BC. (In 1:4 Daniel was one of the “young” men of Israel.) If he were 16 when captured, he was age 85 in Cyrus’ third year.

Hebrew Names Babylonian Names

Names were given by God-fearing parents and then changed by Nebuchadnezzar to omit a testimony to Yahweh, to encourage the Jewish teens to forget God and their homeland

Daniel - Hebrew “my judge is God”

Belteshazzar - Akkadian “(god) Bel, protect the king”

Hananiah - Hebrew “Yahweh has favored me”

Shadrach - Akkadian “I am fearful (of a god)”

Mishael - Hebrew “who is what El is?”

Meshach - Akkadian “I am humbled (before my god)”

Azariah - Hebrew “Yahweh has helped”

Abed-nego – Akkadian “servant of Nego”

(Nego/Nebo was a Babylonian god of wisdom)



But Daniel **made up his mind** **[resolved]** that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself. Daniel 1:8

Daniel 1:8

וַיֵּשֶׁם דָּנִיֵּאל עַל-לִבּוֹ

way·yā·śem dā·nî·yêl 'al- lib·bōw

Daniel resolved in his heart

Daniel made up his mind

Daniel purposed in his heart

Daniel determined





Daniel 2



Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar (604 BC), Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him. Then the king gave orders to call in the magicians, the conjurers, the sorcerers and the Chaldeans to tell the king his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king. Daniel 2:1-2



The king said to them, “I had a dream and my spirit is anxious to understand the dream.” Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic: “O king, live forever! Tell the dream to your servants, and we will declare the interpretation.” The king replied to the Chaldeans, “The command from me is firm: if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you will be torn limb from limb and your houses will be made a rubbish heap.” Daniel 2:3-5



Book of Daniel

The Book of Daniel is unusual in that it is written in two languages: 1:1-2:4a and chapters 8-12 are in Hebrew, and 2:4b-7:28 is in Aramaic, the lingua franca of the prophet's day. Hebrew was the language of God's covenant people Israel, and Aramaic was the language of the Gentile world.

-Bible Knowledge Commentary

“But if you declare the dream and its interpretation, you will receive from me gifts and a reward and great honor; therefore declare to me the dream and its interpretation.” They answered a second time and said, “Let the king tell the dream to his servants, and we will declare the interpretation.” The king replied, “I know for certain that you are bargaining for time, inasmuch as you have seen that the command from me is firm, that if you do not make the dream known to me, there is only one decree for you. For you have agreed together to speak lying and corrupt words before me until the situation is changed; therefore tell me the dream, that I may know that you can declare to me its interpretation.” Daniel 2:6-9

The Chaldeans answered the king and said, “There is not a man on earth who could declare the matter for the king, inasmuch as no great king or ruler has ever asked anything like this of any magician, conjurer or Chaldean. Moreover, the thing which the king demands is difficult, and there is no one else who could declare it to the king except gods, whose dwelling place is not with mortal flesh.” Because of this the king became indignant and very furious and gave orders to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. So the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they looked for Daniel and his friends to kill them. Daniel 2:10-13



Then Daniel replied with discretion [wisdom] and discernment [tact] to Arioch, the captain of the king's bodyguard, who had gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon; he said to Arioch, the king's commander, "For what reason is the decree from the king so urgent?" Then Arioch informed Daniel about the matter. So Daniel went in and requested of the king that he would give him time, in order that he might declare the interpretation to the king. Daniel 2:14-16



Then Daniel went to his house and informed his friends, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, about the matter, so that they might request compassion from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that Daniel and his friends would not be destroyed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. Then the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. Daniel 2:17-19a

*Where do you go when crises occur?

Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven; Daniel said, “Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, for wisdom and power belong to Him. It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men and knowledge to men of understanding. It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him. To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for You have given me wisdom and power; even now You have made known to me what we requested of You, for You have made known to us the king’s matter.” Daniel 2:19b-23



“This psalm is very important for it summarizes the theme of the whole book of Daniel — namely, that God is sovereign, that He has a purpose in history, and that He has the wisdom and the power to orchestrate the affairs of men and nations to the triumph of His divine will.” - Dr. David R. Reagan

“No characteristic of Daniel’s life stands out more clearly than his prayerfulness . He and his companions pray for mercy, since the future of the kingdom of God and its witness in Babylon appeared to depend on their preservation. Daniel believed he had access to realms which the Babylonian astrologers held to be barred. The character of God, the Revealed and the Revealer, formed the basis for his petition. He is the Lord of wisdom and power, Ruler of all history who communicates with His people.” - New Bible Commentary



Daniel said, “Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, for wisdom and power belong to Him. It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men and knowledge to men of understanding.”
Daniel 2:20-21

We need to hear this declaration as we watch Russia invade Ukraine this week.

