

Directions:

This is a booklet to aid you in your personal study of this book. Read through the text first, discovering God's precious truths for yourself. Write down the main point of each section of text in the space provided. Use the margins on each side of the text and the backside of the page to make notations of the truths you discover and passages you do not understand. When you believe you have seen all there is in text, read and answer the questions in the booklet pertaining to that section of text. The questions are not an exhaustive list of things to look for in the text. The questions are to help you consider the points that the author was trying to convey to his audience. Be prepared to share your findings in class.

Introduction:

Daniel prophesies from 605-539 B.C. Therefore, Daniel was a young man when he was carried off to Babylonian captivity. Some scholars speculate that he may have been as young as fifteen years old. Daniel dates himself in 1:1 as being carried away in the first captivity. Daniel was born into a Judean family of nobility, around the time of the reformation under King Josiah. Daniel was handsome, intelligent, and well-educated (1:4) and was therefore selected to be trained for service of Nebuchadnezzar. While in Babylon, Daniel prophesies to the royal court.

Take your Bible and skim through the book of Daniel, looking at the subheadings of each paragraph in each chapter. Record a few main events from each chapter below:

Chapter 1:

Chapter 7:

Chapter 2:

Chapter 8:

Chapter 3:

Chapter 9:

Chapter 4:

Chapter 10-12:

Chapter 5:

Chapter 6:

DANIEL

1

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. How is 1:3 a fulfillment of Isaiah 39:5-7?
2. Why were Daniel and his friends taken into Babylonian captivity?
3. Why are the names of Daniel and his three friends changed? What did their names originally mean?
4. Do these first two chapters use these newly given Babylonian names? Why or why not?
5. Write down the three things "the Lord gave" or "God gave" in this chapter. What is the message?
6. What was the result of the things God gave in this chapter?

Transformation

7. Consider Daniel's resolve and the outcome. What is the message taught through Daniel's actions?
8. How long did Daniel remain in Babylon?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Why did Nebuchadnezzar make the difficult demand for the magicians and sorcerers to reveal and interpret the dream?
2. What is the repeated message about God in this chapter?

Transformation

3. Write down all the sovereign characteristics of God from 2:20-23. What do you learn about God from these characteristics?
4. Write out the kingdoms noted in this dream, how they were represented in the statue, and the dates of their existence.

GOLD:

SILVER:

BRONZE:

IRON AND CLAY:

THE STONE:
5. Write the characteristics of the kingdom God will set up (2:44). When would this kingdom be set up? What do you learn about God's kingdom?
6. Jesus alludes to this image in Luke 20:18. What is Jesus' message?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What is the message about God in this chapter?

Transformation

2. What are the characteristics of God that cause the three friends to have the resolve to not worship the image of gold?

3. What do Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego tell the king about God (3:16-18)?

4. What does God do for the three friends?

5. Is there a progression in the faith of Nebuchadnezzar by the end of chapter 3?

Transformation

6. What do we learn from this chapter and how can we use this to show the same faithfulness as these three friends?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What has Nebuchadnezzar learned (4:1-3)? How did God accomplish this?
2. What is the dream and what is its interpretation (4:4-27)?
3. What is God's repeated message in this chapter?
4. What sin does Nebuchadnezzar commit (4:28-33)?
5. What brought about Nebuchadnezzar's restoration (4:34-37)?
6. What did Nebuchadnezzar learn about God and his kingdom (4:34-37)?

Transformation

7. What did you learn about God and his character in this chapter? How does this change your thinking about life? How does this change your life?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

Background information for chapter 5:

Nabonidus was on the throne at this time. During the last ten years of his life, he spent most of his time outside of the city (possibly for reasons of health), and left the central administration to the charge of his son Belshazzar. The time of this chapter is 539 B.C. and the Persians are attacking the Babylonians. The Babylonians had lost the earlier battles against the Persians and had retreated back to the city. Here in the city of Babylon they shut themselves up and made light of the Persian siege, having laid in a store of provisions for many years in preparation against this attack. Babylon was considered impregnable because of its magnificent fortifications. The city had walls 311 feet high and 87 feet thick. There were 250 towers that were 411 feet high and the overall circumference of the city was 56 miles. Thus, during this siege, the Babylonians insulted and jeered at Darius and the Persians from the top of the walls. One even shouted to them and said, "Why do you sit there, Persians? Why don't you go back to your homes? Till mules foal you will not take our city." The Babylonians were completely unconcerned about the enemy forces encamped outside their walls. Unknown to them, Cyrus's resourceful commander, Ugbaru, had diverted the waters of the Euphrates, reducing the water level well below the river-gates. The Persians came wading in at night and overtook the city. This chapter likely takes place one day before the fall of the city. — Information is taken from *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, vol. 7

1. What are the sins of Belshazzar?
2. What is the dream and what is the interpretation?
3. What is God's repeated message?

