

# The Book of Daniel

A Study of how Daniel's prophecies apply to modern day events.

#### THE BOOK OF DANIEL Lesson #1 INTRODUCTION

The book of Daniel is one of the most important books in the Bible. It is a book of history of the "Times of the Gentiles." The book <u>contains</u> the history of the fall of Jerusalem, which introduces the "time of the gentiles." <u>Daniel was also a prophet which the Lord called him in Matthew 24:15</u>. This book tells of the "rise and fall" of the Gentile powers all the way to the end, where it foretells of the tribulation, the manifestation of the anti-Christ, the return of Christ and the final judgments. The book is a prophecy of the setting up of the Kingdom of God on earth. **Everything we read and study in Daniel applies to America today.** 

There are two main phrases in Daniel which are the foundation of the book. (1) "There is a God in Heaven" (Daniel 2:28). (2) "The most high ruleth in the kingdom of men" (Daniel 4:32). The entire book teaches us that "God is sovereign and rules over the kings and of this world."

#### THE BEGINNING OF THE "TIMES OF THE GENTILES"

Luke 21:24

- I. The "time of the Gentiles" was <u>foreshown</u> in the "Tower of Babel" (Genesis 11:1-9).
  - A. The fall of Judah was foretold in Deuteronomy 31:17.
    - 1. It is confirmed in Isaiah 39:5-7.
  - B. The fall came because of Israel's "continual disobedience" to the Command of God.
    - 1. They were commanded to "let the land rest" every seventh year (Lev. 25:1-4).
    - 2. This is repeated in Leviticus 26:14, 16, 18, 21, 23, 27, & 32-35.
  - C. The patience of God is long-suffering, but judgement always comes. (Daniel 1:1-2).
  - D. The book of Daniel teaches that God is all powerful and controls kings! (Daniel\_4:32).
    - 1. Babylon took the city of Jerusalem in "three stages." (II Kings 25:9) a. Partially in 606 BC again in 598 BC- totally in 587-BC)
    - 2. This was the beginning of the "Times of the Gentiles."

#### DANIEL, SHADRACH, MESHACH AND ABED-NEGO Daniel 1:3-7

- II. Four Teenager Young Men set an Example for us to Follow.
  - A. The King planned to train them to worship the "god of the Chaldeans." (Verse 4b-6). Picture of the coming "one-world Catholic church."
    - "Give us your children until they are 6 they will be Catholics all their life!
  - B. The King tried to subtilty deceive them.
    - 1. The king would give them "special training for three years.
    - 2. The king would have them eat at the kings table, eat his food, and drink his wine
    - 3. The king gave them Chaldean names an honor for a captive!

a. Daniel to Belteshazzar
b. Hananiah to Shadrach
c. Mishael to Meshach
d. Azariah to Abed-nego
The "god of bel."
Lightened by the sun god.
Like the god of Venus.
Servant of Nego. (Major god of Babylon)

#### THE PROPOSAL DANIEL MADE IN HIS HEART

(Daniel 1:8)

#### I. Daniel and his three friends stood firm against three "heathen practices."

- A. They would not accept the "heathen teaching."
- B. They would not accept the "heathen names."
- C. They would not accept the "heathen food."
- II. Daniel requested that he and his friends be excused (Daniel 1:9-10).
- III. Daniel challenged the eunuch to "Prove them as servants" (Daniel 1:12-13).
  - A. God honored the faithful stand of Daniel and his friends (Daniel 1:14-16).
  - B. God "added to the honor of their stand."
    - 1. God gave them knowledge, skill in all learning, and wisdom. (Vs 17)
    - 2. God gave Daniel understanding of visions and dreams.
  - C. Daniel and his friends, Proved themselves! "Ten Times Better" (Daniel 1:20-21)! 1. "God is able to do exceeding abundantly above..." (Eph. 3:20-21)

#### THE WARNING TO AMERICA

- I. The Political world is trying to change Christians and the church!
  - A. We see "churches" accepting THE WORLD into the church (II Corinthians 6:17)
  - B. We see the government (socialists) trying to control churches in America!
- II. Knowing God is the only True God, should give us courage to Stand!" "Steadfast!"
  - A. What God did for Daniel; God will do for us (II Corinthians 6:17-18)!
  - B. If God be for us, who can be against us? (Romans 8:31)
  - C. Times continually change and become MORE dangerous and MORE wicked!

# THE BOOK OF DANIEL Lesson #2 NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM. Daniel 2:1-35

This is one of the most amazing chapters in the entire Bible. It foretells the rise and fall of great Gentile world powers. Babylon was the FIRST Gentile world power! It has continual applications and pictures of the America we are living in today.

#### NEBUCHADNEZZAR NIGHTMARE Daniel 2:1

- I. Nebuchadnezzar's Dream <u>Troubled him</u> and He could not sleep (Daniel 2:1).
  - A. The king had just overthrown Jerusalem and was the most powerful man in the world.
    - 1. Great power and wealth never bring "peace in your heart or soul" (Psalms 17:14).

# NEBUCHADNEZZAR DEMANDS AN IMPOSSIBLE ANSWER. Daniel 2:2-11

- I. Nebuchadnezzar Claimed to have Forgotten the Dream (Daniel 2:2-11).
  - A. The king demanded the magicians tell him the dream (Verses 2-5). (Magicians are like Congressmen and Senators in today's government.)
    - 1. The magicians proved themselves powerless to solve the problem (Verse 10).
    - 2. This proved that "politicians" do not have the answer to the world's problems!

# NEBUCHADNEZZAR SENTENCES THE MAGICIANS TO DEATH. Daniel 12:13

- I. The "Men of the World" did not Have the Answer to the King's problem (Daniel 2:12-13).
  - A. That is a picture of the "Gentile world powers today" (Psalms 33:12).
    - 1. This is a picture of Men in the Congress and Senate today
    - 2. Worldly Congressmen and Senators failed from the beginning!
    - 3. Worldly Governments fail because they never seek God (Daniel 2:10-11).
  - B. The magicians, sorcerers and astrologers were sentenced to death.
    - 1. This pictures Satan as being "behind all Gentile World Governments!"
    - 2. Satan works to "divide nations" and destroy them (Matthew 12:25).
    - 3. This was no doubt "Satan's attempt to destroy Daniel" (Daniel 2:13).

# GOD IS ABLE TO DO ABOVE WHAT WE ASK OR THINK. Ephesians 3:20

- I. The King Took his Problem to Bed with him Daniel took it to God (Verses 17-18).
  - A. Prayer meetings like these four men had, have made history (Jeremiah 33:3).
    - 1. We see a picture of what "OUR faith should be like" (Matthew 21:22).

B. God honors Daniel's faith and reveals the problem (Daniel 2:19-22).

#### DANIEL WENT BEFORE THE KING – GOD HAD HIS BACK! Daniel 2:23-28

- I. God put Daniel on "Center Stage" (Daniel 2:24).
  - A. "If God be for us, who can be against us." (Romans 8:31)
  - B. Three things which Daniel did:
    - 1. He saved the lives of his enemies (Verse 13) (Verse 24).
      - a. "Love your enemies..." (Matthew 5:43-48).
      - b. This will become very important in a future lesson!
    - 2. He declines taking ANY credit for interpreting the dream (Verse 25, 26 & 30).
    - 3. He gave God the glory (Verse 28). (I Corinthians 10:31)

# DANIEL REVEALS THE DREAM TO NEBUCHADNEZZAR. Daniel 2:29-30

- I. The Dream was to Show the King, "What Will Come Hereafter" (Daniel 2:29-30).
  - A. The dream reveals "the Gentile empires from that day to this day until the end."
- II. The Dream was a "Great Image." "Who Stood Before the King (Verse 31-35).
  - A. The image had great brightness, was excellent but looked terrible!
- III. The Meaning of the Image Which God showed Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 2:32-33).
  - A. The Dream refers to "the latter days" (Daniel 2:28).
    - 1. The dream reveals "The rise and fall of world Gentile power" (Luke 21:24).
    - 2. The dream reveals "God is not finished with Israel."
      - a. Israel will be restored, greatly used of God (Revelation 7:4-9).
  - B. The Description of the Image:
    - 1. The head of the image was gold.
    - 2. The breast and arms of the image were silver.
    - 3. The belly and thighs of the image were brass.
    - 4. The legs of the image were iron.
    - 5. The feet of the image were part iron and part clay.
      - a. The gold was the strongest.
      - b. All following the gold were inferior.
- IV. The King saw "a Stone was Cut Out Without Hands" (Daniel 2:34-35).
  - A. The Stone smote the feet made from iron and clay into pieces.
  - B. The Stone destroys the Entire Image It became as "Chaff." (Dust)

C. The Stone "cut without hands" (Verse 34-35).

#### V. The "Stone" Became a Great Mountain and Filled the Whole Earth (Verse 35)!

A. We will study who and what the images picture and prophecies next week.

Most of the image is now history, but part of it is prophecy. We will begin to see where America is "a picture and type" of what will be happening "in the latter days."

