

A painting of a prophet with a long white beard, wearing a yellow robe, sitting at a desk and writing in a scroll with a quill. The scene is dimly lit, with a small cup of ink on the desk. The background is dark and textured.

# Listening to the Prophets

A Study of Old Testament Major Prophets  
Lesson 8-Daniel Chapters 1-6

Mervin W. Tapsfield

<http://newjerusalemcommunity.blogspot.com/2011/05/old-testament-prophets.html>

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Website-[swordofthespiritstudies.com](http://swordofthespiritstudies.com)  
[Sword of the Spirit Studies]
  - Live YouTube Lesson
  - Student Notes
  - Instructor Notes
  - PowerPoint
- YouTube-Sword of the Spirit Studies
- Thank you for helping set up for last Thursday



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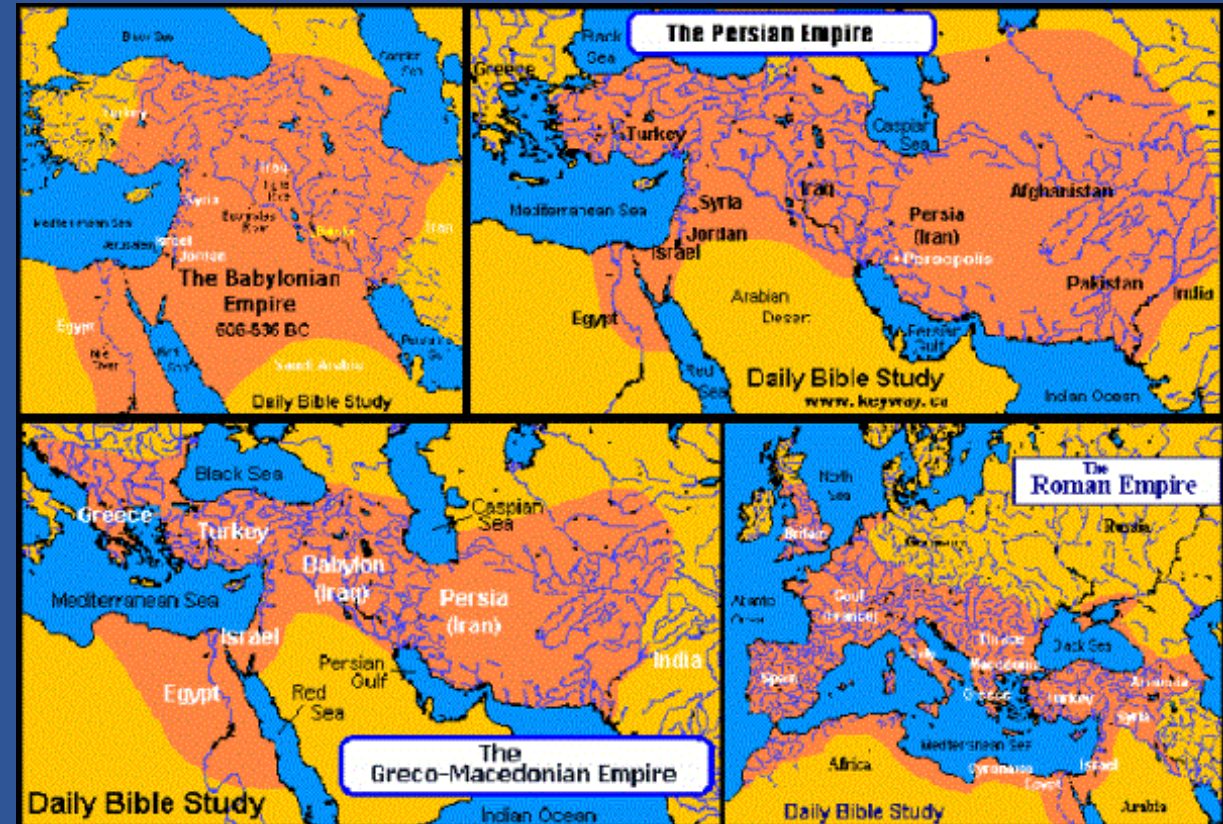
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# Lesson 8

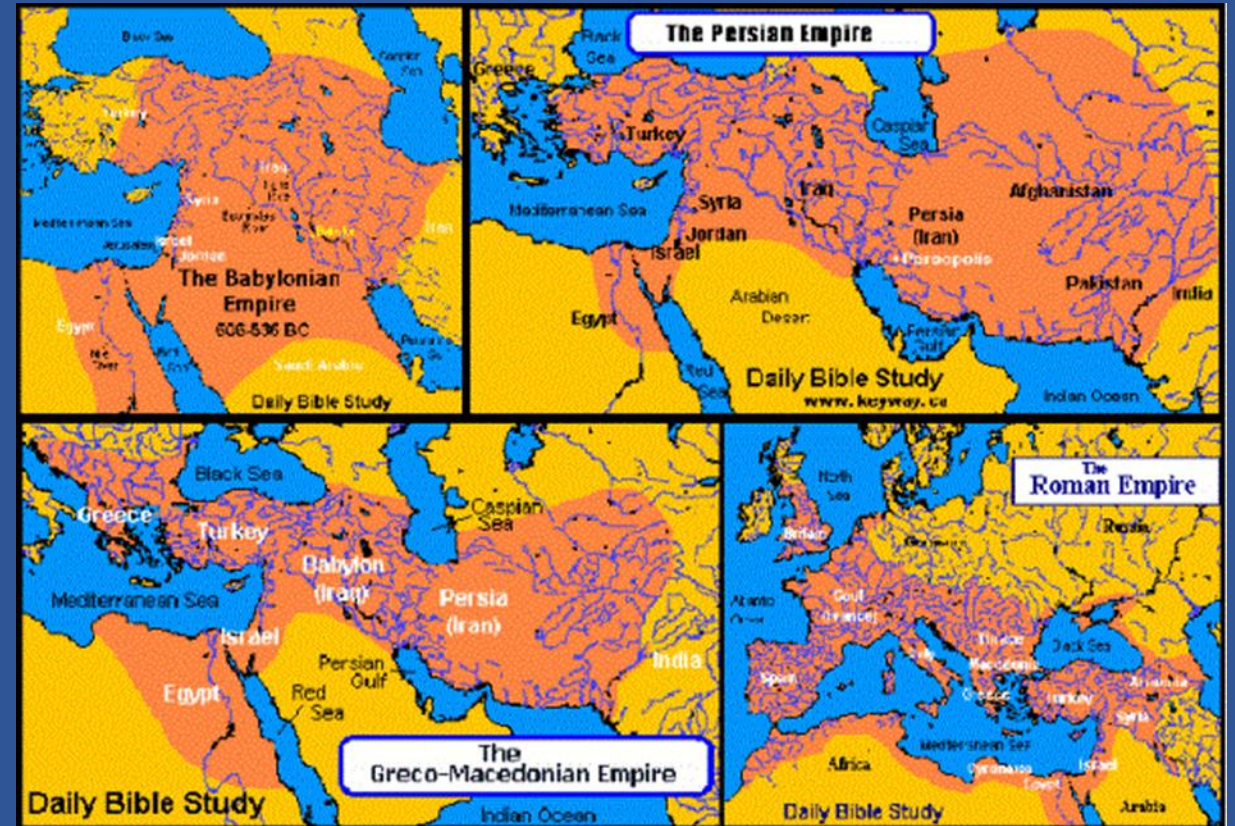
## The Book of Daniel (Chapters 1-6)

### Introduction

- Daniel wrote the book of Daniel. King Nebuchadnezzar took him captive to Babylon in the year 605 B.C. <sup>37</sup> Daniel served in the court of King Nebuchadnezzar who elevated him to the second in command of all Babylon.

