



Welcome
to
Studio Scriptura

SOT.12
Daniel

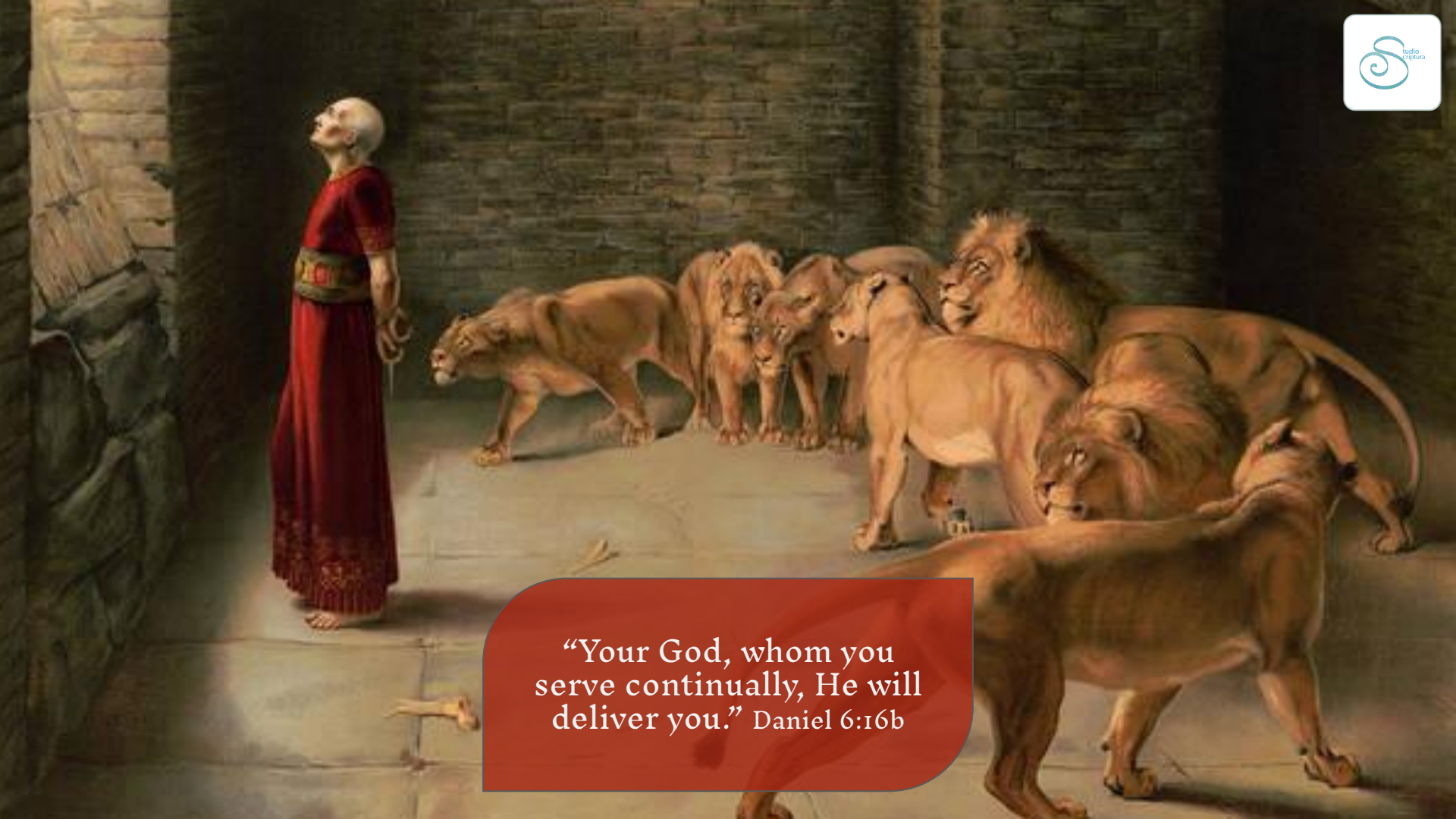


Logistics & Learning Objectives:

1. www.studioscriptura.com
2. walter@studioscriptura.com
3. Participants will gain a high level understanding of the Prophet Daniel



New King James Version,
1988. Nashville: Holman
Bible Publishers.