1. Our God has not changed – God's Word has not changed. (Heb. 13:8)

#### Lesson #3

#### THE INTERPRETATION OF THE KING'S DREAM.

#### **Daniel 2:37-45**

#### **THE HEAD OF GOLD**

- I. This Pictures King Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylon Empire (Daniel 2:37-38).
  - A. This was the first Gentile Empire to rule (Verse 38) (606-539 BC). 67 Years
    - 1. It would be the strongest of all Gentile World powers.
    - 2. It was GIVEN to Nebuchadnezzar BY GOD.

(Same Today!)

- a. **BECAUSE** Israel rejected God and did not want Him to rule over them.
- b. They said, "Give us a king as other nations!" (I Samuel 8:4-7)
- 3. America started right but it is not how you start, but how you finish!
- 4. This has been the "pattern" from Daniel 2 until today!!!
- 5. Before the Gentile rule, God ruled through the prophets!
- 6. When Christ returns, He will rule and we shall rule with Him!

#### THE BREAST AND ARMS OF SILVER

- II. This Pictures the Empire of the Medes and the Persian (Verse 39).
  - A. This was the second Gentile Empire to rule (539-332 BC). 207 Years

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- 1. The Empire of Medes and Persians was inferior to Babylon.
- 2. There are no further comments about the Medes-Persian Empire.

#### THE BELLY AND THIGHS OF BRASS

- III. This Pictures the Greek Empire under Alexander the Great (Verse 39).
  - A. This was the third Gentile Empire to rule (332 31 BC). 301 Years
    - 1. There are no further comments about the Greek Empire.

#### THE LEGS OF IRON

- IV. This Pictures the "Fourth Gentile Empire" But it is Unnamed (Daniel 2:40).
  - A. There is no doubt it is the Roman Empire. (31 BC 476 AD --- until today)
    - 1. History proves that the Roman empire followed the Greek empire.
    - 2. The Roman empire ruled the world at the time of Christ. (Luke 2:1).
    - 3. The Roman empire ruled from 31 BC until about 476 years after Christ's death. (This will be developed later in this lesson.)
    - 4. The **iron** pictures being ruthless, crushing of people and countries (Vs. 40).
      - a. Rome showed no mercy or consideration for people (Daniel 7:7)!

#### THE FEET OF IRON AND CLAY

- V. The Feet of Iron and Clay Pictures the Rome Empire being Divided (<u>Daniel 2:41-43</u>).
  - A. Rome was NEVER totally defeated but was taken over by others in the Empire.
  - B. The "toes" were part iron and part clay a nation divided cannot stand!
    - 1. At the close of 475 AD Rome consisted of 10 nations (Daniel 7:24).
    - 2. Rome continues until this day! "...feet and toes of iron and clay."
  - C. The Roman empire is not ruling today, but IT WILL BE BACK (Revelation 17:9)!

# PROPHECY OF THE REVIVED ROMAN EMPIRE Revelation 17:5-9

- I. The Roman Empire was Never Totally Defeated, but Began to Change under Augustus.
  - A. In 325 AD Constantine made Christianity the major religion of Rome.
  - B. It will continue until the "fullness of the Gentiles be fulfilled" (Luke 21:20-25).
  - C. The "Gentiles" will continue to rule the world until the coming of Christ.1. The Roman Catholic church is leading toward a "one world church."
  - D. The Revived Roman Empire will be a "Democracy."1. Democracy means: "Of the people, For the people, and By the people."
  - E. When "the fullness of the Gentiles be fulfilled," the saints will be killed.

    1. This is recorded in Revelation 17:3-7.
- II. America is an Example of a "Democracy." America's government has Rejected God. "that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth" (President Abraham Lincoln Gettysburg Address, (1863)
  - A. The "People" in America are protesting "for their rights."
    - 1. The Supreme Court granted "Women's Lib" their rights.
    - 2. The Supreme Court has granted the "Sodomites" their rights.
    - 3. The Supreme Court has granted the "Transgenders" their rights.
  - B. The people of America are saying...
    - 1. I have the right "that the government provide me food."
    - 2. I have the right "to low rent because I have low income."
    - 3. I have the right "that you can't refuse to hire me because of my race."
    - 4. I have the right "to have my student debt forgiven!"
    - 5. I have the right "to race on city streets and you can't arrest me!"
    - 6. The "people" want to, "defund law enforcement."

- C. This is a government "of the people, by the people, for the people."
  - 1. This "sounds good" but every nation who has practiced this "has fallen!"
  - 2. IF AMERICA would read Daniel Chapter #2 and learn...but America, NOR any other nation, has learned from History!
  - 3. It is not "how we started, but how we finish!"

#### THE STONE CUT WITHOUT HANDS

- I. The "Stone" Pictures "God Setting up His Kingdom on earth" (Daniel 2:44-45).
  - A. His Kingdom shall rule the world with a "Rod of Iron" (Revelation 12:5).
  - B. God's government will be a "Theocracy." "UNDER GOD."
- II. The "Stone" in Verses 34 and 35 is a Prophecy of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God!
  - A. The Lord Jesus himself confirms that He is "this stone" (Matthew 21:44).
- **III.** The Destruction will Include "All the Kingdoms of the World" (Daniel 2:44-45).
  - A. The Stone will "break in pieces" ... "the gold, the silver, the brass and the iron."
  - B. This is still FUTURE! The Roman empire was NEVER ground into powder! YET! 1. **The Kingdom of God will be "a Theocracy"** (Psalms 2:9-12).
  - "...the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure."
    (Daniel 2:45)

#### Lesson #4

#### THE PRIDE OF NEBUCHADNEZZAR

#### **Daniel 3:1-7**

**INTRO:** Approximately 20 years had passed since Nebuchadnezzar saw the great image. The Gold head represented him as a great king!

#### I. Nebuchadnezzar Saw the Power of God, and Gave God credit.

- A. The king "appreciated the interpretation."
  - 1. It was ABOUT HIM and exalted HIM." (Daniel 2:37-38)!
  - 2. But he worshipped Daniel (Daniel 2:46)!
- B. Nebuchadnezzar <u>forgot</u> he said, "the God of Daniel was the true God" (Daniel 2:47).
- C. Nebuchadnezzar <u>forgot</u> "God had given him the empire." (Dan. 2:37) (Dan. 4:30).

#### THE PICTURE OF THE GENTILE EMPIRES

#### II. Nebuchadnezzar Built an Image to Exalt Himself (Daniel 3:1-6) 90 ft tall x 9 ft wide.

- A. This is the same attitude Satan had (Isaiah 12:12-14)!
- B. The king demanded all people and nations to worship **him** (Daniel 3:4-5).
  - 1. The king was trying to unify all "religions" into one religion to worship him.
  - 2. All the politicians joined the king (Verse 2).
  - 3. This is a picture of the "last days" (Revelation 13:14-18).
- C. America began as a Christian nation, exalting God.
  - 1. Our Government immediately added to the Constitution of the United States.
  - 2. "...that Congress make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting its free exercise."
    - a. II Corinthians 6:14-17
  - 3. This has been the practice of the Gentile world, including America!
    - a. **Statue of Liberty** "Give us your tired, your poor, your hungry." 1883.
    - b. Estimated 16 million undocumented immigrants in America today!
  - 4. They brought all their "UNGODLY RELIGIONS with them!
- D. Politicians make speeches and close with "God bless America."
  - 1. Does not mean a thing! They are exalting them selves!

#### **BOW OR BURN**

#### **Daniel 3:8-13**

- I. Three Faithful Men Refused to Bow and Worship the King (Daniel 3:12).
  - A. The Chaldeans had their lives spared because of Daniel (Daniel 2:24).
  - B. They now turned on Daniel's three best friends and wanted them burned! (Daniel 3:8)

- C. The three faithful men rejected the king's offer of a compromise (Daniel 3:15). **NO OTHER Israelite joined them!!!**
- D. The king was "**full of fury**" and commanded them to be burned (Daniel 3:19-20).
  - 1. He Hated their God!!!