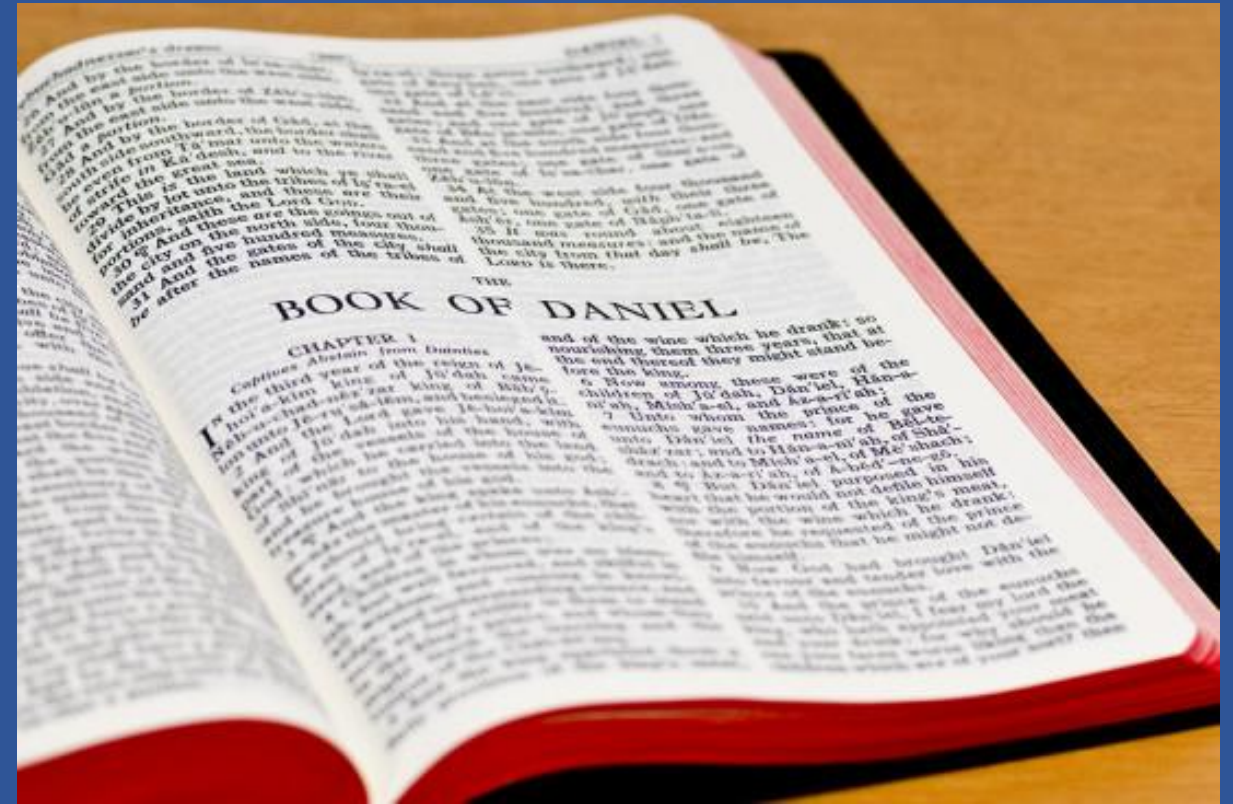


- God revealed to Daniel the four great empires that would rule the ancient world: Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.
- The Book of Daniel also gives reference to the future Tribulation Period and to Christ's Millennial Reign.



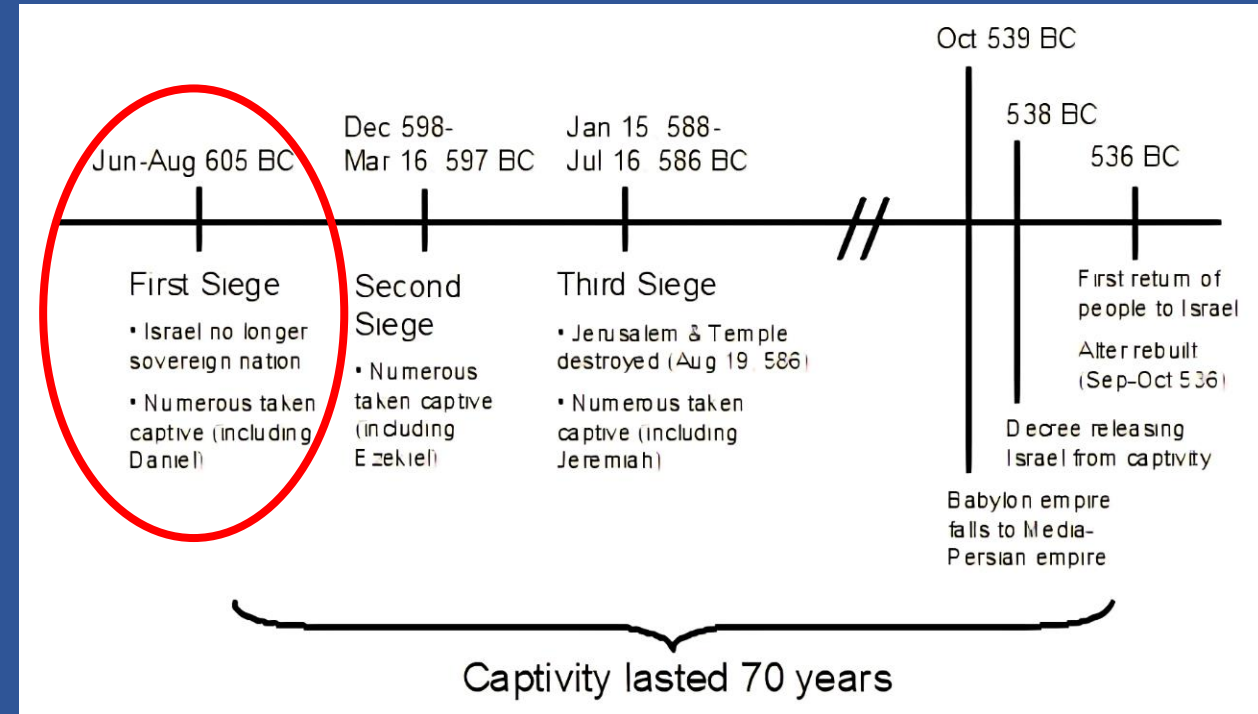
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- Many have tried to dispute the accuracies of Daniel and discredit the work for a much later time. Through much scrutiny and Biblical study, Daniel stands tested and true to any criticism that would render it anything less than authentic.



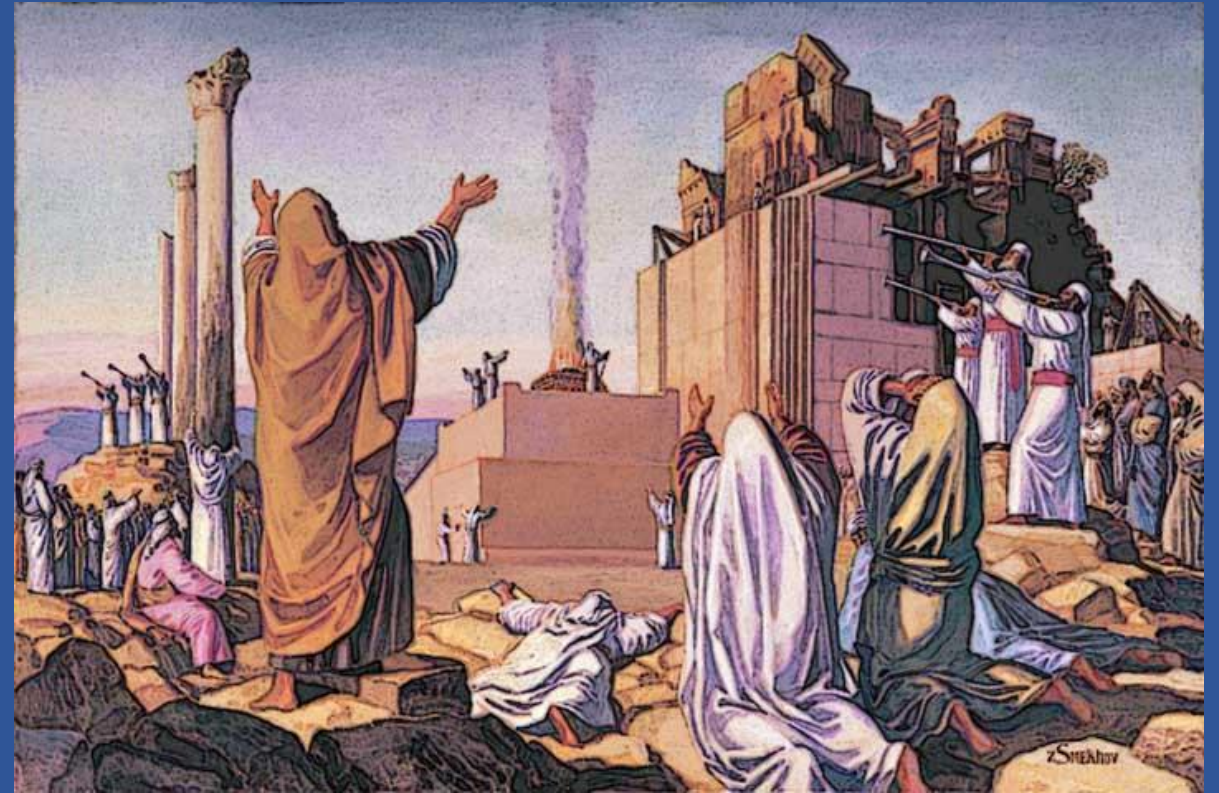
# Chapter 1-The Captivity

- Daniel 1:1-2 gives the historical time frame for Israel's first captivity by King Nebuchadnezzar in 605 B.C. King Nebuchadnezzar took Daniel captive at this time.