“Your God, whom you
serve continually, He will
deliver you.” Daniel 6:16b

SUMMARY:

Combines the personal histories and prophecies of Daniel during the Babylonian captivity and the first few years of the Persian era.

Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian King, attacked the city of Jerusalem in August 605 BC and removed Jehoiakim the king of Judah; sometime after he defeated the Egyptians at the battle of Carchemish.

Daniel ("God is my Judge"), a contemporary of Jeremiah and Ezekiel, went into captivity to Babylon in 605 BC. He lived through the entire 70 years of the Babylonian captivity.

The detailed and accurate prophecies in the book of Daniel are the target of criticism by those who reject the concept of prophecy.

The book is made up primarily of historical narrative (chaps. 1–6) and apocalyptic prophetic visions (chaps. 7–12).

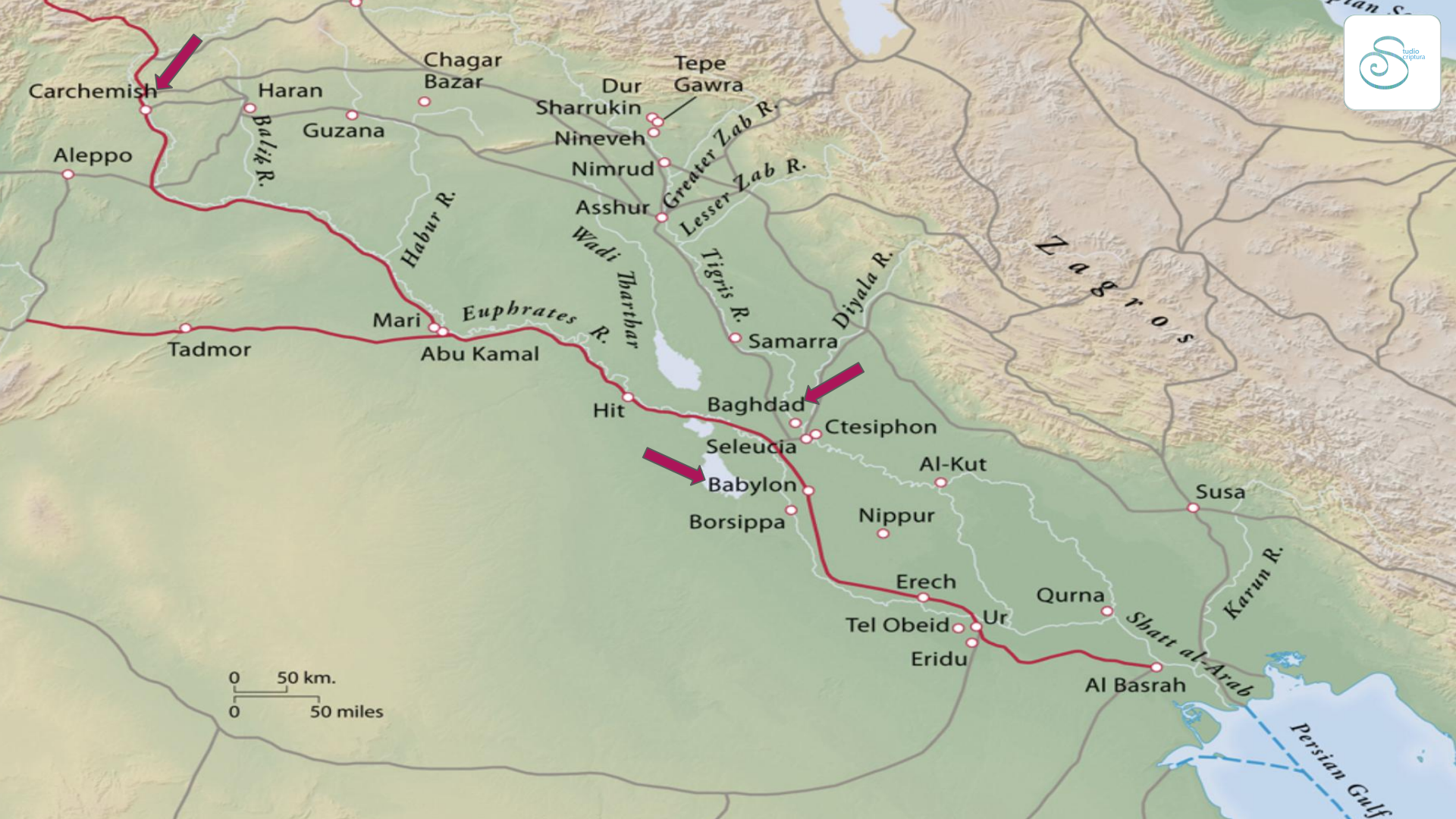
SUMMARY *(continued):*

The book also underscores the importance of faith, courage, hope, character, and endurance. Trusting God and obedience even at the risk of one's life.

Daniel emphasizes the sovereignty of God over the nations of the world and over the nation of Israel.

The LORD sets up and takes down human kings, limits their authority, reveals His secrets to whomever He chooses, and determines the destiny of people, nations, the future, and **the end of the world.**

Daniel predicts the whole future of Israel, their return from captivity, rebuilding the temple, conflicts of the future, coming of Messiah, Messiah's death, the destruction of Jerusalem and the second temple, blindness in part, the rise of Antichrist, the time of tribulation, the revival of Israel, the triumphal return, and the future Messianic kingdom.



Carchemish

Haran

Chagar Bazar

Dur Sharrukin

Tepe Gawra

Aleppo

Guzana

Nineveh

Nimrud

Asshur

Habur R.