### A PATTERN FOR US TO FOLLOW. Daniel 3:16-18

- I. Three Faithful Men Responded with "No Sign of Fear" (Daniel 3:16-18).
  - A. They had no fear because they trusted God.
    - 1. They said, our God, "he will deliver us out of thy hand." (Verse 17).
    - 2. They had the "Promise of God" (Isaiah 43:2).
- II. Three Faithful Men were Delivered by the Same God we Serve (Daniel 3:24-25)!
  - A. The three faithful men were "bound and cast into the fiery furnace."
  - B. The fiery furnace **destroyed the men** that cast the three men into the fiery furnace (Vs. 22).
  - C. The "fiery furnace" set the three faithful men free (Daniel 3:25).
    - 1. The fire only "burned the things with which they were bound (Verse 22).
    - 2. They did not even have the smell of fire on them (Daniel 3:28).
- III. God Will Deliver Faithful men During the Tribulation Period.
  - A. God delivered 144,000 and they preached the Gospel to the world (Revelation 7:4).
  - B. God delivered "...a great multitude, which no man could number..." (Revelation 7:9-12).
  - C. The church will not be in the Tribulation.
    - 1. But, we may be forced to choose between "compromise or suffer."
    - 2. Please prepare today for that day is coming Maybe soon!

### GOD HONORS THOSE WHO HONOR HIM. Daniel 3:24-25

(I Samuel 2:30 and John 12:26)

- I. You are Never Alone When You Go Through a "Fiery Furnace" (Hebrews 13:5).
  - A. Paul (Acts 27:23)
- II. What God did for them God will do for you!
  - A. Our God is the "God of the impossible."
  - B. Is anything too hard for God?" (Genesis 18:14)
- III. Our Heavenly Father will always watch over his believing, faithful, trusting children!
  - A. Romans 8:35-39

# Lesson #5 THE KING'S TESTIMONY

#### Daniel 4:1-3 & 37

**Intro:** According to Scripture, it appears that Nebuchadnezzar <u>wrote this chapter</u> of Daniel and the Jews later incorporated it into the inspired, God breathed Word of God. Notice the "first person pronouns" throughout the entire chapter (Daniel 4:1).

#### I. God Encouraged The King Twice to Believe on the One True God.

- A. This is the "first time" God witnessed to Nebuchadnezzar" (Daniel 2:46-47)!

  1. The king fell on his face, acknowledged God, but worshiped Daniel.
- B. This is the "second time" God witnessed to Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 3:24-25 & 28).1. The king acknowledged God but had no repentance.
- C. The king "professed" to believe but NEVER CHANGED (II Corinthians 5:17).

#### II. The King Gives his Personal Testimony of Believing in the One True God (Daniel 4:1-3).

- A. His testimony was to all people, nations, and languages (Verse 1).
- B. He begins to share his testimony with the people in Verse 4.
- C. From his heart, he wanted all people to know what God had done for him.

#### THE TREE THAT TROUBLED THE KING Daniel 4:4-12

#### I. The "Tree" Pictures the World-Wide Spread of the Gentile Nations (Daniel 4:10-13).

- A. The tree grew strong reached to Heaven.
- B. The branches and leaves picture the "spreading of the Gentile Nations."
- C. The sight of the tree reached to "the end of all the earth."
- D. The "fowls and all flesh" picture "EVERY type of religion joining together."
- E. 25 years passed The politicians and magicians still did not have the answer (Vs. 18).

#### **II.** The "Watchers and Holy One" Picture the Holy One from Heaven (Daniel 4:14-15).

- A. The "Holy One" pictures Jesus Christ. (Not "ones.")
- B. God commanded the "watchers" to, "Hew down the tree...leave the stump." (Verse 15)
- C. Verse 12 calls the tree as an "it". But Verse 16 describes it as a picture of a man.

- 1. Cut off "<u>his"</u> branches, shake off "<u>his</u>" leaves, scatter "<u>his</u>" fruit, and the fowls from "<u>his</u>" branches.
- D. The reason: "the living may know that God ruleth the kingdoms of men" (Vs. 16-17) 1. "The powers that be are ordained of God." (Romans 13:1)
- E. America, and other nations, still do not believe that God rules our nation.
  - 1. We don't learn from history: Every nation has "fallen" and will continue to fall.
  - 2. EVERY king and nation KNOWS there is One True God (Romans 1:19-20)!
- F. The "stump" pictures the end result of Nebuchadnezzar as king.
  - 1. It also pictures that the Gentile nations will re-grow and continue until today.

## THE BAD NEWS IN THE KING'S DREAM Daniel 4:19

- I. Never be Concerned about Sharing "Bad News" with a Lost Person (Daniel 4:19).
- II. The "Tree" Pictures king Nebuchadnezzar!" (Daniel 4:22)
  - A. Daniel said, "It is thou, oh king..."
  - B. The tree was strong and great and reaching to heaven.
  - C. The "watchers" cut the tree down and **destroyed it** (Verse 23).
  - D. Leave the stump (**his** portion).
  - E. The king would be with the "beast of the fields" for seven times (Daniel 4:25).
- III. The "Tree" Stump being left "Pictures his Kingdom would Continue (Verse 26).
  - A. <u>UNTIL</u> HE learns that "the most high ruleth in the kingdom of men..." 1. "...and he giveth it to whomsoever he will."
- **IV.** The "Tree" Pictures what Would Happen to the King.! (Daniel 4:24-27).
  - A. They would drive him from his kingdom.
    - 1. He would dwell with the beast of the field.
    - 2. He would eat grass like an oxen.
    - 3. He would sleep outdoors and be wet with dew.
    - 4. He would live this way for "seven times" (Complete Verse 25).

#### GOOD ADVICE FOR A BAD KING

- I. The King gets some Good Advice (Verse 27)!
  - A. Repent of your sins and be made righteous!

- B. The discipline of God was effective!
- II. Nebuchadnezzar's Pride Reveals he Still had no Change of Heart (Daniel 4:28-30).
  - A. He uses the "personal pronoun" twice in this verse "I and my" (Verse 30).
  - B. This is a picture of America today!
- III. The Bad News Happened, "Just Like God Said it Would" (Daniel 4:31-33)!
  - A Nebuchadnezzar hears a voice from Heaven.
  - B. The voice said... This is your last chance! Repent or else (Luke 13:3)!

#### **BAD NEWS BRINGS GOOD NEWS!**

- I. At "The End of Days" Nebuchadnezzar "Repents" (Daniel 4:34-35)!
  - A. The king lifted up his eyes and blessed the most High.
  - B. God returned the Kingdom to Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4:36).
  - C. The "Seven Years of Chastisement was Effective."
  - D. God "KNOWS" what it will take to bring repentance!
- II. "Now," Let me tell you what happened, Nebuchadnezzar said... (Verse 37)
  - A. <u>Now</u>, I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven

#### Lesson #6

#### THE FOOLISHNESS OF BELSHAZZAR

#### **Daniel 5:1-5**

**Intro:** Belshazzar knew the history of the Babylonian Empire and all the actions of Nebuchadnezzar. He knew the part that Daniel, and Daniel's God, had on his father and on the Empire. Belshazzar no doubt knew of Nebuchadnezzar's conversation and acceptance of Daniel's God (Daniel 4:37).

- I. The king of Babylon makes Mockery of the King of Kings (Daniel 5:1-4).
  - A. There were many "feast" in those days.
    - 1. This one is the most foolish ever recorded!
    - 2. He invited "a thousand of his lords" (Verse 1).
    - 3. Belshazzar and his 1000 lords were honoring heathen gods!
  - B. They "praised the gods of gold, silver, of brass, of iron, and wood and of stone."
    - 1. This is a picture of America today!!!
      - a. This is prophesied in Jeremiah 51:39, 40 & 57.
      - b. The prophecy will be fulfilled in the tribulation in Rev. 17:4-6 and 18.
      - c. The "woman" (The Catholic Church) was arrayed for a great party!
  - C. The king seems to have been drunk. "whiles he tasted wine..." ("Whiles" is plural!)
    - 1. He sent for the "sacred vessels" taken from the temple of God (Verse 2).
    - 2. This was open blaspheme and mockery of the Only True God.
- II. The King of Kings Sends the king of Babylon a Mortifying Message (Daniel 5:5-6).
  - A. Belshazzar knew he had offended God The party suddenly stopped!
    - 1. The "party" will again stop suddenly when Christ returns.
  - B. Belshazzar "flatters Daniel," because he wants him to interpret the "writing on the wall."
    - 1. Belshazzar "knew all about Daniel" (Daniel 5:13-16).
    - 2. Belshazzar offered Daniel "great gifts" to interpret the "writing on the wall."
    - 3. Daniel said, "I'm a servant of God I am not for sale" (Daniel 5:17)!
  - C. No Child of God should be" for sale" to the World of Politics!