- Jeremiah 7:30-31 states the reason for Israel's 70-year captivity (see also Leviticus 25:2-7; 2 Chronicles 36:20-21). [\*]
- Ezra 3:8 gives the date for the laying of the temple's foundation. This event occurred in the Spring of 535 B.C. [\*]



<https://www.offthegridnews.com/religion/can-we-build-together/>

- Note the name changes for Daniel and his three friends: 1:7 [✱]
- Daniel- “God is Judge” changed to Belteshazzar- “May Bel protect his life”
- Hannaniah- “Yahweh is gracious” changed to Shadrach-possibly means “command of Aku” (the moon god)



- Mishael- “Who is what God is?” changed to Meschach-may mean “Who is what Aku is?”
- Azariah- “Whom Yahweh helps” changed to Abed-nego “servant of Nebo



- Daniel had made up his mind not to defile himself with the King's food (1:8). [★] We will note Daniel continued to serve God and to obey His laws even though he did not reside in Jerusalem nor within the proximity of the temple.



# Chapter 2-Nebuchadnezzar's dream

- Daniel 2:1-6 gives an interesting narration of Nebuchadnezzar's dream. [☆] King Nebuchadnezzar probably knew full well what his dream meant and that he understood the interpretation of the dream.



- Daniel 2:29 gives us an insight to Nebuchadnezzar's pondering; more specifically, future events (possibly the longevity of his kingdom). [\*]
- This verse implies God had revealed the mystery of the dream to Nebuchadnezzar.



- The phrase in 2:4, “Oh king, live forever,” seems to indicate the wise men told the king his reign would always endure. This contradicts Nebuchadnezzar’s dream. Speculation indicates Nebuchadnezzar knew the dream foretold destruction of his kingdom and the words of the wise men did not match up (2:8-9). [[\\*](#)]



<https://fineartamerica.com/featured/daniel-interpreting-nebuchadnezzars-dream-mattia-preti.html>

- Nebuchadnezzar tested the wise men to see if they could really tell the future. If not, then what good were they? The king might as well destroy them.

- Verse 11 indicates the wise men acknowledged their lack of ability to communicate to God.

[\*]



<https://fineartamerica.com/featured/daniel-interpreting-nebuchadnezzars-dream-mattia-preti.html>



- Daniel gave God complete credit for the interpretation of the dream (2:27-30). [★]



- Daniel interpreted the dream (2:31-45).
  - Nebuchadnezzar saw a great statue whose head was made of gold
  - The chest and arms were made of silver
  - The stomach and thighs were made of bronze



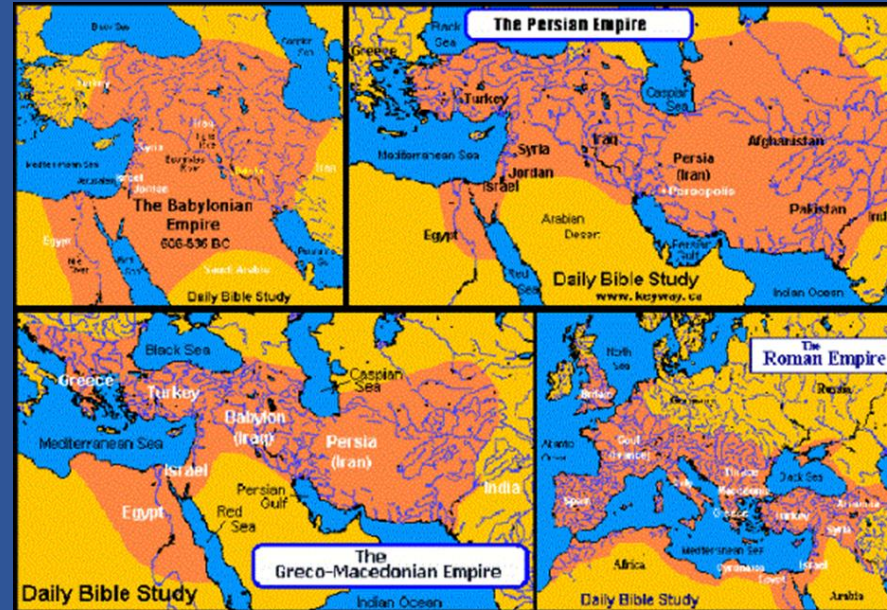
- The legs were made of iron.
- The feet were made partly of iron and partly of clay.
- A great stone not made from hands struck and crushed the statue.



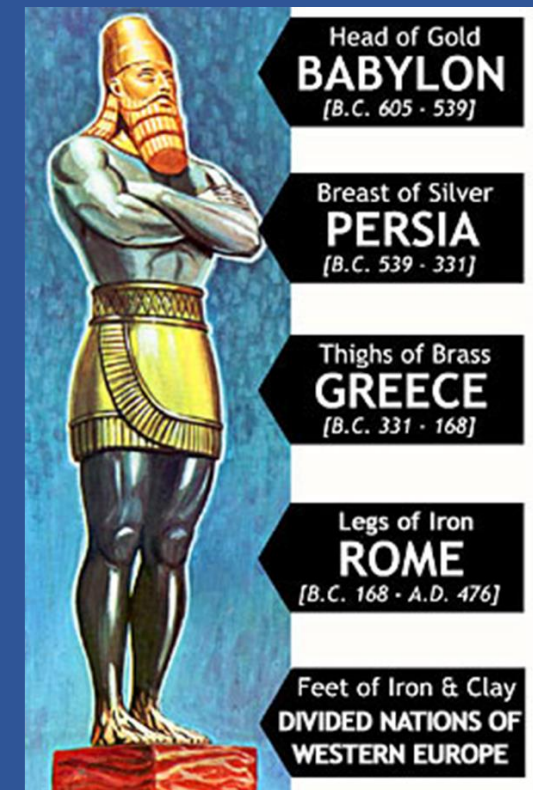
- The meaning is as follows:

- The head of gold represented Nebuchadnezzar and Babylon.

- The chest and arms of silver represented the Medo-Persian Empire.

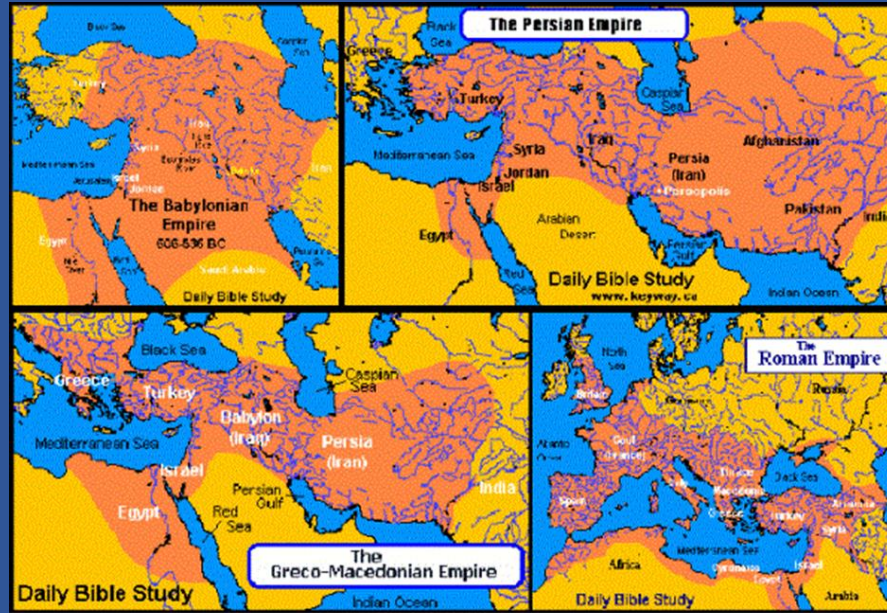


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[http://www.jesus-is-savior.com/End%20of%20the%20World/nebuchadnezzars\\_image.htm](http://www.jesus-is-savior.com/End%20of%20the%20World/nebuchadnezzars_image.htm)

- The stomach and thighs of bronze represented the Greek Empire.



