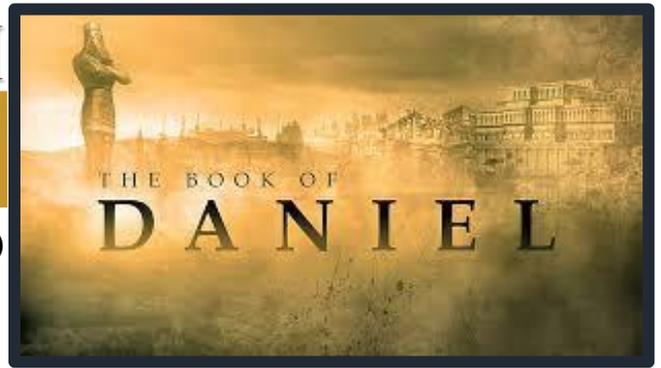


# HEROES OF THE FAITH

## DANIEL

14 October 2020

### Introduction



- **Title:** Named after the book's main character.
- **Author:** 2 Timothy 3:16
- **Writer:** According to Jewish & Christian tradition is Daniel. (8:1, 9:2, 20, 10:2; Matthew 24:15)
- **Date:** 605 B.C. – 532/530 { Completed in retirement – approximately 90-years old. }
- **Languages:** Hebrew (chapters 1, 8-12) & Aramaic (chapters 2-7) – two languages, like Ezra.
- **History**

#### ❖ Israel: God united the kingdom

- ❑ King David: 1110 B.C. – 970 B.C.
- ❑ King Solomon: 970 B.C. – 930 B.C.

#### ❖ Israel: The divided kingdom.

##### ❑ The Northern Kingdom

- 19 kings: All bad.
- Known As: Israel
- Capital City: Samaria
- Tribes: 10
- Captivity: Assyrian Empire in 722 B.C.

##### ❑ The Southern Kingdom

- 19 kings/1 Queen: 12 bad, 4 good and bad, & 4 good.
- Known As: Judah
- Capital City: Jerusalem
- Tribes: 2
- Captivity: Babylonian Empire in 586 B.C.
- King: Jehoiachim (609-598 B.C.)
- Daniel, taken into exile (606 B.C.), was a youth of nobility living in Jerusalem.



#### ➤ Study Point: Jesus is the focus of Scripture.

#### ❖ God's sovereignty & His divine plan

##### ❑ Genesis 3:15 (proto-euangeleon - first Gospel) / Galatians 4:4

- God prophesied Messiah would come...foreshadows His coming. (Genesis)
- God fulfilled His prophecy by sending the God-man, Messiah. (Galatians)
- Creator God is sovereign & will carry out His plan of salvation & redemption.



❑ Pillars/threads of God's divine plan.

○ God never does anything without a purpose.

I. Genesis 12:1-3: The *family* of the prophesied Messiah (*Gospel*).

II Genesis 49:9-10: The *tribe* of the prophesied Messiah.

- Genesis 35:22: Reuben committed adultery with his dad's concubine.
- Genesis 34: Simeon & Levi murdered the Hivites (Dinah).

III. 2 Samuel 7:15-16: The *royalty* of the prophesied Messiah. (Ruth 4:17-22)

IV. Two Points: Tribe of Judah. Relationship with God.

❑ The Creator of the universe dictates human history & human empires.

○ God sets up and removes kings, as He pleases. (2:21; 4:34-37)

○ Man's kingdoms will end.

○ God will replace man's kingdoms with His eternal kingdom. (2:44; 7:27)

○ Chuck Swindoll

• *"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we embrace for that day...I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it...We are in charge of our attitudes."*

○ God will raise His faithful to glory, honor, & eternal life in His eternal kingdom. (12:1-3)

➤ Key Themes

1. God is sovereign over human history – for both those who rebel against Him and for those who seek to destroy His people (chapter 8). God rules over conflicts & events. (chapter 12)
2. Faithfulness is a choice. It is true for one who is free, and, for one who is living in captivity. (chapter 1)
3. God will use, elevate, protect, and defend His faithful ones where they are. But, this is no guarantee they may not sacrifice their lives. (3:16-18)
4. When one chooses to Proverbs 3:5-6, while living out Philippians 4:13, understanding he must 1 Peter 5:6-7, God will use him to alter human history in unfathomable ways.
5. God can humble even the greatest leader, if He chooses to do so. (chapters 4 & 5)
6. Persecution, torment, and difficult times will increasingly become more difficult for every Christian as we draw nearer to Christ's triumphant second return (chapters 2 & 7). God will end man's kingdoms and replace them with His own eternal kingdom. One ruled by "One like a son of man" – a figure combining clear human traits and clear divinity. (7:13-14)
7. Israel rebelled against God. God judged. He allowed the Babylonians to take them into captivity. Israel would return home. But, repeat the cycle again. God would allow future captors to do heinous things to Israel. (chapters 8-9, & 12)
8. Christians must be intentional in pursuing God, as they live in a hostile world. (11:33-35)