Transformation

4. What did you learn about God and his character in this chapter? How does this change your thinking about life? How does this change your life?
5. What do you think about Belshazzar's response to Daniel's interpretation?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What is the rank of Daniel in the Medo-Persian Empire?
2. What is the character of Daniel (6:3-5)? Why is this his character?
3. What plot is set against Daniel? Why is this plot devised?
4. What did Daniel do once he learned of the plot? Describe what he prays about.
5. What is the confession of Darius concerning the Lord (6:20)?
6. Who rescued Daniel (6:21)? What is the message?

Transformation

7. What did you learn about God and his character (6:25-28)? How does this change your thinking about life? How does this change your life?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. By examining the text carefully, especially the interpretation, define the following figures. Consider the order of the kingdoms that you studied in Daniel 2.
 - A lion with eagle's wings that were plucked off:
 - A bear with three ribs in its mouth:
 - A leopard with four wings and four heads:
 - A terrifying and dreadful fourth beast:
 - A little horn speaking arrogantly (hint: the horn is not separate from the beast):
2. Explain what the main point is in 7:9-14.
 - Who is the Ancient of Days?
 - Who is the son of man?
 - Where is the son of man going and what is he receiving?
 - What will happen to the beasts?
3. What will happen to the people of God (7:17-18)?
4. What else will happen to the people of God during the days of the fourth beast (7:23-27)?
5. What is God's message?

Transformation

6. What do you learn about God's character in this chapter? How does this change your life?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Examine the text carefully, especially the interpretation. Explain the following figures:
 - The two-horned ram:

 - The higher horn:

 - The male goat:

 - The large horn:

 - Four notable horns in place of the large horn: The division of the Greek empire into the following four sections headed by four generals (323 B.C.)
 1. Cassander controlled Macedonia and Greece
 2. Lysimachus controlled Thrace and the western half of Asia Minor
 3. Ptolemy controlled Palestine, Cilicia, and Cyprus
 4. Seleucus controlled Syria and the rest of Asia

 - A little horn that grew exceedingly great:

2. Explain the meaning of verses 9-12, 23-25.

3. What is Daniel to do with the vision? Why?

4. What is God's message?

Transformation

5. What do you learn about God's character in this chapter? How does this change your life?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Whose prophecy did Daniel know? What had been the prophecy?
2. What is Daniel's response to the prophetic scripture (9:3-4)?
3. Describe the contents of Daniel's prayer (9:4-19). Include what he confesses about the people and what he continually confesses about God.
4. List all will happen during the 70 weeks.
5. With reference to question 4, how are these things an answer to Daniel's prayer?
6. After reading what will happen during the 70 weeks, what period of time is covered by the 70 weeks?
7. Who is the one who makes desolate (9:27)? What is going to happen to the desolator? Compare Matthew 24:15 and Luke 21:20.

Transformation

8. What do you learn about God's character in this chapter? How does this change your life?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. What two things is Daniel commended for doing (10:12)?
2. What can we learn about prayer from this chapter?
3. What do we learn about angels in this chapter?
4. Who might the prince of Persia and the prince of Greece be?
5. When are the "latter days" which are referred to in verse 14?

Transformation

6. What do you learn about God's character in this chapter? How does this change your life?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Identify the following figures:
 - The three kings of Persia and the fourth that is far richer:

 - The mighty king with great dominion (vs. 3):

 - The kingdom divided toward the four winds:

 - The king of the south:

 - The king of the north:

 - The king of the north that defiled the sanctuary and took away daily sacrifices (vs. 31)

2. Describe the nature of the king of this final nation (11:36-39).

Transformation

3. How amazing are these details that God gives about the future actions of the nations! What do we learn about God and his character from this chapter? How does this change your life?

Main point: _____

Make additional notes at left and below:

1. Notice 12:1. Compare with Matthew 24:21. The passages have the same language and refer to the same event. According to Matthew 24:34, when would these events take place?
2. Who are the people that would be delivered through this event? How would this be?
3. When is the prophecy to be sealed until (12:4,9)? Consider Revelation 5. What is now unsealed in Revelation 5? What are the contents of the sealed scroll?
4. What is going to happen according to 12:7? Notice the parallel in Revelation 10:5-7. What was Daniel 12:7 saying would happen? According to Revelation 10:5-7 when would this happen?
5. Is Daniel 12:10 still true today? Explain.
6. What is the message for Daniel after receiving this vision (12:13)? What do we learn from this?

Transformation

7. What do we learn about the character of God in this chapter? How does this change your life?



DANIEL

A SELF-STUDY WORKBOOK

by: Brent Kercheville