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/561331541030841672/>

- The legs of iron represented the Roman Empire.<sup>42</sup>



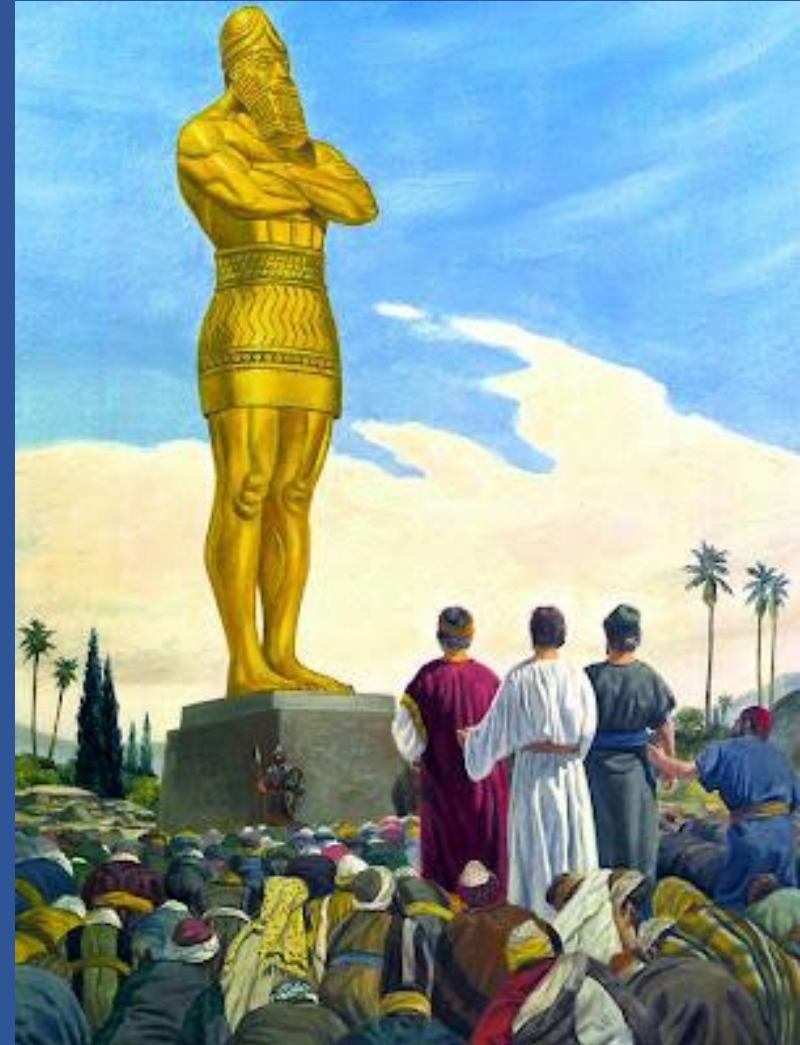
[http://www.jesus-is-savior.com/End%20of%20the%20World/nebuchadnezzars\\_image.htm](http://www.jesus-is-savior.com/End%20of%20the%20World/nebuchadnezzars_image.htm)

- The feet of iron and clay indicated the non-cohesive and fractured empire of the future antichrist.
- The carved stone represented Jesus, the Messiah, who will wipe away all kingdoms and establish an everlasting kingdom.



# Chapter 3-Nebuchadnezzer's Statue

- Note the continuity of chapter 3 with chapter 2.
- Daniel 3:1-6 presents an enormous gold statue King Nebuchadnezzer had erected. Anyone who did not worship the image would die. [✳]



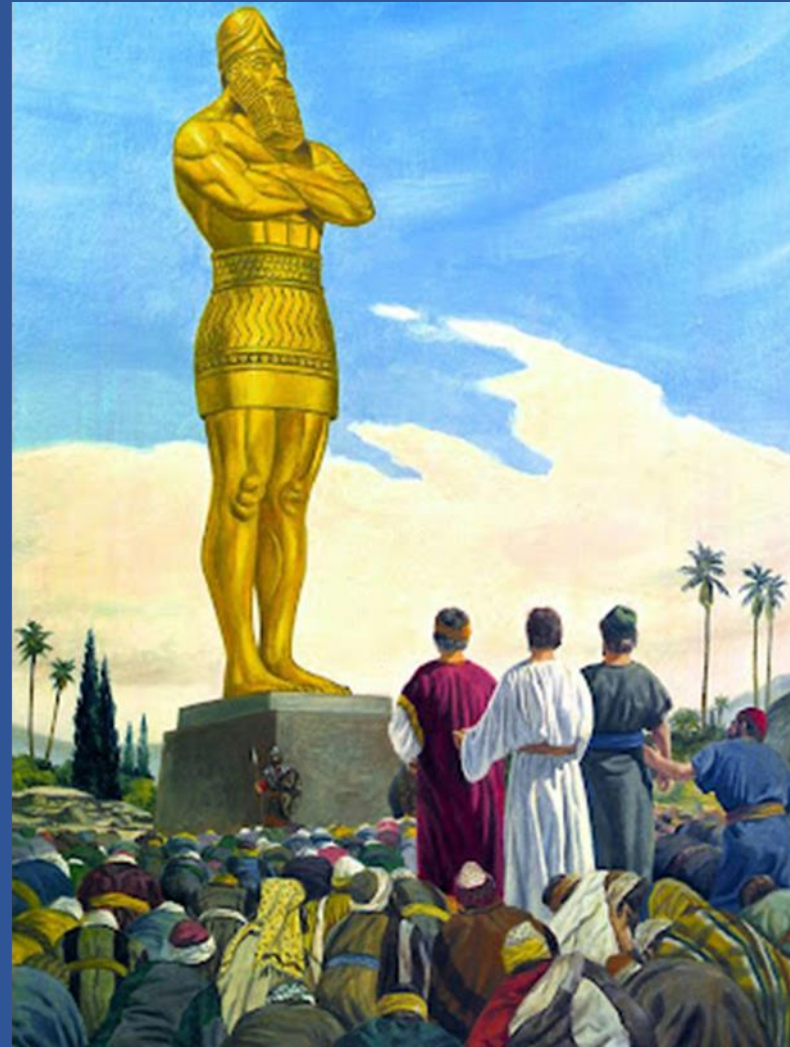
- It makes one speculate whether this image had a comparable likeness to the image in Nebuchadnezzar's Dream. It is possible that Nebuchadnezzar tried to interfere with God's ultimate plan and thwart the downfall of his kingdom.





- King Nebuchadnezzar's fury toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego could possibly have resulted from their affirmation of Nebuchadnezzar's shortened lineage (3:19).

[\*]



- Daniel 3:24-27 explains the miraculous deliverance of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. Verse 25 indicates a fourth man walked among the three. This fourth man appears to have been Christ incarnate. [<sup>\*</sup>]

