

# The Book of Daniel Keeping Faith In Babylon

SURVEY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

BIBLE STUDY & DISCUSSION GROUP

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# Introduction

## Daniel

- Sixth-century B. C. prophet
- Jewish Babylonian captive
- Noble, possibly of royal lineage

## Background

- Book opens after King Nebuchadnezzar's first siege of Judah in 605 B.C.
- Daniel and friends brought to Babylon
- Daniel's ministry ends sometime after the third year of the reign of Cyrus the Great, the Medo-Persian King
- Purpose: To encourage hope during the times of the Gentiles. Hope is promoting by emphasizing God's rule is greater than the kingdom of men.
- Structure: Daniel is a narrative that includes history, prophesy, and apocalyptic visions.

## OUTLINE

- I. The Godly Remnant In The Times of the Gentiles (1:1-21)
  - A. Daniel and Friends in Babylonian Captivity vs. 1-7
  - B. Daniel and the King's food vs. 8-16
  - C. Daniel and the Lord's reward vs. 17-21
- II. God's Sovereignty over the Times of the Gentiles (2:1-7-28)
  - A. Daniel and the king's dream - 2:1-49
  - B. Daniel's friends and the fiery furnace - 3:1-30
  - C. Nebuchadnezzar's pride, madness, and repentance – 4:1-37
  - D. Belshazzar's feast and the writing on the wall – 5:1-30
  - E. Daniel in the lions' den – 6:1-28
  - F. Daniel's vision of the four beast, the ancient of days, and the Son of Man – 7:1-8

# Introduction

## OUTLINE CONTINUED

- III. God’s people in the Times of the Gentiles (8:1-12:13)
  - A. Daniel’s vision of the ram and the male goat – 8:1-27
  - B. Daniel’s prayer and the vision of the 70 weeks – (9:1-27)
  - C. Daniel and his final visions (10:1-12:13)

### Timeline of Events:

650 – 620 B. C.

620-605 B. C.

605-560 B.C.

560-525 B.C.

## Daniel 1

### The Godly Remnant in the Times of the Gentiles

- I. Captivity in Babylon – vs. 1-7
- II. Faithfulness in Babylon – vs. 8-16
- III. Faithfulness Rewarded – vs. 17-21

### Conclusion/Questions/Comments:

- What is the meaning of the “Times of the Gentiles”?
- Why would the king’s food and wine defile Daniel and his friends?
- What can we learn and/or apply from this chapter?