

Book of DANIEL



The book of Daniel is one of the most significant prophecy books in the Old Testament.

Taken into captivity as a 15 year old youth, Daniel

distinguished himself in wisdom, administration, and spiritual leadership. When all the wise men, soothsayers, and false prophets of Babylon, the cradle of world idolatry, could not recall or interpret the king's dream, Daniel, the servant of God, revealed the meaning of the dream in one of the most fascinating prophecies in the Old Testament.

The interpretation of the dream **foretold** God's dealing with both the children of Israel AND the years of the so-called "times of the Gentiles" (Luke 21:24).

A proper understanding of Daniel assists in a proper interpretation of the book of Revelation, for many of the same symbols and parallel prophecies are used in both books.

The **image** vision God gave to King Nebuchadnezzar is probably the root prophecy of the "**Times of the Gentiles.**" This prophecy details world events from Daniel's day (605 B.C.) until the kingdom of Antichrist is displaced at the second coming of Christ. (See brochure "Times of the Gentiles".

One of the distinguishing features of the book of Daniel is the diverse (or different)



views of government presented by God and man. The kingdom of Babylon (chap. 2), is pictured by many **people**

to be representative of the best in **human** government, an image of stability, law, and order. However, **God's view** of government, seen through *Daniel chapters 7—12*, reveals human history and empires as a series of rapacious (excessively grasping or

covetous) beasts. Historically, God's view has been the most accurate, for history reveals that nothing has been more destructive of human beings than government.

Daniel does not mention the Church Age, but does allude to the "one week" (seven years) yet to come, called elsewhere the "tribulation" (*Dan. 9:27*) and the "time of Jacob's trouble" (*Jer. 30:7*), which ends with the second coming of Christ and "**the end of this age**" (*Matt. 13:40*).

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Where Christ Jesus is still Lord*

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DANIEL'S SEVENTY WEEKS (DETERMINED TIME)

The prophecy of the "seventy weeks" is the major biblical prophecy about future events **related to the nation of Israel**—FROM the decree to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem TO the first and second comings of the Messiah. Each "week" (Hebr. Shavuah) is a unit of seven years, thus the seventy "sevens" constitute a total of 490 years. **Six things** are predicted regarding the Jews that will occur during these 490 years: **1.** Their transgression will be finished; **2)** their "sins" will end; **3)** "reconciliation for iniquity" will be made; **4)** "everlasting righteousness" will become a reality; **5)** prophecy will be sealed up; and **6)** the "Most Holy" will be anointed. These 6 things will not be completely fulfilled until the entire 490 years transpire. Some biblical scholars suggest that the first 69 "weeks" (483 years) began with the decree that was issued to Nehemiah to rebuild Jerusalem in 445-444 B.C. and ended during the week of Jesus' crucifixion. A gap apparently exists in this prophecy between the 69th and 70th weeks. Many prophecy scholars believe that this gap corresponds with the Church Age; therefore as long as the Church Age continues, the "70th week of Daniel" will remain future. According to this teaching, after Christ raptures His Church, the clock of God's judgment will count off the final "week" of Daniel. This 70th week of Daniel (9: 27) then is synonymous with the 7 year Tribulation period.

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Our Vision

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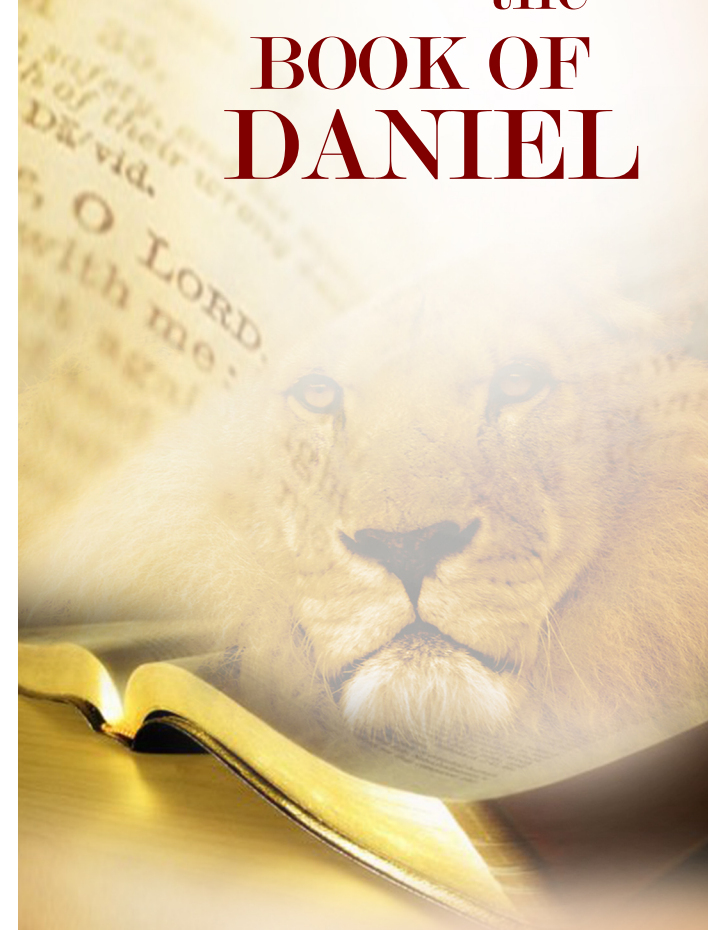
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the BOOK OF DANIEL



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