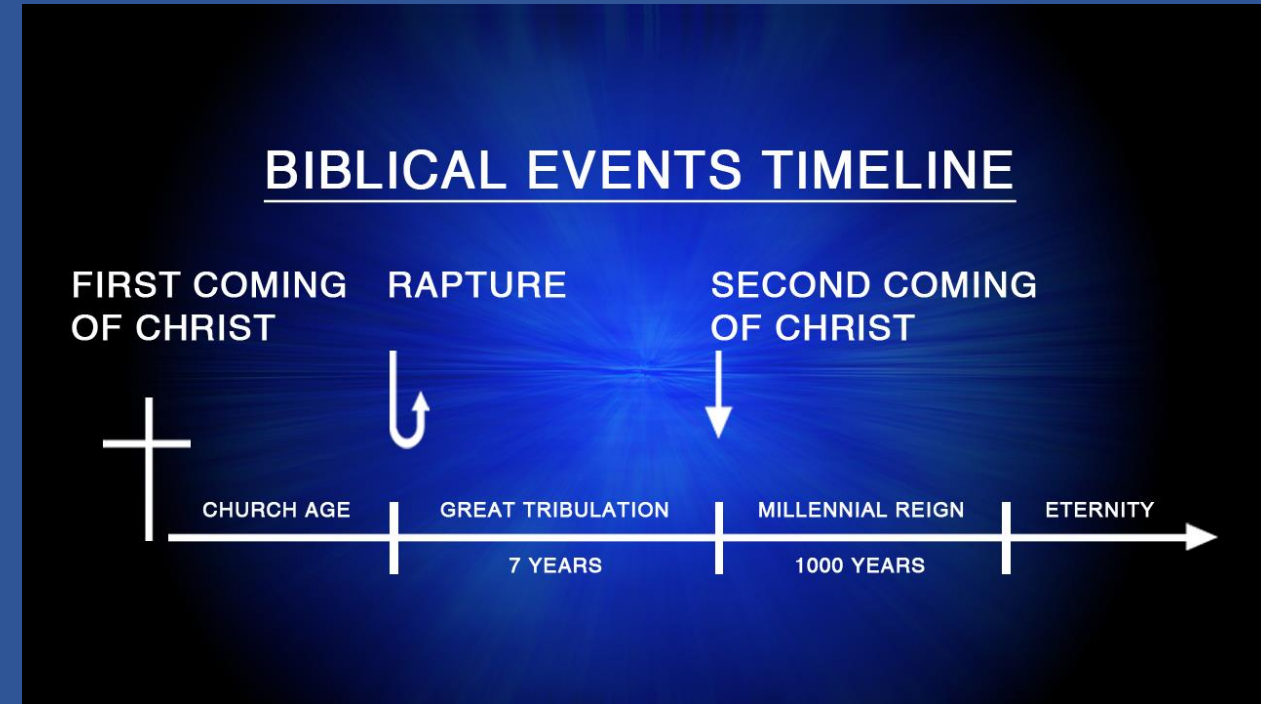


- Such a miraculous event should have encouraged all the Jews living in Babylon. God had spoken through Jeremiah and Ezekiel that He would deliver the Jews and make them a holy nation. The fulfillment of this event will take place during the end of the Gentile domination<sup>43</sup> (the end of the seven-year tribulation) and the beginning of the Millennium.



<https://bibleask.org/why-was-daniel-not-thrown-in-the-fiery-furnace/>

- Some may say that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego could represent the 144,000 Jewish believers who God will protect during the Tribulation Period.



- Notice the homage Nebuchadnezzar gave to God. We do not know whether Nebuchadnezzar became a believer. However, he had to admit God was the ultimate and sovereign Lord. A similar event will take place at Christ's second coming (Romans 14:11; Philippians 2:10-11). [[\\*](#)]



<https://bibleask.org/why-was-daniel-not-thrown-in-the-fiery-furnace/>

# Chapter 4-King Nebuchadnezzar's Transformation

- Notice the excessive use of pronouns: I, me, my, etc. (4:4-9) [[\\*\]](#)
- Nebuchadnezzar's dream (4:10-18). [[\\*\]](#)



<https://www.goodsalt.com/details/rhpas0675.html>

- Three important lessons come from this dream (4:17): [✎]
- The Most High rules over the realm of mankind
- God gives authority to those He wishes
- God gives authority to the lowliest of men (Matthew 11:25) [✎]



- The tree represented King Nebuchadnezzar and all his glory.
- Daniel told the king that he would temporarily lose his kingdom for a period of seven years. Seven also parallels the duration of the Tribulation Period.





You do not have this:

- Daniel declares the dream pertains to Nebuchadnezzar (4:19b-27) [\*]
- Nebuchadnezzar apparently failed to honor God. (4:28-37) [\*]



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/488148047080720966/>

# Chapter 5-Belshazzar's Feast

- Belshazzar was the grandson of King Nebuchadnezzar.<sup>44</sup>
- Jeremiah 27:6-7 states that Babylon would fall. [✱]



- Modern interpreters state that Babylon's walls were not more than 100 feet tall at the towers and the outer wall may have been 17 miles in circumference.<sup>45</sup>



<https://www.pinterest.ie/pin/466615211383701448/>

- The Babylonians had stored 20 years of supplies within the city.<sup>46</sup>
- While this drunken party progressed, Gobryas and his Persian army came into the city.
- It appears that 23 years had passed since Daniel served in Nebuchadnezzar's court.



<https://www.pinterest.ie/pin/466615211383701448/>

- Daniel 5:5-9 states the fingers from God appeared on the wall and terrified Belshazzar to the point that his knees began to shake. [ ] Chances are, Belshazzar knew immediately why the hand had appeared. Daniel states, “you knew all this...” (5:22).



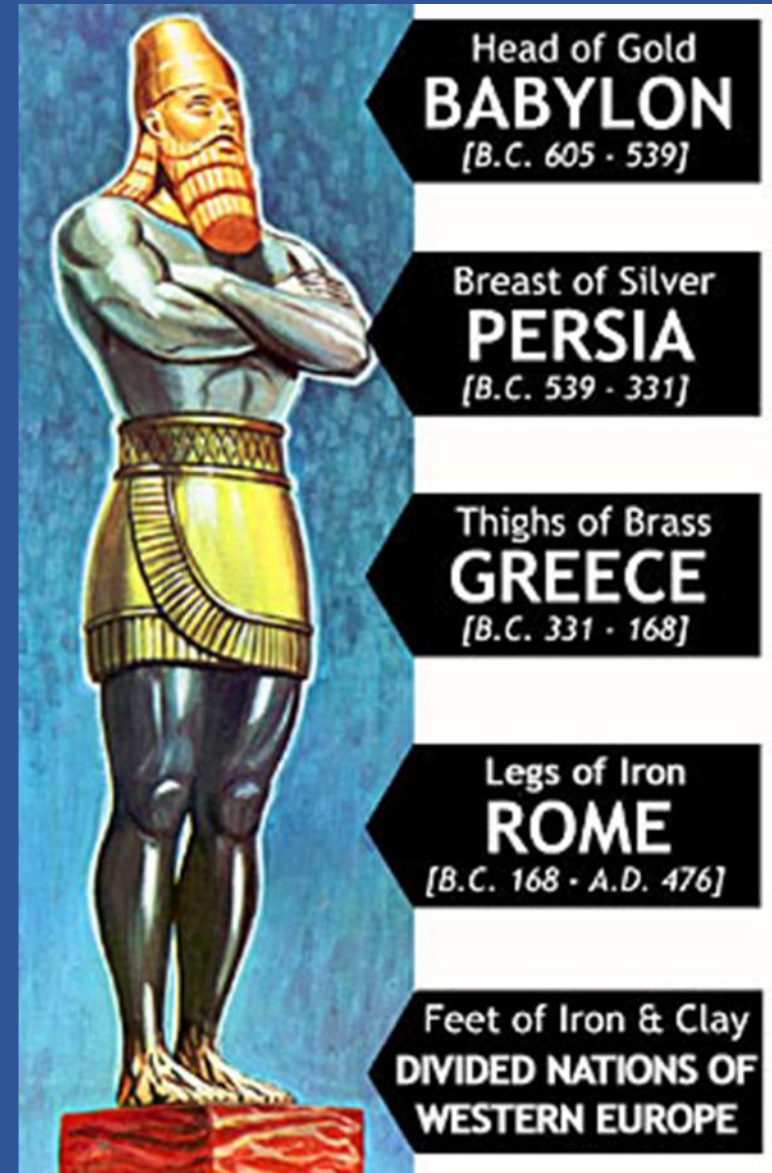
<https://alchetron.com/Belshazzar>

- During the banquet, Gobryas marched his army into the inner city and to the palace.
- The Persian army had rechanneled the Euphrates River from running through Babylon. The soldiers marched into the inner city and took Babylon.<sup>47</sup>



