

Outline of DANIEL

- I. The Dreams of Gentile Rulers (1--6)
 - A. Preparation of God's Servant 1
 - B. Consternation of men, and the interpretation of the dream 2
 - C. Golden image of Nebuchadnezzar 3
 - D. Vision of the great tree 4
 - E. Handwriting on the wall 5
 - F. Daniel in the lions' den 6

- II. Dreams and Visions of the Last Days (7—12)
 - A. World empires and the little horn 7
 - B. Vision of the ram and the goat 8
 - C. Prophecy of the 70 weeks 9
 - D. Delayed answer to prayer 10
 - E. Wars of the Ptolemies and the Seleucidae, and the Antichrist 11
 - F. Time of the end 12

(Feinberg)

“The words of Daniel 1:2 are a key to proper understanding of the history of the human race since that day: “And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his [Nebuchadnezzar’s] hand.” The sovereignty of the world was being deliberately transferred to the Gentile nations by God Himself, since His chosen people had utterly failed in their exercise of that governmental responsibility by reason of deliberate and willful idolatry. Here, specifically, “the times of the Gentiles” mentioned by our Lord in Luke 21:24 had their beginning.

“Their whole course down through all succeeding centuries will be dramatically unfolded before us in Nebuchadnezzar’s dream of a great image in chapter 2, and in Daniel’s own visions of chapters 7 and 8. These times of the Gentiles are nearing the end of their prescribed course . . .”

Name Changes in Daniel One

Hebrew

DANIEL

God is my judge

HANANIAH

LORD is gracious

MISHAEL

Who is like God?

AZARIAH

Whom the LORD helps

Aramaic (Chaldean)

Belteshazzar

prince of Bel

Shadrach

illuminated by sun god

Meshach

Who is like Shach?

Abed-Nego

Servant of the
shining fire

Daniel—introductory material

“**A**MONG THE GREAT PROPHETIC BOOKS of Scripture, none provides a more comprehensive and chronological prophetic view of the broad movement of history than the book of Daniel. Of the three prophetic programs revealed in Scripture, outlining the course of the nations, Israel, and the church, Daniel alone reveals the details of God's plan for both the nations and Israel. Although other prophets like Jeremiah had much to say to the nations and Israel, Daniel brings together and interrelates these great themes of prophecy as does no other portion of Scripture. For this reason, the book of Daniel is essential to the structure of prophecy and is the key to the entire Old Testament prophetic revelation. A study of this book is, therefore, not only important from the standpoint of determining the revelation of one of the great books of the Old Testament but is an indispensable preliminary investigation to any complete eschatological system.”

John F. Walvoord

Daniel The Key to Prophetic Revelation

“The book of Daniel is unquestionably the key to all biblical prophecy. It is the great apocalyptic book of the Old Testament, whereas Revelation is that of the New Testament. Passages such as Matthew 24-25, Mark 11, Luke 21 and the book of Revelation are unintelligible without a knowledge of the book of Daniel.”

Charles Feinberg

“To reject Daniel is to reject the Christian religion.”

Sir Isaac Newton

Daniel—Introductory material

Date of Events

605 B.C. to 536 B.C.

Deportation of Daniel to Babylon (1:1) to 3rd year of Cyrus (10:1)

Purpose

“In the dark hour of Israel's captivity, with the tragic destruction of Jerusalem and its temple, there was need for a new testimony to the mighty and providential power of God. Such is afforded by the book of Daniel. It is obviously not the purpose of the book to give a detailed account of Daniel's life, as important details such as his lineage, age, and death are not mentioned, and only scattered incidents in his long life are recounted. Little is said about the history of Israel or the lot of the Jewish captives in Babylon. The book of Daniel, like Esther, reveals God continuing to work in His people Israel even in the time of their chastening. In this framework the tremendous revelation concerning the times of the Gentiles and the program of God for Israel was unfolded. While it is doubtful whether these prophecies were sufficiently known in Daniel's lifetime to be much of an encouragement to the captives themselves, the book of Daniel undoubtedly gave hope to the Jews who returned to restore the temple and the city, and it was particularly helpful during the Maccabean persecutions. It was clearly the purpose of God to give to Daniel a comprehensive revelation of His program culminating in the second advent. As such, its prophetic revelation is the key to understanding the Olivet “Discourse (Mt 24-25) as well as the book of Revelation, which is to the New Testament what Daniel was to the Old.”

