

Daniel's Amazing Prophecies

Key Verse: "Those who are wise will understand" Daniel 12.10

Daniel was deported from Israel to Babylon under captivity by King Nebuchadnezzar in BC606-5. There he rose to prominence as a civic leader due to his wisdom and prophetic gifts which God had given him. His prophecies which have already been fulfilled are so amazingly accurate we cannot doubt that which is to come. Let us read with simple acceptance, and seek to understand his prophetic visions and their interpretations:

1. King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream.

Read the whole chapter for the full story. It occurred in BC602.

The dream described. Daniel 2.31-35.
The dream explained. Daniel 2.36-43.
The dream can be interpreted with considerable certainty because of the detail given. The head of gold is Babylonia. The chest and arms of silver is Medo-Persia. The midriff of brass is Greece. The legs of iron is ancient Rome. The feet of iron mixed with burnt clay is a revised empire of Rome and a confederate power. The stone is the kingdom of God, begun with the coming of Jesus Christ, but to be consummated at His coming again.

2. The Dream of the Four Beasts.

Read the whole of chapter 7. The first year of Belshazzar's reign was BC541.

The dream described 7. 1-14.
The dream explained 7.15-27.
The dream is an extension of Nebuchadnezzar's image and is interpreted by consideration to three principal themes:
The same four kingdoms are here represented as beasts, coming up out of

the sea.

There is a vision of the Ancient of Days and the Great throne of judgment; Revelation 20.11-15. One like unto a son of man, See Philippians 2.5-11, came into His kingdom. This is the stone cut out without hands.

There is more information on the fourth beast, the Roman empire in its revised format. This format includes a combination of ten horns or military powers that come up out of the Roman empire. They are the brittle element which unlike the iron of the legs, are easily shattered. Another power appears which shatters three of the ten, and the others submit in fear. This leader will speak against the Most High, he will persecute the saints, he will rule for 3½ years, and then his authority will be removed.

3. The dream of the Ram and Goat.

Read the whole of chapter 8. It occurred two years later in BC538.

The dream described; 8.3-14.
The dream explained; 8.15-26.
The ram was the kingdom of Media and Persia which replaced that of Babylonia as told in Daniel chapter five. The goat

was Greece and the large horn Alexander the Great, who died in his youth and his kingdom was divided between his four generals. The horn which grew up from them was Antiochus Epiphanes, king of Syria BC215-164.

This dream was prophetic in its day, but we can look on it mostly as history. It is significant to us because:

It is part of God's word, and God's unfolding plan of redemption.

It shows the unerring accuracy of Bible prophecy.

It is part of the prophetic revelation of things yet to come. Note v17 and v26.

4. The Seventy Weeks. Chapter 9 bears directly on the information in this study, and provides a real time framework to Daniel's prophetic dreams. We hold this chapter over for special consideration.

5. The Apocalypse of Daniel.

Read chapters 9-12. This final section of the book falls into three parts. We follow the outline of W. Graham Scroggie.

Unfolding Drama of Redemption v.I, p.428

Part 1; 10.4-11.1 shows the influence of angels in the affairs of earth, and the cosmic nature of the plan of the ages,

Assignment. Re-read the book of Daniel in an easy to read version then in a literal translation. Ask the Lord to speak to you from His word.

as a battleground between God and the usurper, Satan, as discussed last study. Part 2; 11.2-35 shows a period of history which was about to begin in Daniel's day and included the period covered by the vision of the ram and the goat. The information given prophetically is precise in detail for the history of the world centred around Palestine for the next four hundred years. So much so that critics from at least the day of Porphyry (234-305AD) have refused to believe it to be genuinely prophetic. You can down-load a summary of these events matched to corresponding verse numbers from our web-site. See below. Or you may obtain a copy by writing to our Secretary.

Part 3; 11.36-12.13 remains as yet unfulfilled. It is a vision of the days of 'the time of end'. See 11.40, 12.1&4. Also it includes the resurrection of the dead, some to everlasting life and others to everlasting shame. This is the time when Jesus will come again to establish his Kingdom, and those who are His will rule with Him, and so forever be with the Lord. See 1 Thessalonians 4.13-18; 1 Corinthians 15.20-28. This event has yet to occur. This portion of Scripture, as yet lays before us. It will be our subject as we take up further studies.

Welcome

Glen Park Gospel Church

Lower Road, Eltham North

Sundays 10.30 am

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