#### LIKE FATHER - LIKE SON!

- I. Daniel Points Belshazzar back to his Grandfather (Daniel 5:18-23).
  - A. Belshazzar knew about his grandfather's experience.
    - 1. But "hardened his heart" and was TOTALLY indifferent to God.
  - B. Daniel, without fear, drove a bayonet in the king's heart (Daniel 5:23)!
    - 1. Fear not: (Psalms 91:1-16)

#### THE HAND WRITING ON THE WALL.

(Daniel 5:24-28)

- I. Mene-Mene: "God has numbered (the days) thy kingdom, and finished it."
  - A. The number was "zero" as the king was slain that night.
- II. Tekel: "Thou are weighed in the balances and art found wanting."
  - A. Meaning it was "too late for repentance."
- III. Peres: "Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians."

**NOTE:** The Medes and Persians had already diverted the Euphrates River under the wall of the city, and they were, **at that very time**, coming under the wall of Babylon to capture the city and take the kingdom.

#### THE FALL OF BABYLON IN 538 BC - PICTURES AMERICA IN 2023 AD.

- I. Babylon the Great, Already Exists Today and is Centered in Rome (Revelation 17:5).
  - A. The one world church, full of corruption, is here! The Roman Catholic Church.
    - 1. Babylon is "the **mother\_**of harlots."
    - 2. The MOTHER has "daughter churches" all over the world working for her!
  - B. In 1957 Billy Graham was sponsored by the "World Council of Churches" in NYC. That meeting lasted 16 weeks. They had councilors on the platform from EVERY religion, including the Catholic church.
  - C. Today, 2023, we are living in the Laodicea age, and we hear churches boasting.
    - 1. "We are rich and increased and have need of nothing" (Revelation 3:17).
    - 2. **But,** Churches have put Christ out of the church (Revelation 3:20).
    - 3. The great apostacy of Babylon is here the Rapture is next (II Thess. 2:3 & 7)!
  - D. What are the "blasphemies of the church today?
    - 1. The Bible is NOT the Word of God.
    - 2. The Bible is not Holy.
    - 3. The Bible has errors.
    - 4. To say these things is to <u>call God a liar!</u>
    - 5. Jesus, God's holy Son, has been totally rejected.
      - a. They reject His virgin birth.
      - b. They reject the meaning of his death on the cross.
    - 6. These are FAR greater blasphemies than drinking wine from a gold vessel!
    - 7. This is the "world system" which will be totally destroyed when Christ returns.
  - E. America is still trying to follow in the steps of Nimrod Genesis 11:4)!
    - 1.. There is more emphasis on "sports" than on God and Christ!
  - F. The "Hand writing on the Wall" is repeated in the "Written Word of God!"
    - 1. May we HEAR God's calling to separate from the evil of Babylon the Great!
    - 2. We must EVER live by the Word of God and do His will!

# THE BOOK OF DANIEL Lesson #7 DANIEL AND THE LION'S DEN Daniel Chapter Six

**NOTE:** This chapter covers the "second Gentile world empire" which is pictured in the "chest and arms of silver" of the image shown to Nebuchadnezzar in chapter two. The "silver arms and chest" picture the Medes and Persian empire, which was inferior to the first empire of "gold." In the book of Daniel, it seems more and more that God is showing us what the "<u>Time of the Gentiles will be like.</u>"

#### DANIEL PROMOTED TO FIRST PRESIDENT.

- I. The Democratic Form of Government began in 538 BC (Daniel 6:1-3).
  - A. Darius appoints three presidents and 120 princes to rule over his kingdom.
  - B. Daniel's "excellent spirit" causes Darius to set him as the "First President" (Verse 2).1. Daniel was the "the second most powerful man in the empire" (Verse 3).

#### DANIEL'S POSITION PROMOTED ENVY AND JEALOUSY.

- I. Other Officials Found "No Occasion or Fault" in Daniel (Daniel 6:4).
  - A. There were NO GRAY areas in Daniel's life!
- II. Other Officials formed a Conspiracy to Cast Daniel into the Lion's Den (Daniel 6:5-9).
  - A. Their plan reveals the subtility of the Serpent (Genesis 3:1) "Yea hath God said..."
  - B. These "corrupt" politicians "sought their own advancement at the expense of Daniel."
- III. Other Officials began their Conspiracy by "Lying to the king" (Verse 6 &7)!
  - A. They said, "All the presidents, governors, captains...consulted together!"
  - B. Daniel was the FIRST PRESIDENT, "but was not consulted."

#### GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS PRESENT A DECREE TO THE KING.

- I. They Made a Royal Statute for king Darius and Made a Firm Decree (Daniel 6:6-7).
  - A. Whosoever shall ask a petition of any God for 30 days would be cast in the Lion's Den!
- II. The Royal Statute and Decree Exalted king Darius and He Signed It (Daniel 6:8-9)!
  - A. The king is "EXALTED ABOVE GOD for them to get what they wanted!" (**Politics**)
  - B. The king did this WITHOUT consulting his MAIN advisor Because of his PRIDE!

#### A PICTURE OF POLITICS IN AMERICA

#### I. Our President, Congress and Senate are EXALTING THEMSELVES ABOVE GOD!

- A. They think they are smarter than God.
- B. They think they know better than God how to run America.
- C. They are clearly pictured in Romans 1:28!
- D. It has been MANY years since a president "sought counsel from God" about a decision in America!

#### THE BIBLE SAYS, WE OUGHT TO OBEY GOD RATHER THAN MAN. (Acts 5:29)

#### I. Daniel made Sure the Politicians Knew he was Standing True to God (Daniel 6:10).

- A. Daniel "KNEW" the decree had been signed (Verse 10).
- B. Daniel "KNEW he was disobeying man, but was obeying God (I Peter 4:19).
- C. Daniel "KNEW" he was going to be cast in the den of lions.
- D. Daniel "KNEW" the "windows in his house were open!"
- E. Daniel "KNEW" no fear because of the king's decree.
- F. Daniel "KNEW" to thank God BECAUSE ...
- G. Daniel "KNEW" God would deliver him.

#### II. What Would the Average Christian today do if he was in Daniel's Place?

- A. What would I have done today.
- B. What would you have done today.
- C. We have been warned, again and again persecution is coming!

#### DANIEL AND THE LION'S DEN

- I. Daniel is Cast into the Lion's Den (Daniel 6:16-17).
  - A. Daniel was "sealed" in the den with lions by a stone.
  - B. Making sure no one stole him away. (They did the same of Christ.)

- II. Darius, the king, rushes to the Den of Lions and asked a question.
  - A. "O Daniel ... is thy God ... able to deliver thee from the lions?"
  - B. Of course, God is able!
    - 1. No man ever has the right to question the ability of God (Verse 20)!
    - 2. God sent his angel from heaven and shut the mouth of the lions (Daniel 6:22).
  - C. This is a picture of our Lord Jesus Christ being sealed in a tomb (Matthew 27:66).
    - 1. An angel "rolled the stone away" and God delivered Jesus from the tomb!

# WHATSOEVER A MAN SOWETH, THAT SHALL HE ALSO REAP. (Galatians 6:7)

- I. Darius remembered: "Whoso diggeth a pit shall fall therein..." (Proverbs 26:27).
  - A. The men who accused Daniel, with their wives and children, were cast to the lions.

#### DANIEL IS A PICTURE OF THE END TIMES.

- I. The Anti-Christ will sit in the Temple and Show Himself AS GOD (II Thess. 2:3-4)!
  - A. The anti-Christ will DEMAND people worship him as God...
  - B. Anyone who will not worship him, will be put to death (Revelation 13:15-17).
  - C. BUT, God delivered "his people" Israel (Revelation 7:4-9 & 14).
- II. God delivered Daniel delivered Jesus delivered Israel God will deliver you and me!
  - A. The church will be in the Tribulation period But we may suffer persecution.
  - B. The famine has already begun Price control by gov't has already begun! (Rx)

#### Lesson #8

#### **DANIEL'S VISIONS:**

#### FROM THE EMPIRE OF BABYLON TO THE EMPIRE OF ROME

(Part #1)

**Note:** This chapter goes back to Daniel, Chapter 2, where Nebuchadnezzar had a dream about a large image of gold, silver, brass, iron, and clay. Daniel had the same vision in this chapter. In the vision God gave Daniel, He pictured the three Gentile empires as "**four different** beasts."