Then He [Jesus] continued by saying to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be great earthquakes, and in various places plagues and famines; and there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and will persecute you, delivering you to the synagogues and prisons, bringing you before kings and governors for My name’s sake. It will lead to an opportunity for your testimony.” Luke 21:10-13



Battle of Gog and Magog

Ezekiel 36-39

WEDNESDAY 6:30 PM



FIRST MELISSA



Therefore, Daniel went in to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon; he went and spoke to him as follows: “Do not destroy the wise men of Babylon! Take me into the king’s presence, and I will declare the interpretation to the king.” Then Arioch hurriedly brought Daniel into the king’s presence and spoke to him as follows: “I have found a man among the exiles from Judah who can make the interpretation known to the king!” The king 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 2:24-26

Daniel answered before the king and said, “As for the mystery about which the king has inquired, neither wise men, conjurers, magicians nor diviners are able to declare it to the king. However, there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days. This was your dream and the visions in your mind while on your bed. As for you, O king, while on your bed your thoughts turned to what would take place in the future; and He who reveals mysteries has made known to you what will take place. But as for me, this mystery has not been revealed to me for any wisdom residing in me more than in any other living man, but for the purpose of making the interpretation known to the king, and that you may understand the thoughts of your mind.” Daniel 2:27-30



“You, O king, were looking and behold, there was a single great statue; that statue, which was large and of extraordinary splendor, was standing in front of you, and its appearance was awesome. The head of that statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.” Daniel 2:31-33



Drawing of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream

“The head of that statue was made of fine gold, its breast and its arms of silver, its belly and its thighs of bronze, its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of clay.”



Daniel said, “You continued looking until a stone was cut out without hands, and it struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and crushed them.” Daniel 2:34



“Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were crushed all at the same time and became like chaff from the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away so that not a trace of them was found. But the stone that struck the statue became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.” Daniel 2:35



“This was the dream; now we will tell its interpretation before the king. You, O king, are the king of kings, to whom the God of heaven has given the kingdom, the power, the strength and the glory; and wherever the sons of men dwell, or the beasts of the field, or the birds of the sky, He has given them into your hand and has caused you to rule over them all. You are the head of gold.” Daniel 2:36-38



“After you there will arise another kingdom inferior to you, then another third kingdom of bronze, which will rule over all the earth. Then there will be a fourth kingdom as strong as iron; inasmuch as iron crushes and shatters all things, so, like iron that breaks in pieces, it will crush and break all these in pieces.” Daniel 2:39-40



“In that you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter’s clay and partly of iron, it will be a divided kingdom; but it will have in it the toughness of iron, inasmuch as you saw the iron mixed with common clay. As the toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of pottery, so some of the kingdom will be strong and part of it will be brittle. And in that you saw the iron mixed with common clay, they will combine with one another in the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, even as iron does not combine with pottery.” Daniel 2:41-43



King's Dream

Further explained in Daniel Chapter 8

Jesus said, "...and they will fall by the edge of the sword, and will be led captive into all the nations; and Jerusalem will be trampled under foot by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled." Luke 21:24

“In the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which will never be destroyed, and that kingdom will not be left for another people; it will crush and put an end to all these kingdoms, but it will itself endure forever. Inasmuch as you saw that a stone was cut out of the mountain without hands and that it crushed the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold, the great God has made known to the king what will take place in the future; so the dream is true and its interpretation is trustworthy.” Daniel 2:44-45