Greater Zab R.

Lesser Zab R.

Balikh R.

Wadi Tharthar

Tigris R.

Diyala R.

Zagros

Mari

Euphrates R.

Tadmor

Abu Kamal

Samarra

Hit

Baghdad

Ctesiphon

Seleucia

Al-Kut

Babylon

Nippur

Susa

Borsippa

Erech

Qurna

Tel Obeid

Ur

Shatt al-Arab

Eridu

Al Basrah

0 50 km.
0 50 miles

Persian Gulf

DANIEL'S PERSONAL HISTORY (1-6)

The book of Daniel begins with Daniel and his three friends, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah being taken captive to Babylon as intellectual hostages by Nebuchadnezzar and placed into a three-year training program to prepare them for government service.

With God's blessing they prove themselves to be "10 times better" than all the other captive students.

The second chapter involves Nebuchadnezzar's fantastic dream of a great metallic statue and his insistence that the wise men and magicians of Babylon reproduce and interpret his dream, which Daniel does for the king.

The head of gold symbolized Nebuchadnezzar and the kingdom of Babylon, the second kingdom as Media-Persia (arms of silver) and the third as Greece (belly of brass). The fourth kingdom is unnamed in Daniel, but most commentators identify it with Rome.

DANIEL'S PERSONAL HISTORY *(continued)*

Daniel's three companions are the subjects of a requirement to worship the authority of the state, which Nebuchadnezzar required all of his officials.

Nebuchadnezzar dies (562 BC) and the biblical account skips over several of monarchs who apparently had little or no contact with Daniel. The biblical account restarts at the rule of Belshazzar whose kingdom is taken by the Medes and the Persians.

Daniel, now in his eighties, refused to comply with a requirement to worship the authority of the state, and continues praying - with his windows open!

Daniel is thrown into the lions' den overnight but survives because of God's protection.