#### **DANIEL'S FIRST VISION**

Daniel 7:1-6

- I. Daniel Saw a Beast "Like" a Lion which had Eagle's Wings (Daniel 7:4).
  - A. The lion is a picture of the "gold head" of the image in Chapter Two.
    - 1. This pictures the <u>Babylon Empire</u>.
    - 2. The lion is known as "the king of the jungle."
  - B. He saw "four winds" from heaven which <u>strove</u> upon the <u>great sea</u> (Verse 2).
    - 1. The "seas" speaks of people and nations (Revelation 17:15).
    - 2. The "rolling sea" pictures the Gentile Empires in total discord.
    - 3. The lion had "eagle's wings." Again, this is a picture of power.
    - 4. The wings were plucked off. That pictures the empire losing strength (Verse 4).
  - C. The king was standing on his feet "<u>as a man and had a heart of a man.</u>" (Verse 4) 1. "In his heart," the king thought he was smarter than God.

Ruled from 605 BC – 539 BC Ruled for 66 years.

- II. Daniel Saw a Beast "Like" a Bear, which had Three Ribs in his Mouth (Daniel 7:5).
  - A. The bear is a picture of the <u>silver part</u> of the image in Chapter Two (Daniel 2:32).1. This pictures the <u>Medes and Persians Empire</u>.
  - B. This empire was inferior to the gold (Daniel 2:39).
    - 1. A bear is strong, but not as strong as a lion.
  - C. This beast "...raised itself up on one side, ..." (Verse 5).
    - 1. This pictures the Persian Empire being stronger than the Medes.
  - D. The bear had "three ribs in the bear's mouth, between his teeth".
    - 1. The Persian empire conquered Babylon which had "three kings."

Ruled from 539 BC – 332 BC Ruled for 207 years.

#### III. Daniel Saw a Beast "Like" a Leopard with Four Wings and Four Heads (Daniel 7:6).

- A. The leopard is a picture of the brass of the image seen in Chapter Two (Daniel 2:32).
  - 1. This pictures the Grecian Empire and Alexander the Great. (**Died at 32.**)
- B. This beast had "four wings of a fowl and four heads" (Verse 6).
  - 1. The four wings picture "how swift" the Grecians conquered Persia.
  - 2. The four heads picture "how the empire would be divided in four kingdoms."
    - a. Syria, Egypt, Macedonia, and Asia Minor.

Ruled from 331 BC – 31 BC Ruled for 300 years.

# DANIEL'S FIRST VISION WAS PROPHECY WHEN DANIEL WROTE IT. TODAY, IT IS NOW HISTORY.

- I. The Characteristics of the Three Beasts, Pictures the Gentile Rule.
  - A. God identified them as "three of the most horrible beasts of the jungle."
    - 1. The Lion seeks to "devour their prey."
    - 2. The Bear seeks to "crush their prey by force."
    - 3. The Leopard seeks to "spring on it's prey by surprise.
  - B. <u>All beasts of the jungle are; "self-centered."</u>

#### DANIEL'S SECOND VISION

**Daniel** 7:7-8

- I. Daniel saw a Fourth Beast, "Dreadful and Terrible, and Strong Exceedingly; (Verse 7).
  - A. The fourth beast is a picture of the Iron of the image seen in Chapter Two.
    - 1. This pictures the Revived Roman empire of the future.
      - a. The beast had ten horns pictures "10 kings & nations." (Rev. 17:12-18).
        - 1. The Lord shall overcome the 10 kings (Verse 14).
      - b. Those "10 nations" are not named anywhere in the Bible.
    - 2. A "little -horn" rose up and plucked three of the horns up by the roots (Verse 8)
  - B. This "little horn" pictures the "anti-Christ" who will come in the future (Daniel 7:8).
    - 1. It's eyes were like a man sees thing from the human standpoint.
    - 2. It had a mouth that spoke great things.
  - C. This beast will be SO FIERCE there is no known beast God could use to show how fierce the Roman Empire will be.
  - D. We can try to imagine how Israel will suffer but God will deliver them!

**NOTE:** The "little horn" in Daniel Chapter 8: pictures **Antiochus Epiphanes** 

He was one of four generals who rule after Alexander the Great died.

Therefore, he COULD NOT BE THE ANTI-CHRIST.

He was the most fierce of any other king.

He is a "picture" of the coming anti-Christ (Daniel 8:9, 10 & 23).

#### Lesson #9

#### FROM THE EMPIRE OF ROME TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

(Part # 2)

#### **DANIEL'S THIRD VISION**

(Daniel 7:9-12)

- I. Daniel <u>saw</u> The Ancient of Days Casting Down the Gentile Nations (Daniel 7:9).
  - A. The Ancient of Days can be none other than God, the Father (Daniel 7:9 & 13)!
    - 1. God "gave the kingdom to the Son of Man" (Daniel 7:13-14) (John 5:22).
    - 2. The "Ancient of Days" and "Son of Man" are BOTH deity!
  - B. The "thousands gathered together" seem to be "two different groups."
    - 1. The "thousand thousands" seem to be those who went through tribulation and <u>did not bow</u> to the anti-Christ, and possibly "may" include those raptured before the tribulation period.
    - 2. The "ten thousand times ten thousand," seems to be those who went through tribulation, **but did bow** to the anti-Christ.
  - C. This was foretold in Matthew 25:31-46.
  - D. Along with this, Daniel may have seen the Great White Throne.
    - 1. "The judgement was set, and the books were opened" (Verse 10).
    - 2. That is a picture of the Great White Throne in (Revelation 20:12-13).
  - E. Judgement was then passed on to the saints (Daniel 7:18 & 22).
    - 1. God's kingdom on earth, will be an "everlasting kingdom" (Daniel 7:27).

#### DANIEL'S FOURTH VISION

Daniel 7:13-14)

- I. Daniel saw The Kingdom Of Heaven Set Up on Earth (Daniel 7:9).
  - A. "The stone" in Chapter #2, has come and "cast down the Gentile thrones.
  - B. The "stone" destroys the ENTIRE image and will fill the earth and nations.
    - 1. We are commanded to pray for that day (Matthew 6:10).

#### DANIEL ASKED TO KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FOUR BEASTS.

Daniel 7:15-16

- I. First, the Angel Reveals the Truth about the Four Great Beasts" (Daniel 7:17).
  - A. The "four beasts" are the four kings of the four Gentile empires:
    - 1. Cast Down (Verse 9) Babylon, Medes-Persian, Greek, and Rome. (PAST)
- II. Second, the Angel Reveals the Saints will take the Kingdom (Verse 18).

#### DANIEL ASKED TO KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT THE FOURTH BEAST.

(Daniel 7:19-22)

#### THE ANGEL EXPLAINS THE FOURTH BEAST TO DANIEL

(Daniel 7:23-27)

- I. The Fourth Beast is The Revived Rome Empire, which is Future (Daniel 7:23)!
  - A. This beast was diverse and devoured the whole earth (Verse 23)!
  - B. Ten horns are ten kingdoms which will make up the "revived Roman empire." (Vs 24)
    - 1. The "ten horns" (kingdoms) have never before existed. THIS IS FUTURE!
    - 2. Revelation 17:8 says, "the beast that was, and is not, and yet is."
    - 3. The "ten horns" here, are the same "ten horns" in Revelation 17:12-14)
      - a. ALL of this is "future."
    - 4. THEREFORE, the Roman empire MUST one day be revived.
  - C. The "little horn" will rise up and conquer three of the ten kingdoms (Daniel 7:8 & 24).
    - 1. The Bible does not "name the ten kingdoms
    - 2. The Bible does not "name the "one kingdom" which will rise up!!!
    - 3. The Bible does not "name the three kingdoms which were plucked up."
  - D. The "little horn" is the anti-Christ.
    - 1. The "anti-Christ" will be a GREAT orator and speak great things (Daniel 7:25).
    - 2. The "anti-Christ" will make war against the Lord and against His saints (Vs 25).
    - 3. The "anti-Christ" will demand all the people to worship him (Rev. 13:13-17).
    - 4. The "anti-Christ" will demand the "mark of the beast to buy or sell. (Rev. 13:17
    - 5. This will take place during the last 3½ years of the Tribulation (Daniel 7:25).
      - a. "...time, times, and the dividing of times." (Daniel 7:25)
      - b. This is the last three and one-half years of Tribulation.
      - c. It is called "The Great Tribulation" (Matthew 24:21).
      - d. 42 months = 1260 days (Revelation 11:2 & 13:5).
  - E. You can read Revelation 13:1-9 and compare it with this section of the lesson.
- II. Daniel said of the Vision, "I kept the matter in my heart" (Daniel 7:28).
  - A. All of us SHOULD DO THE SAME!
  - B. We should daily remember that Christ is coming! Pray: "*Thy kingdom come*, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."
  - C. Luke 21:28: "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