HEAD OF GOLD
KINGDOM OF BABYLON

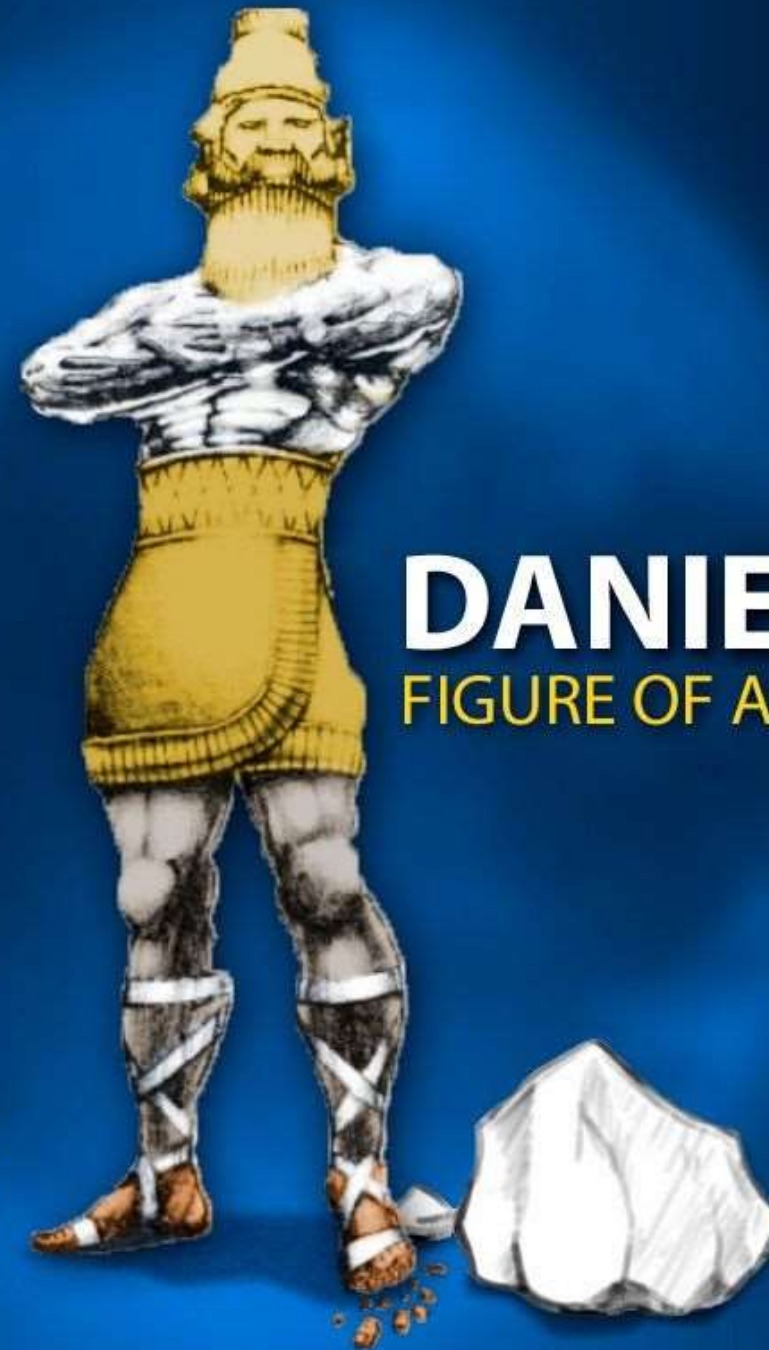
**CHEST & ARMS
OF SILVER**
KINGDOM OF MEDES
& PERSIANS

**BELLY & THIGHS
OF BRONZE**
KINGDOM OF
ANCIENT GREECE

LEGS OF IRON
KINGDOM OF
ANCIENT ROME

**FEET OF IRON
& CLAY**
KINGDOM OF
RESTORED ROME

CRUSHING ROCK
KINGDOM OF GOD



DANIEL 2
FIGURE OF A MAN



Messiah is The Stone

- “The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief corner stone.” Psalm 118:22
- “Then He shall become a sanctuary; but to both the houses of Israel, a stone to strike and a rock to stumble over, and a snare and a trap for the inhabitants of Jerusalem.” Isaiah 8:14
- Therefore thus says the Lord God, “Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a tested stone, a costly cornerstone for the foundation, firmly placed. He who believes in it will not be disturbed.”
Isaiah 28:16



Messiah will set up His Kingdom

God said to David, “Your house and your kingdom shall endure before Me forever; your throne shall be established forever.”

2 Samuel 7:16

Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, “The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever.” Revelation 11:15



Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell on his face and did homage to Daniel, and gave orders to present to him an offering and fragrant incense. The king answered Daniel and said, “Surely your God is a God of gods and a Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, since you have been able to reveal this mystery.”

Daniel 2:46-47



Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts, and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men of Babylon. And Daniel made request of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego over the administration of the province of Babylon, while Daniel was at the king's court. Daniel 2:48-49



Lessons from Daniel 2

1. God is able to use His faithful children no matter where they live or what job they have.
2. Daniel's immediate reaction when faced with a crisis was to pray and ask others to pray.
3. Daniel publicly declared his faith in God and God's gracious involvement.
4. Daniel admitted that his wisdom was from God.
5. Non-believers can be drawn to faith when believers stand for righteousness and use their God-given gifts.
6. When blessed by God for his obedience, Daniel remembered his friends.



Our Prayer Today

“Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, for wisdom and power belong to Him. It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men and knowledge to men of understanding. It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with Him.” Daniel 2:20-22



How can I resolve?

Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice deeds of wickedness with men who do iniquity; and do not let me eat of their delicacies.

Psalm 141:4