

## **Daniel**

### **Chapter 6**

#### **CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL**

- **Chapters 1 thru 4 Captivity and interpretation of dreams and visions.**
- **Chapter 7 Vision of the four beasts.**
- **Chapter 8 Vision of the ram and he-goat.**
- **Chapter 5 Belshazzar's feast—conquest of Babylon.**
- **Chapter 9 Vision of the seventy weeks.**
- **Chapter 6 Daniel in the lions' den.**
- **Chapters 10 thru 12 Daniel's prayer and visions.**

**From Daniel 2:4 to 7:28, the book is written in Aramaic (likely because the focus is on the Gentile nations). Daniel 1:1 to 2:3 and 8:1 to 12:13 are written in the Hebrew language." See reference at end of lesson.**

#### **Daniel Chapter 6 NKJV**

*Chapter 5:31 – “And **Darius the Median took the kingdom**, being about threescore and two years old.” [62 years old] KJV*

*“1 It pleased **Darius** to set over the kingdom one hundred and twenty satraps, to be over the whole kingdom; 2 and over these, three governors, of whom Daniel was one, that the satraps might give account to them, so that the king would suffer no loss.*

Fulfilling God's warning that the kingdom would be divided [5:28], the territory of Babylon was merged with the Media-Persian empire and divided into 127 provinces. Normally when one king overthrew another, the former king's military leaders, royal court, and counselors were killed, imprisoned, or enslaved. This was to prevent the previous regime from reorganizing in exile and returning to retaliate or overthrow the new conqueror. Here, Daniel, was not imprisoned or exiled, BUT placed with two other governors to oversee the 120 high governmental officials in the new regime. Daniel served God in Babylon and would remain with the Medes and Persians throughout the rest of his life.” Perry Stone, OT Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, p. 1340.

*3 Then this Daniel distinguished himself above the governors and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm. 4 So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him. 5 Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God."*

See: Daniel 5:12, 14; 4:1-3; Prov. 22:29; 3:3-4; Eccl. 2:13; Phil. 2:12-15.

The other rulers were simply envious and jealous of Daniel. Josephus simply says Daniel was envied, as he wrote, "...for those that see others in great honor than themselves with kings envy them..." Josephus, Book X, chapter XI

*6 So these governors and satraps thronged before the king, and said thus to him: "King Darius, live forever! 7 All the governors of the kingdom, the administrators and satraps, the counselors and advisors, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a firm decree, that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions. 8 Now, O king, establish the decree and sign the writing, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter."*

*9 Therefore King Darius signed the written decree.*

"The king did not know the conspirators were tricking him into signing a law that would bring down Daniel for praying to His God. Once a law had been signed into a decree by the Medes and Persians, it could not be reversed, even by the king himself." Perry Stone, OT Hebraic Study Bible, p. 1340.

Demonic and or evil decrees can be **destroyed** through the mighty name of Jesus Christ, King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

"28 You will also declare a thing,

And it will be established for you;

So light will shine on your ways.

29 When they cast you down, and you say, 'Exaltation will come!'

Then He will save the humble person.

30 He will even deliver one who is not innocent;

Yes, he will be delivered by the purity of your hands." Job 22:28-30 NKJV

"28 You shall also decide and decree a thing, and it shall be established for you; and the light [of God's favor] shall shine upon your ways. 29 When they make [you] low, you will say, [There is] a lifting up; and the humble person He lifts up and saves. 30 He will even deliver the one [for whom you intercede] who is not innocent; yes, he will be delivered through the cleanness of your hands." Job 22:28-30 AMPC

## *Daniel in the Lions' Den*

*10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.*

“Even though Daniel lived in an alien culture and rubbed shoulders daily with idol worshippers, he consistently refused to compromise his faith or his convictions. He abstained from eating the king’s meat and drinking his wine. (Daniel 1:8-21); his Hebrew companions refused to bow before the king’s idol (Daniel 3:4-28); now Daniel refused to compromise his prayer life. Daniel surely recalled Solomon’s instructions on prayer: If the Jews are taken into captivity, God will hear their prayers if they repent and *“pray toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, and toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built for Thy name.” II Chronicles 6:38 KJV.*

In the time of the tabernacle and Solomon’s Temple, the burning incense occurred twice a day – in the morning and in the evening. In the NT, when the priest would burn the incense, a multitude of people would stand praying in the outer court of the temple (Luke 1:9-10). This was due to the belief that all of their words were flowing into the holy place, and as the smoke of the incense ascended from the golden altar, the very words of their prayers in the smoke were moving upward to the Temple in heaven for God to hear. See: Rev. 5:8

Daniel was required to pray only twice a day facing Jerusalem, and here we learn he has added a third prayer. Why? First, Daniel “knew the writing was signed.” Thus, he may have been acting boldly as if to say to his conspirators, “If you thought I prayed before, I am going to pray even more than before!” His intention could have been to mock the ridiculous decree and pray when he wanted to pray.