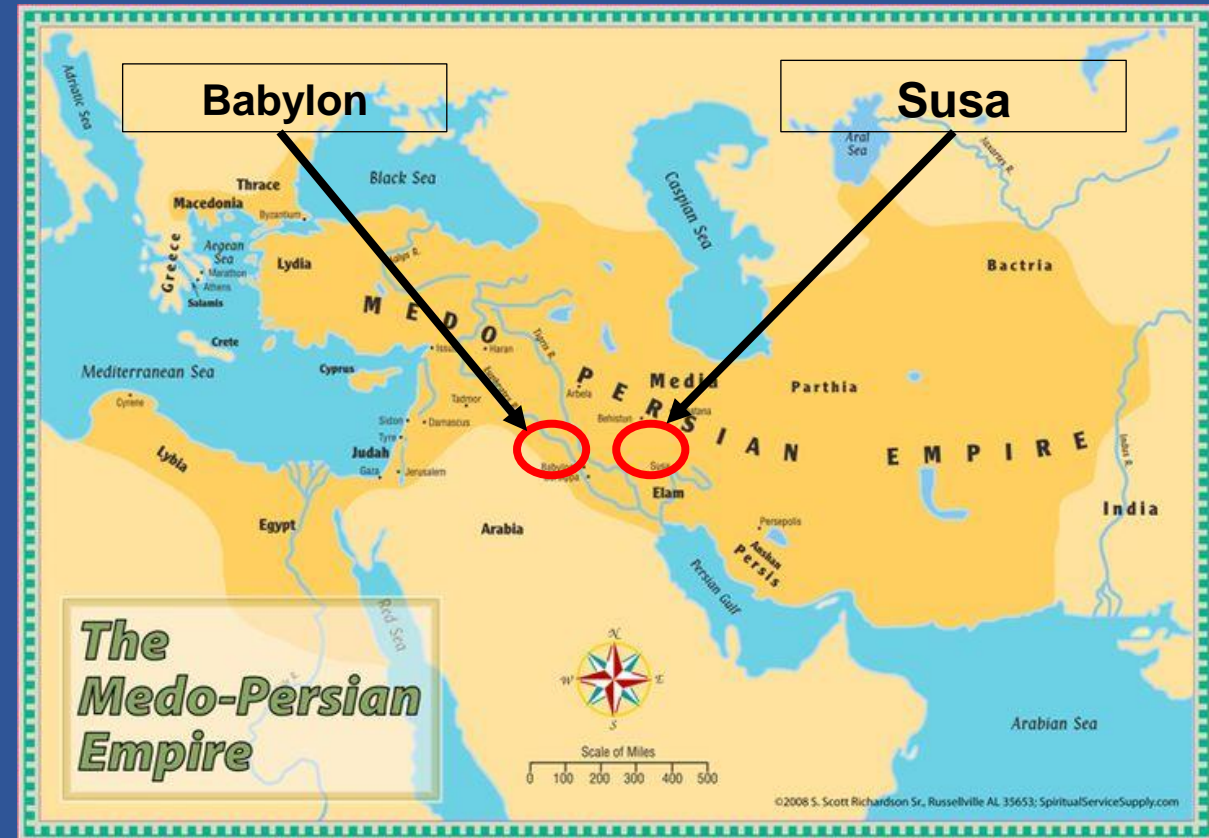
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- The “head of gold” as seen in Nebuchadnezzar’s dream was destroyed. Now the “silver” part of the statue would reign (the Medo-Persian Empire).



# Chapter 6-Daniel and the Lions' Den

- Babylon came under Medo-Persian rule on October 11, 539 B.C.
- Daniel 6:1-2 states that **Darius** set up 120 princes and 3 presidents to rule what King Nebuchadnezzar had ruled by himself.

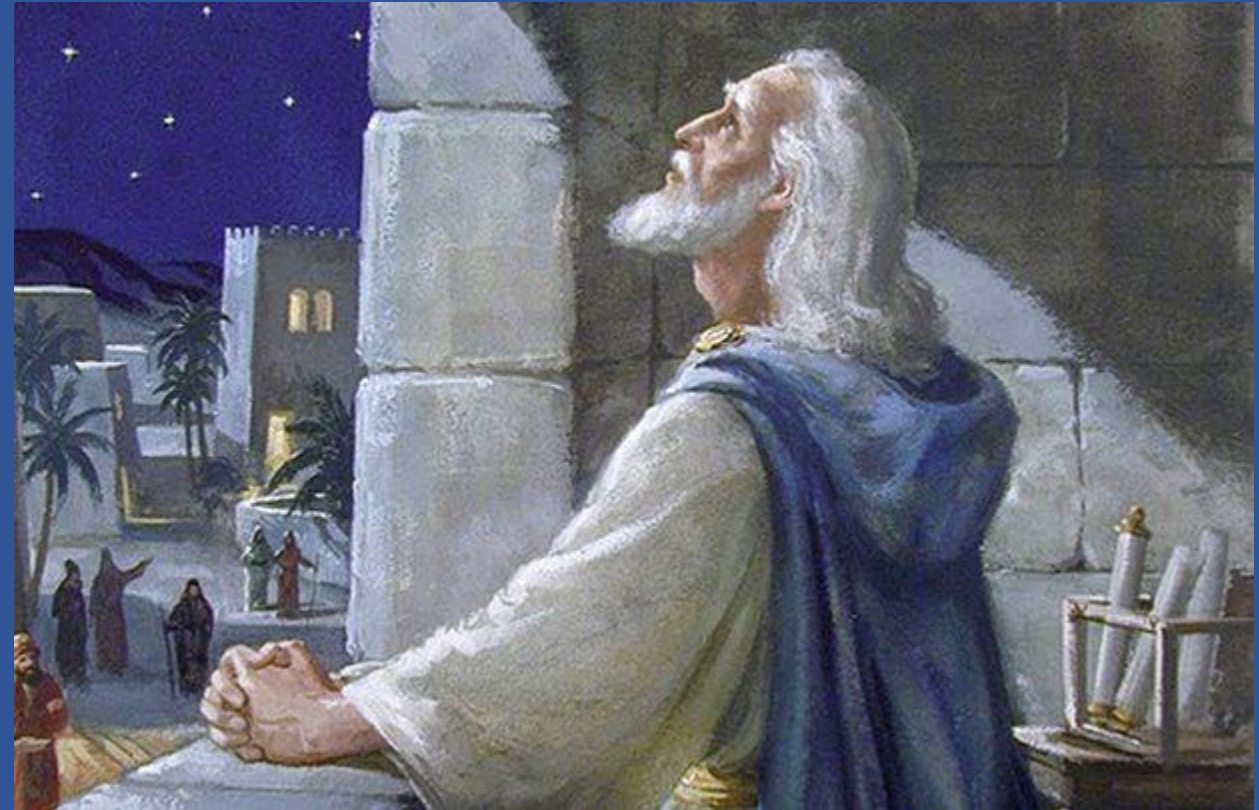




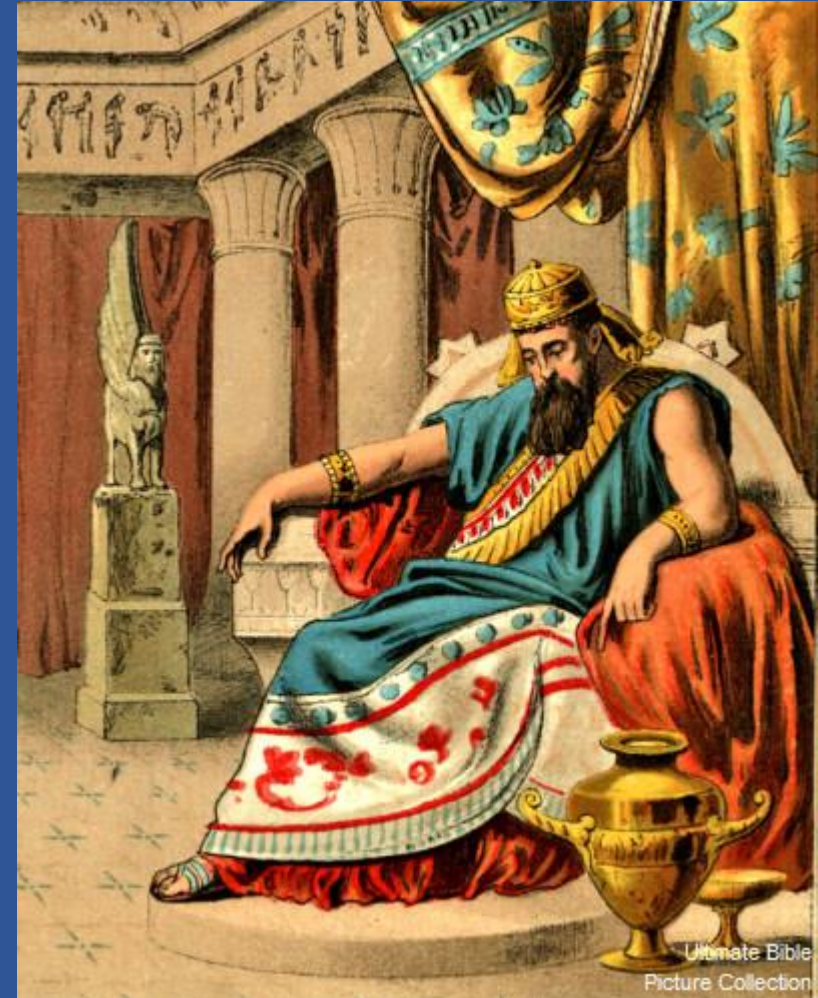
- Daniel had been set aside for many years and yet he remained faithful to God.
- Daniel 6:6-9 states that Darius could not revoke a law of the Medes and Persians and yet King Nebuchadnezzar could have revoked any law. [✱]
- We see the devaluing of metals in Nebuchadnezzar's statue.