#### Lesson #10

#### DANIEL'S VISION OF A RAM AND A HE-GOAT.

Daniel Chapter #8

**NOTE:** No one knows why, but the chapters in the book of Daniel are not in chronological order. If they were, the order would be 1, 2, 3, 4, 7,8, 5, 9, 6, 10, 11, & 12. Chapter #8 takes place under king Belshazzar, the third ruler of the Babylon Empire (Daniel 8:1)! This makes it clear that this is prophecy and this book - MUST BE INSPIRED BY GOD

- **I.** The Ram Pictures the Second Gentile World Empire (Daniel 8:3-4).
  - A. The Ram is the king of the Media and Persian empire (Daniel 8:20).
  - B. The two horns picture the "two empires" combined Medes and the Persian.
    - 1. One horn was higher than the other (Verse 3).
    - 2. The ram is "the bear," raised up itself on one side. (Daniel 7:5)
    - 3. That pictures the Persian empire as being much stronger than the Medes.
    - 4. The Ram pushed west, north, and south, conquering nations (Verse 4).
      - a. This corresponds with the bear having "three ribs in it's mouth."
- **II.** The He-Goat Pictures the Third Gentile World Empire (Daniel 8:5).
  - A. The He-Goat is the king of the Grecian Empire (Daniel 8:21).
    - 1. He is the "leopard" in Daniel 7:6. (Swift He conquered world in 12 years!)

#### THE HE-GOAT ATTACKS THE RAM.

- I. This Pictures The Grecian Empires Destroying the Medes-Persians Empire (Daniel 8:6-8).
  - A. There was no power left in the Ram. The He-Goat stamped on the Ram.
  - B. The He-Goat waxed very great and had a notable horn between his eyes.
    - 1. The "notable horn" pictures Alexander the Great," the first king of the Greeks.
    - 2. The "notable horn" was suddenly broken (Verse 8).
    - 3. This Pictures Alexander the Great suddenly dying at 32 years of age.
  - C. Four horns picture his four Generals took the Kingdom (Daniel 8:8 and 22).
    - 1. Cassander took over Macedonia and Greece.
    - 2. Lysimachus took over the Asia Minor and Bithynia.
    - 3. Seleucus took over Syria and Babylonia.
    - 4. Ptolemy took over Egypt and North Africa.

#### A LITTLE HORN COMES UP OUT OF THE FOUR HORNS.

- I. The "Little Horn" is not Named, but Believed to be Antiochus Epiphanes, the Assyrian.
  - A. He ruled from 175 BC to 164 BC.
  - B. He GREATLY persecuted the "Pleasant Land" which was Jerusalem (Daniel 8:9-12).
  - C. He is called a "king of fierce countenance" (Daniel 8:23-25).
  - D. He forbid the Jews to practice circumcision, offerings, and sacrifices on the altar.
  - E. His rule on the earth is recorded in history!

#### II. The "Little Horn" is also a Picture of "the Coming anti-Christ."

- A. There are three reasons in Daniel 8:25 for believing this.
  - 1. "by peace he shall destroy many." (Daniel 8:25)
  - 2. He will "stand up against the Prince of princes:" (Daniel 8:25)
    - a. The Prince, with a capital "P" can be none other than Jesus Christ.
  - 3. "...he shall be broken without hand."(Vs 25)
    - a. He shall be destroyed suddenly when Christ returns.
- B "I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation." (Vs 19)

#### DANIEL DESIRES TO KNOW THE MEANING OF THE VISION!

(Daniel 8:15).

- I. God sends Gabriel, to Explain the Meaning of the Vision (Daniel 8: 16-26).
  - A. The vision was to "the last end of the indignation." (Verse 19).
- **II. Gabriel explains the Vision to Daniel** (Daniel 8:19-25). (We covered this in the lesson)
  - A. Gabriel closed his explanation of the vision with two serious remarks (Daniel 8:26).
    - 1. The vision... "which was told thee is true." (Vs 26)
    - 2. "wherefore shut thou up the vision, for it shall be for many days." (Vs 26)
  - B. "Wherefore shut thou up the visions" is translated from the word "Catham."
    - 1. The definition from <u>Strong Concordance</u> for "Catham" is as follows:
      - a. "to keep secret: closed up, hidden, shut out!."
- III. For Personal Study, Isaiah 10:5-34 is a prophetic writing concerning the "times." Daniel 8:26 is found in Isaiah 10. There as six divisions of these verses:
  - A. <u>A description of the Assyrian.</u> He is the instrument which God uses to punish Israel for their disobedience. God sends him against a hypocritical nation (Verses 5:11).
  - B. <u>The punishment of the Assyrian</u>. That time will be when the Lord has performed His work upon Jerusalem. That is future (Verses 12:15)!

- C. <u>The punishment itself.</u> It shall be sudden and complete (Verses 16:19).
- D. The return of the remnant of Israel to their land (Verses 20-23).
- E. God sends a word of comfort to the remnant (Verses 24-27).
- F. <u>A clear description of the advance of the Assyrians</u> and God's intervention (Vs. 28-34).

#### WHAT DANIEL SAW MADE HIM FAINT AND SICK.

(Daniel 8:27)

"And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it."

It is clear that the vision of the suffering of God's people, Daniel's kinfolks, at the hand of the "king with a fierce countenance" was so terrible, that Daniel was heartbroken, fainted, and was sick for several days.

#### Lesson #11

#### **DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS**

#### Daniel Chapter 9 (Read Daniel 9:1-2 & 20-27)

**NOTE:** Daniel begins this chapter concerning the "70 Weeks" in prayer, by confessing the sins of Israel. The "70 Weeks" is a prophesy of when God will restore and deal with Israel (Daniel 9:21).

#### TO WHOM DOES THE 70 WEEKS APPLY?

- I. The Prophecy Applies to Israel, and ONLY to Israel (Daniel 9:20 & 24)!
  - A. The "70 Weeks" in no way applies to the Church!
  - B. God's "Timeclock" always centers around Israel and Jerusalem.

#### WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE WORD "WEEKS?"

- I. The word "Weeks" is a Hebrew word meaning: "A Unit of Measure."
  - A. We use the word "Dozen."
    - 1. A "dozen" donuts 12 donuts!
  - B. In this passage, the word "weeks" means "a week of years, or "7 years." 1. Genesis 29:15, 18, 20, and 27-28
  - C. Daniel's prophecy is "70 sets of seven years each," which is 490 years.

#### THE SEVENTY WEEKS ARE DIVIDED INTO THREE DIVISIONS.

**NOTE:** The <u>first two divisions</u> are combined – with "no gap" between them. There is a "gap" between the first two divisions and the third division, which is the 70<sup>th</sup> year.

- I. The First Division of this Prophecy was Seven weeks of 7 years each:  $7 \times 7 = 49$  years.
  - A. "From the going forth of the commandment to restore and **rebuild Jerusalem**" (Dan. 9:25).
    - 1. The commandment was to "rebuild the entire city of Jerusalem."
      - a. Not, just the temple!
    - 2. The decree was made by king Artaxerxes in Nehemiah 2:1-9 and 11.
      - a. That was in Nisan, (April) of 445 BC.
    - 3. "So the wall was finished ..." (Nehemiah 6:15) The city was rebuilt.
  - B. This was the "first division" where the "70 weeks" **began**.
  - C. The "49-year period" ran from 445 BC to the end of the Old Testament 397 BC.

- **II.** The Second Division of this Prophecy was 62 weeks times 7 years = 434 years (Daniel 9:25).
  - A. The 62 weeks, 434 years, began in 397 BC at the close of the Old Testament.
  - B. The second division would continue <u>until</u> "Messiah be cut off" (Daniel 9:26). (Sir Robert Anderson spent years studying the "time line." His findings are based on the Jewish calendar of 30 days to a month and 360 days in a year.)
    - 1. A.D. does not mean "After Death" as many people think.
    - 2. A.D. is a Latin Phase: "Anno (means "the year") and Domini (means Lord). Meaning, "The Year of our Lord."
    - 3. B.C. and A.D. meet on the same day of the year! The day of the birth of Christ.
  - C. The time of the "commandment going forth" was 445 BC.
    - 1. The first time period covered 7 years X 7 = 49 years).
    - 2. The second time period covered 62 years X 7 = 434 years.
    - 3. The two time periods cover 69 years  $\times 7 = 483$  years.
    - 4. This marks the exact time of the first Palm Sunday. (John 12:12-15) (AD 33)
      - a. Christ was "cut off" in the year AD 33 (John 19:14-19).
      - b. One week of 7 years, plus 62 weeks of 7 years = 69 weeks or 483 years.
      - c. That leaves "one period of 7 years" remaining to make 70 weeks!