DANIEL'S PERSONAL HISTORY (1-6)

Young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans. Now from among those of the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Daniel 1:4, 6

But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. Daniel 1:8

And in all matters of wisdom and understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm. Daniel 1:20

But there is a God in heaven who reveals secrets, and He has made known to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days. Your dream, and the visions of your head upon your bed, were these: Daniel 2:28

Then the king promoted Daniel and gave him many great gifts; and he made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon. Daniel 2:48

DANIEL'S PERSONAL HISTORY *(continued)*

There are certain Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego; these men, O king, have not paid due regard to you. They do not serve your gods or worship the gold image which you have set up." Daniel 3:12

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up." Daniel 3:16-18

"Look!" he answered, "I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire; and they are not hurt, and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God." Daniel 3:25

Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity." Daniel 4:27
And they shall drive you from men, and your dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field. They shall make you eat grass like oxen; and seven times shall pass over you, until you know that the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses." Daniel 4:32



DANIEL'S PERSONAL HISTORY *(continued)*

And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, lifted my eyes to heaven, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever. For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom is from generation to generation. All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; He does according to His will in the army of heaven And among the inhabitants of the earth. No one can restrain His hand Or say to Him, "What have You done?" Daniel 4:34-35

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Belshazzar the king made a great feast for a thousand of his lords, and drank wine in the presence of the thousand. Daniel 5:1

Then they brought the gold vessels that had been taken from the temple of the house of God which had been in Jerusalem; and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from them. Daniel 5:3

In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote. Daniel 5:5

"And this is the inscription that was written: MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. This is the interpretation of each word. MENE: God has numbered your kingdom, and finished it; TEKEL: You have been weighed in the balances, and found wanting; PERES: Your kingdom has been divided, and given to the Medes and Persians." Daniel 5:25-27

## DANIEL'S PERSONAL HISTORY *(continued)*

It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred and twenty satraps, to be over the whole kingdom; and over these, three governors, of whom Daniel was one, that the satraps might give account to them, so that the king would suffer no loss. Daniel 6:1-2

Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God." Daniel 6:5

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days. Daniel 6:10

So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. Daniel 6:16a

And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?" Daniel 6:20

Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God. Daniel 6:23

## DANIEL'S PERSONAL HISTORY *(continued)*

And he **believed** in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness. Genesis 15:6

Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you **believe** in Him whom He sent." John 6:28-29

Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have **believed**. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." John 20:29

Daniel 6:20

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and in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he had prayed and gave thanks before his God, as