- Daniel 6:10-11 states Daniel prayed facing Jerusalem three times a day (2 Chronicles 6:34-39).<sup>48</sup> [★]
- Daniel was sentenced and thrown into the lion's den.



- Daniel 6:18-20 [[\\*\]](#)
  - Did Darius have faith?
    - He spent the night fasting with no entertainment
    - Sleep fled from him



- Darius went in haste to the lions' den
- Darius cried out with a troubled voice



- Did Daniel have faith?
  - The great men of faith in Hebrews 11:33 include Daniel. [\*]
  - Daniel continued to pray in front of an open window



- There is no mention of Daniel's defense before he was thrown into the lion's den.
- Daniel probably slept well



# Summary

- Daniel never tried to make events happen.
  - Daniel remained faithful to God even when demoted after King Nebuchadnezzar's reign.
  - God led, elevated, and revealed Himself to Daniel at just the right time.
  - Daniel remained faithful and let God work in his life.
- End---

## Daniel 1:1-2

1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 2 And the Lord handed Jehoiakim king of Judah over to him, along with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and he brought the vessels into the treasury of his god. [✱]



## Jeremiah 7:30-31

30 For the sons of Judah have done that which is evil in My sight," declares the Lord, "they have set their detestable things in the house which is called by My name, to defile it. 31 They have built the high places of Topheth, which is in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to burn their sons and their daughters in the fire, which I did not command, and it did not come into My mind.

Over---

## Leviticus 25:2-7

2 "Speak to the sons of Israel and say to them, 'When you come into the land which I shall give you, then the land shall have a Sabbath to the Lord. 3 Six years you shall sow your field, and six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in its crop, 4 but during the seventh year the land shall have a Sabbath rest, a Sabbath to the Lord; you shall not sow your field nor prune your vineyard. Over---

5 Your harvest's aftergrowth you shall not reap, and your grapes of untrimmed vines you shall not gather; the land shall have a sabbatical year. 6 All of you shall have the Sabbath products of the land for food; yourself, and your male and female slaves, and your hired man and your foreign resident, those who live as aliens with you. 7 Even your cattle and the animals that are in your land shall have all its crops to eat. Over---

## 2 Chronicles 36:20-21

- 20 Those who had escaped from the sword he carried away to Babylon; and they were servants to him and to his sons until the rule of the kingdom of Persia, 21 to fulfill the word of the Lord by the mouth of Jeremiah, until the land had enjoyed its sabbaths. All the days of its desolation it kept sabbath until seventy years were complete.

Over---

## Jeremiah 25:11

- 11 This whole land will be a desolation and a horror, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years. [\*]

## Ezra 3:8

- 8 Now in the second year of their coming unto the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month, began Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel [she-al-te-ill], and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and the Levites, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to set forward the work of the house of the Lord. [\*]

## Daniel 1:7

7 Then the commander of the officials assigned new names to them; and to Daniel he assigned the name Belteshazzar [bel-ta-shaz-ar, to Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael [me-sha-ail] Meshach, and to Azariah Abed-nego. [\*]

## Daniel 1:8

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



## Daniel 2:1-6

1 Now in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; and his spirit was troubled and his sleep left him. 2 Then the king gave orders to call in the soothsayer priests, the conjurers, the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, to tell the king his dreams. So they came in and stood before the king. 3 The king said to them, "I had a dream, and my spirit is anxious to understand the dream."

Over---

4 Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic: “O king, live forever! Tell the dream to your servants, and we will declare the interpretation.” 5 The king replied to the Chaldeans, “The command from me is firm: if you do not make known to me the dream and its interpretation, you will be torn limb from limb and your houses will be turned into a rubbish heap.

Over---

6 But if you declare the dream and its interpretation, you will receive from me gifts and a reward and great honor; therefore declare to me the dream and its interpretation.”

[\*]

## Daniel 2:29

29 As for you, O king, while on your bed your thoughts turned to what would take place in the future; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will take place. [<sup>\*</sup>]

## Daniel 2:8-9

8 The king replied, “I know for certain that you are trying to buy time, because you have perceived that the command from me is firm, 9 that if you do not make the dream known to me, there is only one decree for you. For you have agreed together to speak lying and corrupt words before me until the situation is changed; therefore tell me the dream, so that I may know that you can declare to me its interpretation.” [✱]

## Daniel 2:11

11 Moreover, the thing which the king demands is difficult, and there is no one else who could declare it to the king except gods, whose dwelling place is not with mortal flesh.”



## Daniel 2:27-30

27 Daniel answered before the king and said, “As for the secret about which the king has inquired, neither wise men, sorcerers, soothsayer priests, nor diviners are able to declare it to the king. 28 However, there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will take place in the latter days. This was your dream and the visions in your mind while on your bed. Over---

29 As for you, O king, while on your bed your thoughts turned to what would take place in the future; and He who reveals secrets has made known to you what will take place.

30 But as for me, this secret has not been revealed to me for any wisdom residing in me more than in any other living person, but for the purpose of making the interpretation known to the king, and that you may understand the thoughts of your mind. [\*]



## Daniel 3:1-6

1Nebuchadnezzar the king made a statue of gold, the height of which was sixty cubits [90 feet], and its width six cubits [9 feet]; he set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. 2Nebuchadnezzar the king also sent word to assemble the satraps, the prefects and the governors, the counselors, the chief treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the administrators of the provinces to come to the dedication of the statue that Nebuchadnezzar the king had

3 Then the satraps, the prefects and the governors, the counselors, the chief treasurers, the judges, the magistrates, and all the administrators of the provinces were assembled for the dedication of the statue that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the statue that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. 4 Then the herald loudly proclaimed: "To you the command is given, you peoples, nations, and populations of all languages,

Over---

5 that at the moment you hear the sound of the horn, flute, lyre, trigon, psaltery, bagpipe, and all kinds of musical instruments, you are to fall down and worship the golden statue that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up. 6 But whoever does not fall down and worship shall immediately be thrown into the middle of a furnace of blazing fire.” [✱]

## Daniel 3:19

19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with wrath, and his facial expression was changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. He answered by giving orders to heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated. [\*\_]

## Daniel 3:24-27

24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astounded and stood up quickly; he said to his counselors, “Was it not three men that we threw bound into the middle of the fire?” They replied to the king, “Absolutely, O king.” 25 He responded, “Look! I see four men untied and walking about in the middle of the fire unharmed, and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of the gods!” Over---

26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the furnace of blazing fire; he said, “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, come out, you servants of the Most High God, and come here!” Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego came out of the middle of the fire.

Over---

27 The satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had no effect on the bodies of these men, nor was the hair of their heads singed, nor were their trousers damaged, nor had even the smell of fire touched them. [<sup>\*</sup>]

Romans 14:11

1 For it is written:

“As I live, says the Lord, to Me every knee will bow,

And every tongue will give praise to God.”

Over---



## Philippians 2:9-11

9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 10 so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (NASB) [[\\*](#)]

## Daniel 4:4-9

4 "I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at ease in my house and happy in my palace. 5 I saw a dream and it startled me; and these appearances as I lay on my bed and the visions in my mind kept alarming me. 6 So I gave orders to bring into my presence all the wise men of Babylon, so that they might make known to me the interpretation of the dream.