A second reason Daniel prayed three times could be that he wanted to increase his own personal prayer life because of the dwindling number of remnant Jews who were preparing to depart to Jerusalem, which would reduce the prayer force in Babylon.

It is also likely that Daniel sensed the increasing spiritual warfare taking place in the invisible realm between God’s angels and Satan’s strong principalities (Dan. 10:1-13). When Christ entered the Garden of Gethsemane, He engaged in intense intercession until His sweat became as great drops of blood. (Luke 22:24). After James was killed and Peter was arrested, the church prayed without ceasing for Peter’s release from prison. Late the same night, the angel of the Lord released Peter from jail (Acts 12:5-11). There are times when spiritual warfare increases, we believers must increase the intensity, frequency, and lengthen of our prayers!” Perry Stone, OT Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, p. 1374.

*11 Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. 12 And they went before the king, and spoke concerning the king’s*

decree: “Have you not signed a decree that every man who petitions any god or man within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?”

The king answered and said, “The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter.” 13 So they answered and said before the king, “That Daniel, who is one of the captives from Judah, does not show due regard for you, O king, or for the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day.”

14 And the king, when he heard these words, was greatly displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him. 15 Then these men approached the king, and said to the king, “Know, O king, that it is the law of the Medes and Persians that no decree or statute which the king establishes may be changed.”

16 So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. **But the king spoke, saying to Daniel, “Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you.”** 17 Then a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signets of his lords, that the purpose concerning Daniel might not be changed.

See: Matthew 5:14-15

#### Daniel Saved from the Lions

18 Now the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; and no musicians were brought before him. Also his sleep went from him. 19 Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions. 20 And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, **“Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?”**

21 Then Daniel said to the king, “O king, live forever! 22 My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.”

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

#### Remember **Genesis 12:1-3 AMPC**

“1 Now [in Haran] the Lord said to Abram, Go for yourself [for your own advantage] away from your country, from your relatives and your father’s house, to the land that I will show you. 2 And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you [with abundant increase of favors] and make your name famous and distinguished, and you will be a blessing [dispensing good to others]. 3 And I will bless those who bless you [who confer prosperity or happiness upon you] and curse him who curses or uses insolent language toward you; in you will all the

*families and kindred of the earth be blessed [and by you they will bless themselves].*

See: Ex. 1:22; 15:4-5; Esther 7:10; 9:13-14; I Sam. 17:23-51; II Sam. 21:16-22; Isa. 37:1-36; II Kings 25:1-21; Daniel 4:25-33

“Throughout history, enemies of the Jews have fallen because of their poor treatment of God’s elect. Modern Jewish enemies have not learned from history; they continue attempting to destroy Israel and the Jewish people.” Perry Stone, OT Hebraic Prophetic Study Bible, p. 1342

#### *Darius Honors God*

*24 And the king gave the command, and they brought those men who had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives; and the lions overpowered them, and broke all their bones in pieces before they ever came to the bottom of the den.*

*25 Then King Darius wrote: To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you. 26 I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, And steadfast forever; His kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed, And His dominion shall endure to the end. 27 He delivers and rescues, and He works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, Who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.*

***28 So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.***

## **A POSSIBLE TIMELINE FOR DANIEL - Approximate Date & Description**

- 605 BC Jerusalem taken by Nebuchadnezzar.  
Daniel and his three friends taken to Babylon (probably age 15-16).
- 602 BC Daniel and his friends complete their three years of training.  
Nebuchadnezzar has his dream and Daniel explains it (Dan. 2).
- 586 BC Jerusalem and the temple destroyed by the Babylonians.  
(Possible time of Nebuchadnezzar's idol and the fiery furnace.) (Dan. 3)
- 566-556 BC (Possible time of Nebuchadnezzar's vision - resulting madness (Dan. 4)
- 553-549 BC (Possible beginning of Belshazzar's co-regency in Babylon.)  
Daniel's vision of four beasts. (Dan. 7)
- 548-547 BC Daniel's vision of a ram and a goat. (Dan. 7)
- 539 BC Belshazzar's feast (Dan. 5).  
Cyrus, king of Persia, conquers Babylon and reigns until 530.  
Darius the Mede assumes power in Babylon (likely appointed by Cyrus).  
Daniel reads Jeremiah and prays and fasts for the Jewish nation. (Dan. 9)
- 538 BC Cyrus decrees that the Jews can return to Judea and rebuild the temple.
- 537 BC About 50,000 Jews return, led by Zerubbabel and Joshua high priest.  
Daniel (about age 83) has his prophetic vision about the end times (10:1).
- 536-535 BC Daniel's heavenly vision and conversation with a supernatural being. (Dan. 10-11)
- 530-522 BC Cambyses reigns. The rebuilding of the temple is stopped.
- 522-486 BC Darius I reigns and the rebuilding is renewed in 520.  
The temple is completed and dedicated in 515.

<http://religiouslibertylawyers.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/GG-Daniel-Timeline-CLA-2016-04-19.pdf>