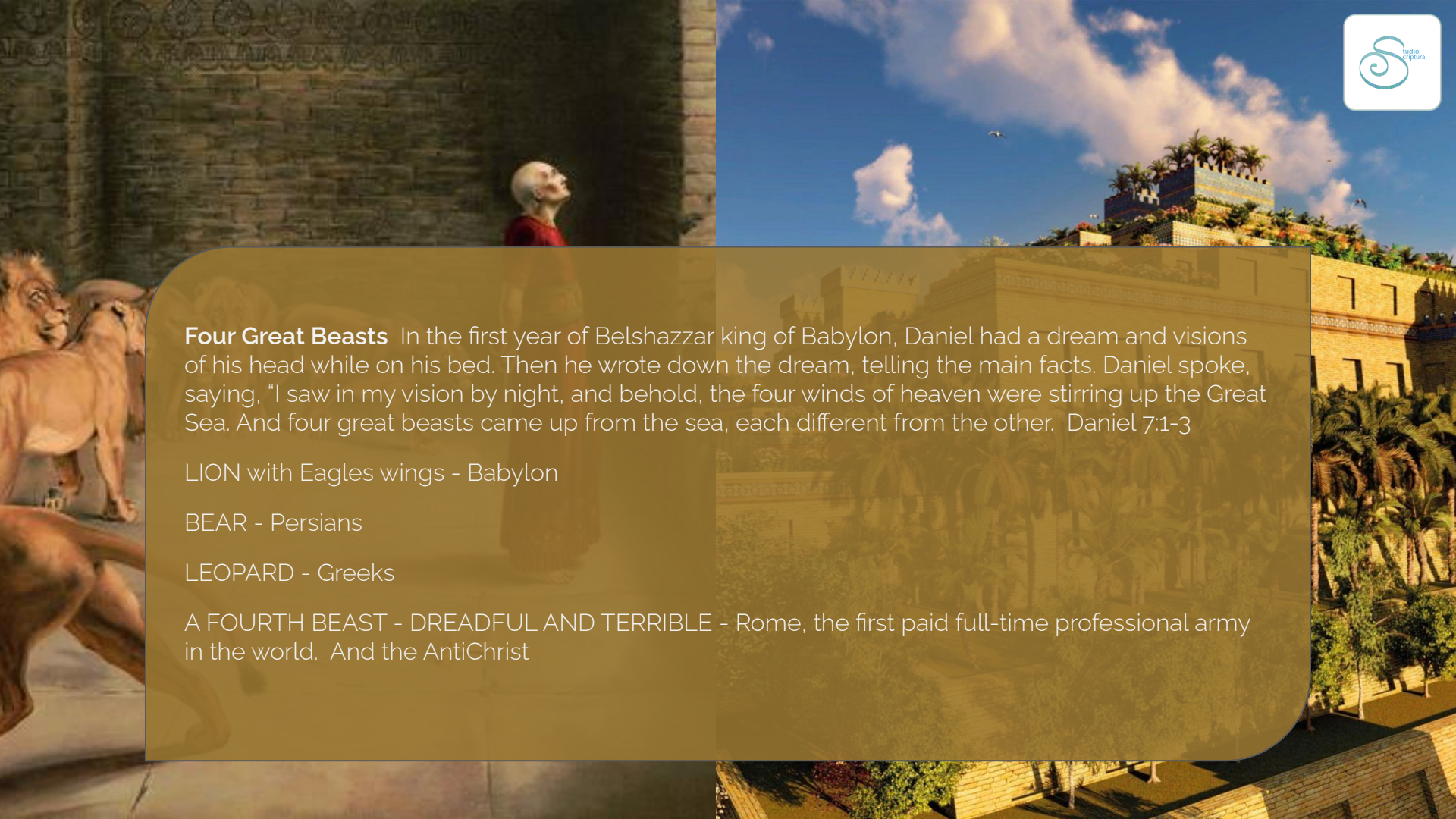
into the den of lions. Daniel 6:16a

Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, "How has it come about that you continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?"

## DANIEL'S PROPHETIC VISIONS (7-12):

The second half of the book records four prophetic visions of future events that will affect the years ahead.

**FOUR BEASTS** comparable to the four elements in the metallic statue in chapter 2 - Daniel's vision went beyond that of Nebuchadnezzar's dream in focusing on the 10 horns of the fourth beast and a little horn which came up afterward and eventually "made war with the holy ones" for three and one-half "times". The book of Revelation calls this individual the Beast (Rev 13:1-11) and generally designated as the AntiChrist.

The background image is a composite. On the left, a man with a shaved head and a red tunic (Daniel) looks up in a stone-walled enclosure. On the right, a colorful, tiered ziggurat with palm trees is set against a blue sky with white clouds. A semi-transparent olive-green box with rounded corners is overlaid in the center, containing text.

**Four Great Beasts** In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts. Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other. Daniel 7:1-3

LION with Eagles wings - Babylon

BEAR - Persians

LEOPARD - Greeks

A FOURTH BEAST - DREADFUL AND TERRIBLE - Rome, the first paid full-time professional army in the world. And the AntiChrist



And they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?" And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months (3.5 years).

Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation. All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Revelation 13:4b-8

**Four Great Beasts** In the first year of his reign, I saw four beasts, each with a different face. The first was like a lion, the second like an ox, the third like a leopard, and the fourth like a man. Each came from a different part of the world. Daniel 7:1-3

LION with Eagles wings - Babylon

BEAR - Persians

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## DANIEL'S PROPHETIC VISIONS *(continued)*:

### One like the Son of Man

9 "I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire; 10 A fiery stream issued And came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, And the books were opened.

11 "I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame. 12 As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

13 "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him. 14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.

