

Last Sunday we looked at the book of Daniel as a whole! Here are further details as we dive into Daniel chapter 1 on Sunday

INTRODUCTION

1. The book of Daniel...
 - a. The first six chapters contain accounts of faith that inspire both young and old
 - b. The last six chapters are filled with apocalyptic visions
2. It is a book that has often been attacked and abused...
 - a. Attacked by liberals who deny its inspiration
 - b. Abused by many who have taken its visions out of context to support all kinds of wild theories concerning the second coming of Christ
3. But when properly read and understood, the book of Daniel can...
 - a. Inspire us to greater faithfulness in our service to God
 - b. Strengthen our faith in the inspiration of the Bible

I. DANIEL

- A. The name "Daniel" means "God is my judge"
- B. He was a person of deep and abiding faith
 1. As a youth, he purposed not to defile himself - [Dan 1:8](#)
 2. When old, he persisted in serving God despite threats against his life - [Dan 6:10](#)
- C. God blessed Daniel because of his faith
 1. He rose to great heights in the kingdoms of Babylon and Persia - [Dan 2:48](#); [6:1-3](#)
 2. He served as a statesman, a counselor to kings, and a prophet of God
- D. Daniel was contemporary (living or existing at the same time) with Jeremiah and Ezekiel
 1. **Jeremiah** prophesied in Jerusalem before and during the Babylonian exile (626-528 B.C.)
 2. **Ezekiel** prophesied in Babylon among the exiles (592-570 B.C.)
 3. **Daniel** prophesied in the capital of Babylon (605-586 B.C.)
- E. Nothing is known of his personal life outside of the book
 1. He descended from one of Judah's prominent families, if not from royal blood - [Dan 1:3](#)
 2. At an early age (12-18) he was taken from his family to be trained in the courts of Babylon - [Dan 1:3-4](#)
 3. Whether he ever married is uncertain

II. THE BOOK OF DANIEL

A. A BRIEF OUTLINE...

1. God's Providence In History - **1:1 to 6:28**
 - a. Daniel and his determination to be pure - **1:1-21**
 - b. Nebuchadnezzar's dream and Daniel's promotion - **2:1-49**
 - c. Faith in the face of fire by Daniel's friends - **3:1-30**
 - d. Nebuchadnezzar's second dream and temporary insanity - **4:1-37**
 - e. The writing on the wall and fall of Belshazzar - **5:1-31**
 - f. Darius and his den of lions - **6:1-28**
2. God's Purpose In History - **7:1 to 12:13**
 - a. Daniel's dream of the four beasts - **7:1-28**
 - b. Daniel's dream of the ram and the goat - **8:1-27**
 - c. Daniel's prayer, and the vision of the seventy weeks - **9:1-27**
 - d. Daniel's vision of the time of the end - **10:1-12:13**