#### THE GAP BETWEEN THE 69th WEEK AND 70th WEEK

- I. There was No Revelation of "the Gap" Between the Second and Third Division (Daniel 9:27).
  - A. Daniel, nor any other prophet, saw the "Church age" (Ephesians 3:1-6).
  - B. At the time of rejection, the Kingdom was taken from the Jews (Matthew 21:43).
  - C. Today, Christ is not dealing with the Jews as a nation.
  - D. The "gap" between the 69<sup>th</sup> week and the 70<sup>th</sup> week began in Acts 2:47 15:13-17.
  - E. At the end of the "Church Age" the rapture will take place (Revelation 4:1-3).
- II. The Rapture will be the Beginning of "Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week" (Daniel 9:27).
  - A. The "seventh week" will be a period of 7 years, which will complete the "70" weeks of Daniel.
  - B. This is the: "7 Year Tribulation Period."
  - C. <u>At that time God will again deal with Israel</u> (Revelation Chapters 4 and 7)! 1. That makes a total of 7 X 70 = 490 years.

#### III. Six Events that God will "finish" in his Dealings with Israel are in Daniel 9:24.

- A. <u>Finish the Transgression</u> Accomplished by the preaching of the Gospel.
- B. <u>Make an end to sin offering</u>– (Heb. 9:11-12) Acknowledge Christ as Messiah.
- C. <u>Make Reconciliation for Iniquity</u>. (Heb. 9:28) Accomplished by Christ offering Himself.
- D. <u>Bring Everlasting Righteousness</u> (Revelations 19:15).
- E. <u>Seal up the Vision</u> (Rev. 22:19) Put an end to any further revelations Scripture complete.
- F. <u>Anoint the Holy One</u> (Rev. 19:16) The anointing of our Blessed Lord to be Prophet, Priest, and King of all mankind!

#### Lesson #12

#### GOD PREPARES DANIEL FOR THE FUTURE Daniel Chapter 10

**NOTE:** Chapters 10 – 12 commences with "Daniel's days" and "continues to the Kingdom of Heaven on earth." Daniel 10:14 <u>clearly tell us this prophecy deals with "thy people" Israel.</u> There is NO mention of the church age in these chapters. This is greatly necessary in order for us to understand the vision and explanation in the three closing chapters. Chapter 10 is to "prepare" Daniel for what was coming in chapters 11 -12

- I. The Vision caused Daniel to be Sad and Mourn for Three Weeks. (Daniel 10:1-3 and 8).
  - A. Apparently, Daniel viewed the entire vision before he began writing.
    - 1. "he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision." (Verse 1).
    - 2. The vision will be greatly amplified in chapters 11-12
  - B. Daniel was <u>mourned</u>, <u>fasted</u>, and <u>prayed for three weeks</u> (Verse 2-3).
    - 1. It seems that Daniel got no answer to his prayers!
  - C. Have you gone through times when you thought God did not hear your prayer?
    - 1. There is much practical application in this study for you and me.
- **II.** A "Certain Man" Appeared unto Daniel (Verses 5-9)?
  - A. No one can prove who "the certain man" was who touched Daniel.
    - 1. It could have been Christ It could have been an angel sent from God.
    - 2. It is "totally irrelevant" who it was, Christ or an angel.
    - 3. All "supernatural beings" are controlled by God.
  - B. After seeing the vision, Daniel mourned and had "no strength in him" (Verse 8).
- III. A "Hand Touched Daniel", Restored his Strength, and Gave him Victory (Vs. 10-13).
  - A. The angel assured Daniel his prayers had been **HEARD AND ANSWERED**!!
    - 1. "thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words." (Vs 12)
  - B. "But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me, one and twenty days!" (Vs 13)
    - 1. Who is this "prince of the kingdom of Persia? (Daniel 10:20)
    - 2. This was one of Satan's "fallen angels" fighting against Daniel's prayers!!!
  - C. This warfare is pictured in Revelation 12:7-12.
    - 1. REMEMBER, We are in a spiritual warfare (Ephesians 6:12)
  - D. As Daniel Prayed for Israel, Evil Angels Worked against Daniel's Prayers. (Vs. 13).
  - E. REMEMBER, God always works all things according to His will. (Ephesians 1:11)

- F. The end result will be "Jesus Christ will rule forever." (Daniel 2:44)

  1. Victory is ours through Jesus Christ, our LORD! (Romans 8:37-39)
- G. **NEVER think** that God does not hear and answer your prayer (**I John 5:14-15**).

#### THE FIRST WORDS THE ANGEL SAID TO DANIEL WERE "FEAR NOT"

- I. When God says, "Fear not" we should listen! (Verse 12)
  - A. God says "Fear not" 63 times in the Bible.
  - B. God always has guardian angels for "his people" today (Revelation 22:8-9).
    - 1. God has angels to protect His children. (Hebrews 1:13-14).
    - 2. "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about and delivereth..." (Psalms 34:7).
  - C. Satan and his demons are <u>no match for our God</u>. OUR GOD cannot be defeated!

Martin Luther once said, "I was tired, discouraged, hopeless I was ready to give up and quit. One morning, my wife, Katie, walked into my study at our home, dressed in solid black as if she was in mourning. Surprised, I asked her who had died? She replied: "Don't you know? God in heaven died." I said to her, "How can you talk such nonsense, Katie? How can God die? God is immortal and will live for all eternity." She asked, "Is that really true?" "Of course it is true I said. How can you doubt it? As sure as there is a God in heaven, it is sure He can never die." She said, "You say you do not doubt that God is alive, but you are sitting here hopeless, discouraged, and ready to quit! Surely, your God must have died!" Luther said, "I have never been discouraged, hopeless, or ready to quit since that day. "OUR GOD IS ALIVE."

#### II. A Hand "Touched Daniel" Again and Daniel's strength was Restored (Verse 18).

- A. This "touch" had a "two-fold" purpose.
  - 1. To give Daniel strength to "face the future." (Vs. 19-21).
  - 2. To Prepare Daniel to strengthen Darius to "face the future" (Daniel 11:1).
- B. God always prepares us to help others (II Corinthians 1:3-4).
- C. God showed Daniel **He WILL DELIVER His people!** (Daniel 12:1)!
- D. What God does for Israel God will do for you and me! (Psalms 50:15)
- III. God "Always" Prepares us for "What Lies Ahead" (Joshua 1:2-9 Joshua 8:1-2).
  - A. Our God IS NOT DEAD (Romans 8:28-30)!

#### Lesson #13

#### THE COMING EVENTS OF THE END TIMES

Daniel Chapter 11:1-5

**INTRO:** Chapter 11 is a history of all the kings who opposed Israel, and were used of God to bring Israel to repentance. The kings names are not listed, but history records most of the major kings in Chapter 11.

Verses 1-35 begin with Darius, king of Medo-Persia, and continues to Antiochus Epiphanes, who is a Bible picture of the anti-Christ. This covers about 500 years of history. It briefly tells of the warfare between the "king of the north, and the king of the south."

Verses 36-45 is the picture and prophecy of the coming reign of the anti-Christ, which is the seven years of tribulation and great tribulation. This matches Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week in Chapter 9.

We will briefly cover the period from Verse 1-35. One point of vital importance is that Daniel, the human penman, wrote all of this history a number of years before it happened, but it happened exactly as God had Daniel to write it! It proves inspiration!

ALL of this refers to "Daniel's people" Israel. NOTHING in this book refers to the "church of the New Testament – NOTHING! (Daniel 12:1 "...thy people...the Jews")

- I. The First of these Kings, which we have already studied, is king Darius (Verse 1).
  - A. Darius was the king of the Persian Empire beginning about **539 BC**.
- **II.** The Second were "Four Kings of Persia," which followed Darius (Verses 2-3).
  - A. These four kings ruled from the death of Darius to about **332 BC.** 
    - 1. Ahasuerus (Ezra 4:6)
    - 2. Artaxerxes (Ezra 4:7)
    - 3. Darius' son or grandson, Hystaspes (Ezra 4:24)
    - 4. Xerxes
- III. The Third was "a Mighty King," which was Alexander the Great (Verse 3-4).
  - A. Alexander the Great ruled from about **332-324 BC.** (12-13 years)
  - B. Alexander developed the greats of military empires (Verse 3).
    - 1. He conquered the "known world" very swiftly.
    - 2. He is pictured as a "leopard" in Daniel 7:6.
  - C. His kingdom was "broken" when he died suddenly at the age of 32.
  - D. His Kingdom was divided as "four winds" (Verse 4).
    - 1. Those "four winds" picture Alexander's four generals (Daniel 8:8 and 22).
      - a. Cassander took over Macedonia and Greece.