Daniel 7:9-14

## DANIEL'S PROPHETIC VISIONS *(continued)*:

**RAM and the GOAT** pictures the coming clash between Persia and Greece. In this prophecy Daniel predicted the triumph of Greece over Persia 200 years in advance. Alexander defeated the Persians at Issus in 333 BC and Arbela in 331 BC,

In the third year of the reign of King Belshazzar a vision appeared to me - to me, Daniel - after the one that appeared to me the first time. Daniel 8:1

Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai (Iran, Iraq border), who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision." Daniel 8:15-16

Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. And I prayed to the Lord my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments. Daniel 9:3-5

## DANIEL'S PROPHETIC VISIONS *(continued)*:

**SEVENTY SEVENS** In response to Daniel's' prayer, the angel Gabriel comes to him to reveal the prophecy of the *70 sevens*.  $70 \times 7$  (490 years) would culminate in *sealing up vision and prophecy* and *anoint the most holy place*.. But after seven sevens and 62 sevens ( $69 \times 7 = 483$  years), the *Messiah would be cut off (killed)* and the city (Jerusalem) and the sanctuary (temple) would be destroyed. During the final *seven years* (the *seventieth seven*), the *coming prince* (Antichrist) will break his covenant with the Jews and bring about the *abomination of desolation*. Jesus clearly indicated that the *abomination* was still a future event, indicating that this prophecy was not fulfilled by Antiochus Epiphanes (Matt 24:15).

At the beginning of your supplications the command went out, and I have come to tell you, for you are greatly beloved; therefore consider the matter, and understand the vision: Daniel 9:23

"**Seventy weeks** are determined for your people and for your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

"Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the command to restore and build Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince, There shall be **seven weeks** and **sixty-two weeks**; the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times. "And after the sixty-two weeks **Messiah shall be cut off**, but not for Himself; and the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end of it shall be with a flood, and till the end of the war desolations are determined.

Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for **one week**; but in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of **abominations** shall be one who makes **desolate**, even until the consummation, which is determined, is poured out on the desolate." Daniel 9:24-27

"And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come. "Therefore when you see the **abomination of desolation**, spoken of by **Daniel the prophet**, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand) ... For then there will be **great tribulation**, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be. **Matthew 24:14-15, 21**

## DANIEL'S 70 WEEKS

- Since Jesus clearly references this passage from Daniel in the Olivet Discourse, theologians and students of Eschatology have grappled with this passage for many years.
- In context of the Babylonian exile; God expelled the Israelites from the Promised Land for seventy years due to their disobedience to the Covenant. But Daniel then prophecies about 70 weeks or 70 groups of 7 years i.e., 490 years:
- Seven weeks >>> Sixty-two weeks >>> one week
- 49 years >>> 434 years >>> 7 years
- Restore and rebuild >>> Messiah cut off >>> Everlasting righteousness
- It appears clear that the final week (a final period of 7 years) of Daniel's prophecy is yet to be fulfilled during the Great Tribulation and the time for the conversion of Israel.

## THE END

4 "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall increase." 8 Although I heard, I did not understand. Then I said, "My lord, what shall be the end of these things?" 9 And he said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. 10 Many shall be purified, made white, and refined, but the wicked shall do wickedly; and none of the wicked shall understand, but the wise shall understand. 11 "And from the time that the daily sacrifice is taken away, and the **abomination of desolation** is set up, there shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days. 12 Blessed is he who waits, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days. 13 "But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days." Daniel 12:4, 8-13

## THE END

4 "But you, Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end; many shall run to a

**He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming quickly."  
Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus! Revelation 22:20**

abomination or desolation shall be one thousand two hundred and ninety days.

12 Blessed is he who waits for him, and comes to the one thousand three hundred and thirty-five days. 13

"But you, Daniel, shut up your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days." Daniel 12:4, 8-13

$1,290 / 365 = 3.5$  years

Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate." Daniel 9:27

But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. Revelation 12:14

# So What & Now What?



## ❑ Written Short Answer and/or Discuss:

- ❑ Are you prepared (spiritually) for the end of the world? (50 words)
- ❑ Does Daniel stand alone or is it hinged with other parts of the Scripture? How is it so hinged? (150 words)
- ❑ How would you explain Daniel's 70 weeks to someone? (100 words)
- ❑ What do we learn in Daniel about the believers interaction with and responsibility to the state authorities? (100 words)
- ❑ What do we learn about resolute courage in Daniel? (100 words)