Over---

7 Then the soothsayer priests, the sorcerers, the Chaldeans, and the diviners came in and I related the dream to them, but they could not make its interpretation known to me. 8 But finally Daniel came in before me, whose name is Belteshazzar according to the name of my god, and in whom is a spirit of the holy gods; and I related the dream to him, saying,

Over---

9 'Belteshazzar, chief of the soothsayer priests, since I know that a spirit of the holy gods is in you and no secret baffles you, tell me the visions of my dream which I have seen, along with its interpretation. [\*]

## Matthew 11:25

25 At that time Jesus said, “I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and intelligent, and have revealed them to infants. [<sup>\*</sup>]

## Jeremiah 27:6-7

- 6 Now I have given all these lands into the hand of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, My servant, and I have given him also the wild animals of the field to serve him. 7 All nations shall serve him and his sons and his grandson until the time of his own land comes; then many nations and great kings will make him their servant. [✱]

## Daniel 5:5-9

5 Suddenly the fingers of a human hand emerged and began writing opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, and the king saw the back of the hand that did the writing. 6 Then the king's face became pale and his thoughts alarmed him, and his hip joints loosened and his knees began knocking together.

Over---

7 The king called aloud to bring in the sorcerers, the Chaldeans, and the diviners. The king began speaking and said to the wise men of Babylon, “Anyone who can read this inscription and explain its interpretation to me shall be clothed with purple and have a necklace of gold around his neck, and have authority as third ruler in the kingdom.”

Over---



- 8 Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the inscription or make known its interpretation to the king. 9 Then King Belshazzar was greatly alarmed, his face grew even more pale, and his nobles were perplexed. [<sup>\*</sup>]

## Daniel 6:6-9

6 Then these commissioners and satraps came by agreement to the king and spoke to him as follows: “King Darius, live forever! 7 All the commissioners of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the counselors and the governors, have consulted together that the king should establish a statute and enforce an injunction that anyone who offers a prayer to any god or person besides you, O king, for thirty days, shall be thrown into the lions’ den. Over

8 Now, O king, establish the injunction and sign the document so that it will not be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which may not be revoked.” 9

Thereupon, King Darius signed the document, that is, the injunction. [\*\_]

## Daniel 6:10-11

10 Now when Daniel learned that the document was signed, he entered his house (and in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and offering praise before his God, just as he had been doing previously. 11 Then these men came by agreement and found Daniel offering a prayer and imploring favor before his God. [Over---]

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles 6:34-39

- 34 When Your people go out to battle against their enemies, by whatever way You shall send them, and they pray to You toward this city which You have chosen and the house which I have built for Your name, 35 then hear from heaven their prayer and their supplication, and maintain their cause. 36 When they sin against You (for there is no man who does not sin) and You are angry with them and deliver them to an enemy, so that they take them away captive to a land far off or near, Over---

37 if they take thought in the land where they are taken captive, and repent and make supplication to You in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have committed iniquity and have acted wickedly'; 38 if they return to You with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, where they have been taken captive, and pray toward their land which You have given to their fathers and the city which You have chosen, and toward the house which I have built for Your name, Over---

39 then hear from heaven, from Your dwelling place, their prayer and supplications, and maintain their cause and forgive Your people who have sinned against You.

[End---] [\*]

## Daniel 6:18-20

18 Then the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting, and no entertainment was brought before him; and his sleep fled from him.

19 Then the king got up at dawn, at the break of day, and went in a hurry to the lions' den.

Over---



20 And when he had come near the den to Daniel, he cried out with a troubled voice. The king began speaking and said to Daniel, “Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you continually serve, been able to rescue you from the lions?” [\*]

Daniel 4:17

17 “This sentence is by the decree of the angelic watchers,  
And the decision is a command of the holy ones,  
In order that the living may know  
That the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind,  
And He grants it to whomever He wishes  
And sets over it the lowliest of people.” [<sup>\*</sup>]

## Daniel 4:10-18

10'Now these were the visions in my mind as I lay on my bed: I was looking, and behold, there was a tree in the middle of the earth and its height was great.

11'The tree grew large and became strong

And its height reached to the sky,

And it was visible to the end of the whole earth.

Over---

12 'Its foliage was beautiful and its fruit abundant,  
And in it was food for all.

The animals of the field found shade under it,  
And the birds of the sky lived in its branches,  
And all living creatures fed from it.

13 'I was looking in the visions in my mind as I lay on my bed,  
and behold, an angelic watcher, a holy one, descended from  
heaven. Over---

14'He shouted out and spoke as follows:

“Chop down the tree and cut off its branches,  
Shake off its foliage and scatter its fruit;  
Let the animals flee from under it  
And the birds from its branches.

15“Yet leave the stump with its roots in the ground,  
But with a band of iron and bronze around it  
In the new grass of the field;  
And let him be drenched with the dew of heaven,  
And let him share with the animals in the grass of the earth.

Over---

16 “Let his mind change from that of a human  
And let an animal’s mind be given to him,  
And let seven periods of time pass over him.

17 “This sentence is by the decree of the angelic watchers,  
And the decision is a command of the holy ones,  
In order that the living may know  
That the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind,  
And He grants it to whomever He wishes  
And sets over it the lowliest of people.”

Over---

18 This is the dream that I, King Nebuchadnezzar, have seen. Now you, Belteshazzar, tell me its interpretation, since none of the wise men of my kingdom is able to make known to me the interpretation; but you are able, because a spirit of the holy gods is in you.'

[\*]

## Daniel 4:19b-27

9b My lord, if only the dream applied to those who hate you,  
and its interpretation to your adversaries! 20 The tree that  
you saw, which became large and grew strong, whose height  
reached to the sky and was visible to all the earth, 21 and  
whose foliage was beautiful and its fruit abundant, and in  
which was food for all, under which the animals of the field  
lived and in whose branches the birds of the sky settled— 22  
it is you, O king; for you have become great [Over---]



and grown strong, and your majesty has become great and reached to the sky, and your dominion to the end of the earth. 23 And in that the king saw an angelic watcher, a holy one, descending from heaven and saying, “Chop down the tree and destroy it; yet leave the stump with its roots in the ground, but with a band of iron and bronze around it in the new grass of the field, let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, and let him share with the animals of the field until seven periods of time pass over him,” [Over---

24 this is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the Most High, which has come upon my lord the king: 25 that you be driven away from mankind and your dwelling place be with the animals of the field, and you be given grass to eat like cattle and be drenched with the dew of heaven; and seven periods of time will pass over you, until you recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind and bestows it on whomever He wishes. [Over---]

26 And in that it was commanded to leave the stump with the roots of the tree, your kingdom will remain as yours after you recognize that it is Heaven that rules. 27 Therefore, O king, may my advice be pleasing to you: wipe away your sin by doing righteousness, and your wrongdoings by showing mercy to the poor, in case there may be a prolonging of your prosperity.' [\*]

## Daniel 4:28-37

28 “All of this happened to Nebuchadnezzar the king.

29 Twelve months later he was walking on the roof of

the royal palace of Babylon. 30 The king began

speaking and was saying, ‘Is this not Babylon the

great, which I myself have built as a royal residence

by the might of my power and for the honor of my

majesty?’ [Over---]

31 While the word was still in the king's mouth, a voice came from heaven, saying, 'King Nebuchadnezzar, to you it is declared: sovereignty has been removed from you, 32 and you will be driven away from mankind, and your dwelling place will be with the animals of the field. You will be given grass to eat like cattle, and seven periods of time will pass over you until you recognize that the Most High is ruler over the realm of mankind and bestows it on whomever He wishes.' [Over---]

33 Immediately the word concerning Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled; and he was driven away from mankind and began eating grass like cattle, and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair had grown like eagles' feathers and his nails like birds' claws.

34 "But at the end of that period, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven and my reason returned to me, and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever; [Over---]

For His dominion is an everlasting dominion,

And His kingdom endures from generation to generation.

35“All the inhabitants of the earth are of no account,

But He does according to His will among the army of heaven

And among the inhabitants of earth;

And no one can fend off His hand

Or say to Him, ‘What have You done?’

End--- [\*]

36At that time my reason returned to me. And my majesty and splendor were restored to me for the honor of my kingdom, and my state counselors and my nobles began seeking me out; so I was reestablished in my sovereignty, and surpassing greatness was added to me. 37Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise, exalt, and honor the King of heaven, for all His works are true and His ways just; and He is able to humble those who walk in pride.”



## Hebrews 11:33

32 And what more shall I say? For time will fail me if I tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, 33 who by faith conquered kingdoms, performed *acts of* righteousness, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions... End [\*]