- b. Lysimachus took over the Asia Minor and Bithynia.
- c. Seleucus took over Syria and Babylonia.
- d. Ptolemy took over Egypt and North Africa.

#### IV. The Next Two Kings were the King of the South and the King of the North (Verses 5-19).

- A. These kings ruled until which Syria defeated Egypt (324 BC 224 BC).
  - 1. The king of the south was king Ptolemy of Egypt.
  - 2. The king of north was king Seleucus of Syria.
  - 3. Syria attacked and conquered Egypt (Verses 7-8).
  - 4. Syria ruled Egypt, the world, and persecuted Israel (Verses 10-19).
  - 5. These two kings ruled from about 324 BC -224 BC.
- B. There was an "inter-marriage" between the descendants to solve problems (Vs. 6-7)
  - 1. This appears to be a "political move" but did not work!

#### V. The Next King was Named Antiochus the Great (Verse 20).

- A. Antiochus the Great was the forerunner to Antiochus Epiphanes (224 187 BC).
  - 1. He was known and hated because he raised taxes for 40 years.
- B. This king persecuted the Jews, but not nothing compared to the following king!
- C. He was poisoned because he continued to raise taxes year after year.
  - 1. Roman continued taxing people after this king. (Luke 2:1)

#### VI. The Last King was Antiochus Epiphanes, king of Syria (Verses 21-35)!

- A. Antiochus is the clearest **picture** of the anti-Christ (Daniel 8:9).
  - 1. He was known as a "vile person" (Verse 21).
  - 2. The people did not give him the honor of the kingdom.
  - 3. He started "very peaceably, which is the way the anti-christ will start.
  - 4. He seems to have deceived people with flattery!
  - 5. He was deceitful!
- B. This king ruled from about 175 BC until about 164 BC.
- C. He would meet together with the king of the South, who was the king of Egypt.
  - 1. They would sit at the same table, but lie to one another. (Verse 27)
- D. In 168 BC Antiochus invaded Jerusalem and captured the city.
  - 1. This king entered the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem (Verse 28-31).
  - 2. He erected a statue to the Greek god Zeus.
  - 3. He sacrificed a pig on the "altar of incense."
  - 4. He stopped the Jews from making their sacrifices (Verse 31).
- E. He exalted himself above all gods, and above the True God (Verse 36-37).

- His actions shall be repeated by the true anti-Christ but much more severe.

  1. Read Daniel 12:1 and Matthew 24:15-21. F.

#### VII. This is again "A PICTURE of the True anti-Christ".

- This will continue "...till the indignation be accomplished:" (Verse 36-45). A.
- A picture that the antichrist will come to his end when Christ returns (Verse 45). B.

#### THE BOOK OF DANIEL Lesson #14 THE TIME OF THE END

Daniel 12:1-13

**INTRO:** This final chapter in Daniel is connected to the closing verses in Chapter 11, which we studied last week. It also brings to a conclusion all that God "showed" Daniel during his lifetime. Daniel is estimated to be in his late 80s to middle 90s when he wrote this closing chapter. It is also the "conclusion and END OF ALL GENTILE RULE! It explains what Israel can expect before their Messiah returns!

#### WHAT TIME IS "THAT TIME" REFERRING TO?

Daniel 12:1

- I. "That Time" Refers Back to the King of the North (Syria) (Daniel 11:40-45) (This refers back to Antiochus Epiphanes in Daniel 11:21)
  - A. "...at that time" refers to the last three and one half years of the tribulation (Daniel 12:7).
  - B. "At that time," Michael, an angel that protects Israel, "will stand up" for Daniel's people.
    - 1. Because it will be "a time of trouble, such as never was ..." (Matthew 24:11 and 21).
  - C. Michael "standing up for Israel" is explained in Revelation 12:7-11. (Satan cast out!)
  - D. Satan turns his wrath toward "the seed of the woman" and Christ (Revelation 12:3-4)
- II. "That Time" Refers to the Time when Daniel's People shall be Delivered (Verse 1b).
  - A. This does not mean, as is falsely taught, that "all Israel will be saved" (Romans 11:26).
  - B. Clearly stated, "every one that shall be found written in the book." (Revelation 3:5).
    - 1. Those who endure to the end will be saved to the millennium Matthew 24:13.
    - 2. This IS NOT speaking of personal salvation.
    - 3. It is referring to those who reject anti-Christ and will enter into the kingdom.
- III. "That Time" Refers to the Spiritual Resurrection of Israel from the Dust? (Daniel 12:2-3)
  - A. This speaks of two resurrections "sleep in dust" **speaks of a spiritual awakening.**"

    1. The lost and the saved are two different resurrections (Revelation 20:4–5).
  - B. New Testament believers are "resurrected from the dead" (Ephesians 2:1 and 5-6).
    - 1. A spiritual awakening and resurrection of Israel is foretold in Ezekiel 37:1-11.
    - 2. It is Israel being awakened from over 2500 years of spiritual blindness.

- C. Some will be awakened from "spiritual blindness" and see Jesus as Messiah.
  - 1. These will go into everlasting life and enter the Kingdom of God.
- D. Some WILL NOT be awakened spiritually, but will submit to the anti-Christ.
  - 1. Those will go to shame and everlasting contempt.
- E. They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament.
  - 1. They that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever.
- F. Practical Application:
  - 1. "He that winneth souls is wise" (Proverbs 11:30).

**NOTE:** After this prophecy concerning the time of the end, the great tribulation, the national restoration of Israel, the judgment of the apostates who followed the anti-Christ, and the blessings of the faithful in the nation, Daniel addressed in a very important manner.

#### THE CHARACTERISTICS OF "THAT TIME."

- I. "Many shall run to and fro..." (Verse 4).
  - A. There are 45,000 flights <u>daily</u> in the United States.
  - B. 2.9 million people fly daily in the United States.
  - C. There is an average of 500,000 people in the air <u>daily</u> in the United States!
  - D. UPS delivers 24 million packages <u>daily</u> in the United States.

**Source:** <a href="www.faa.gov/air\_traffic/by\_the\_numbers">www.faa.gov/air\_traffic/by\_the\_numbers</a> (Federal Aviation Administration)

- II. "Knowledge shall be increased" (Verse 4).
  - A. Knowledge has increased more in the last 120 years than in the first 6000!
    - 1. Up until 1900 knowledge was doubling every 100 years.
    - 2. By the end 1945 knowledge was doubling every 25 years.
    - 3. By the year 2000 knowledge was doubling every 13 months.
    - 4. By the year 2020 knowledge was doubling at least every 30 days.

**EXAMPLES:** By the time a new iPhone goes on the market <u>it is obsolete!</u> Artificial Intelligence! (READ THE ATTACHMENT!)

**Source:** getalongwithgod.com/enjoying-him/increase-of-knowledge-diminished-wisdom/

#### THE LORD'S LAST MESSAGE TO DANIEL CONCERNING "THAT TIME."

- I. The Lord's Last Message was to "Shut up the Word and Seal the Book" (Daniel 12:4-10).
  - A. Two angels on each side of the river.
    - 1. The Lord standing on the water (Revelation 10:1-6)!
  - B. An angel asked, "How long shall it be to the end of these wonders?" (Verse 6) 1. The Lord answered: "a time, times, and an half."

- C. Daniel asked, "O my Lord, what shall be the end of these things" (Verse 8)?
- D. "The Lord's response: "Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end" (Verse 9).
  - 1. The prophecy was **sealed from the Jews** on that day.
  - 2. The Jews were, and continue to be blinded since that day until today!
- E. The book will be unsealed to the Jews, "when the time is at hand." Vs 9 & (Rev. 22:10).
- F. In the New Testament, nothing is sealed or shut **to the church**. (Rev. 22:18-19).
- **II.** The Unexplainable Numbers of Days (Verses 11-12).
  - A. The 1260 days in Verse 7 are the last 3 ½ years of the Great Tribulation (Verse 7).
  - B. The 1290 days, which adds 30 days to the end of the tribulation, are not explained!
  - C. The 1335 days, which adds another 45 days in Verse 8, are not explained!