Walvoord

Old Testament

MAJOR PROPHETS/major themes

Isaiah speaks of the SALVATION of the LORD

Jeremiah speaks of the JUDGMENT of the LORD

Ezekiel speaks of the GLORY of the LORD

Daniel speaks of the KINGDOM of the LORD,
and that in relation to the “times of the Gentiles”

(Adapted from DANIEL, The man and his visions, by Charles Feinberg)

OUTLINE of DANIEL

<u>I. Personal Background of Daniel</u>	<u>1</u>
A. Conquest of Jerusalem	:1-2
B. Conscription of Jews for Training	:3-7
C. Courage of Four Men in Trial	:8-16
D. Choice of Four Men for Royal Positions	:17-21
<u>II. Prophetic Course of Gentile Dominion</u>	<u>2-7</u>
A. Dilemmas of Nebuchadnezzar	2-4
B. Debauchery and Demise of Belshazzar	5
C. Deliverance of Daniel	6
D. Dream of Daniel	7
<u>III. Prophetic Course of Israel's Destiny</u>	<u>8-12</u>
A. Prophecy of the Ram and Male Goat	8
B. Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks	9
C. Prophecy of Israel's Humiliation and Restoration	10-12

OUTLINE OF DANIEL

I. Personal Background of Daniel 1

(written in Hebrew)

II. Prophetic Course of Gentile Dominion 2-7

(written in Aramaic)

III. Prophetic Course of Israel's Destiny 8-12

(written in Hebrew)

Daniel One

The LORD's Captives

Conquest of Jerusalem	1:1-2
Conscription of Jews for Training	1:3-7
Courage of Four Men in Trial	1:8-16
Choice of Four Men for Royal Positions	1:17-21

Daniel—Introductory material

Historical Background

“The study of ancient history reveals that no single power was able to gain absolute control over all others. The Egyptians, the Assyrians, and other empires all attempted total domination, but without success. It was not until Israel had turned so clearly to idolatry that God permitted the Northern Kingdom of Israel to be carried into captivity by the Assyrians in 722-721 B.C.

“By 606 B.C., the Southern Kingdom of Judah was ready for similar punishment from God. King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon did not conquer the Kingdom of Judah in a single campaign; he did do in three campaigns, ending in 586 B.C. This great Babylonian monarch inaugurated what our Lord called “the times of the Gentiles” (Luke 21:24). This phrase is the political designation for the rule of the Gentiles over God's chosen people, Israel. This lengthy period has not yet ended.

“In the first chapter of Daniel, the Lord reveals that when the Babylonian invaders entered Jerusalem, they looted the important sacred vessels of the house of God. The Kingdom of Judah had begun its final decline under the reign of Jehoiakim (2 Kings 24:2). The loss of power continued during the three-month reign of Jehoiachin (2 Kings 24:8-16) and was completed under the reign of Zedekiah, who was taken captive in 586 B.C. and died a prisoner in Babylon (2 Kings 24:17—25:21).”

Feinberg, pp. 14-15

Languages

Daniel 1	Hebrew
Daniel 2-7	Aramaic (Chaldee)
Daniel 8-12	Hebrew

Other Scripture written in Aramaic:

Genesis 31:47 “Jegar-Sahadutha”

Jeremiah 10:11

Ezra 4:8—6:18; 7:12-26

Daniel 1:8

What was the problem with the Jewish youths eating the king's meat and drinking his wine?

1. May have included food which was prohibited to the Jews by the Mosaic law

2. May have included food which was prepared in a manner contrary to the requirements of the Mosaic law

3. Likely included food which was sacrificed to the pagan gods of Babylon. This would have in effect then caused those who partook of the food to have participated in worship/service/acknowledgment of the pagan gods