

Daniel

**“God Rules in the Kingdoms of
Men”**

**Winter Session 2009
Embry Hills church of Christ**

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Book of Daniel == Winter Session 2009
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Lesson Number/Subject and Chapters Covered/Dates

Lesson 1	Introduction and historical background	January 3
Lesson 2	Daniel's and friends tests in captivity/Chapter 1	January 6
Lesson 3	Daniel's interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream/Chapter 2	January 10
Lesson 4	Daniel's companion's faith is tested/Chapter 3	January 13
Lesson 5	Nebuchadnezzar is shown God rules in the nations/Chapter 4	January 17
Lesson 6	Belshazzar's feast and Babylon's fall/Chapter 5	January 20
Lesson 7	Daniel's faith is tested/vindicated/Chapter 6	January 24
Lesson 8	Daniel's dream of four beasts and interpretation/Chapter 7	January 27
Lesson 9	Daniel's vision of the ram and he-goat/Chapter 8	January 31
Lesson 10	Daniel's prayer and vision of the seventy weeks/Chapter 9	February 3
Lesson 11	Daniel's vision of the time of the end/Chapter 10	February 7
Lesson 12	Daniel's vision of the time of the end (Cont'd)/Chapter 11	February 10
Lesson 13	Daniel's vision of the time of the end (Cont'd)/Chapter 12	February 14

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One Suggested Outline of the Book of Daniel

Outline

- I.** Prologue: The Setting==Ch 1
 - A. Historical Introduction (1:1-2)
 - B. Daniel and His Friends Are Taken Captive (1:3-7)
 - C. The Young Men are Faithful (1:8-16)
 - D. The Young Men Are Elevated to High Positions (1:17-21)
- II.** The Destinies of the Nations of the World==Ch 2-7
 - A. Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of the Large Statue (ch. 2)
 - B. Nebuchadnezzar's Making of the Gold Image and His Decree That It Be Worshiped (ch.3)
 - C. Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of an Enormous Tree (ch. 4)
 - D. Belshazzar's and Babylon's Downfall (ch.5)
 - E. Daniel's Deliverance (ch. 6)
 - F. Daniel's Dream of the Four Remarkable Beasts (ch.7)
- III.** The Destiny of the Nation of Israel/Times of the End (Ch 8-12)
 - A. Daniel's Vision of a Ram and a Goat (ch. 8)
 - B. Daniels Prayer and His Vision of the 70 Sevens (ch. 9)
 - C. Daniel's Vision of Israel's Future and the Times of the End (ch. 10-12)
 - 1. Revelation of things to come (10:1-3)
 - 2. Revelation from the angelic messenger (10: 4-11:1)
 - 3. Prophecies concerning Persia and Greece (11:2-4)
 - 4. Prophecies concerning Egypt and Syria (11:5-35)
 - 5. Prophecies concerning the Rome(the anti-Christ) (11:36-45)
 - 6. Distress and Deliverance (12:1)
 - 7. Two resurrections (12:2-3)
 - 8. Instructions to Daniel (12:4)
 - 9. Conclusion (12:5-13)

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Lesson One == Introduction and Historical Background

Daniel's Personal Information

- His name means "God is my judge" or "judged by God".
- His faith is widely recognized and lauded.
- His faith was demonstrated from youth to old age and in a variety of circumstances.
- He was part of the political power structure under two great world empires (Babylon and the Medo-Persian).
- He fearlessly told all heathen kings that God rules in the nations.
- He was a contemporary of both Ezekiel and Jeremiah, but there is no indication that these men ever met or conferred with each other.
- He was approximately the same age as Ezekiel and was probably twenty years younger than Jeremiah.
- His work was done for the most part in the capital city of Babylon; Jeremiah remained in the city of Jerusalem, Ezekiel worked among the exiles in rural areas of Babylon.
- Very little is revealed about his personal life except that he was of the ruling class in Jerusalem and was probably of the tribe of Judah.
- We do not know if he was married or if he had a family after being taken into exile.
- He maintained a close relationship with his three "friends" throughout his time in captivity.

Important Dates and Historical Mileposts

- His work covered the period from 605- 534 B.C.
- 612 B.C. Nineveh, the Assyrian capital city, fell and the Assyrian Empire was conquered by forces led by Nebuchadnezzar.
- 605 B.C. The Battle of Carchemish established Babylonian world military dominance/Egypt was defeated and Nebuchadnezzar came back through Jerusalem and deported a group of hostages including Daniel and his three friends to Babylon.

--597 B.C. The second group of Jews was deported to Babylon and Ezekiel was taken with this group/Jehoiachin, the king of Judah was removed from power due to his rebellious attitude toward Babylon.

--586 B.C. Jerusalem fell and the temple was destroyed/Most of the Jews who survived the attack were deported to Babylon, but Jeremiah remained among the few who stayed in Jerusalem.

--536 B.C. Babylon falls and the first remnant returns to Jerusalem/Cyrus, the Persian king, sent the first remnant back under Zerubbabel's leadership.

--520 to 516 B.C. The temple was rebuilt in Jerusalem.

--457 B.C. A second remnant returns to Jerusalem with Ezra.

--444 B.C. A third remnant return with Nehemiah and the wall around Jerusalem was rebuilt.

The Theme of Daniel “God Rules In The Kingdoms of Men”

--God shows his sovereignty among all the nations of earth.

--Daniel prophecies God would establish his eternal Kingdom despite the efforts of all the kings of the world's empires.

--Daniel shows that God and His people would triumph over all the “gods” created by the imagination of the heathen nations.

Dealing with the Attacks Leveled Against the Book's Authenticity

--The Book of Daniel has been attacked by critics probably more than any other of the prophetic works in the Old Testament in the following areas:

- 1) The dating of the book due to detailed (and extremely accurate) Predictions of the rise and fall of world empires in the future.
- 2) The miracles of the fiery furnace and lions' den were regarded by critics as fanciful stories, not actual events.
- 3) The book was written in two different languages, Aramaic and Hebrew and critics say this proves that the book was written by more than one author/Daniel 2:4 through 7:28 is written in Aramaic and the rest of the book was written in Hebrew.
- 4) The historical accuracy of many statements has been challenged by critics for many years.

--We will discuss and deal with these objections and we move through the lessons during this session.

Important Characters in the Book of Daniel

- God, Who rules among the nations.
- Daniel the author, a prophet and an important figure in the political power structure of two world empires.
- Daniel's three friends.
- Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon.
- Belshazzar, the last king of Babylon.
- Darius the king of the Meds.
- Cyrus, the king of the Persians.
- Daniel's heathen contemporaries among the ruling class in Babylon and the Medo-Persian empires.

Concluding Remarks and Discussion of Book's Structure

- The structure is similar to book of Isaiah
- Chapters 1-6 are primarily a historical narrative.
- Chapters 7-12 are primarily an apocalyptic revelation of things to come.

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Lesson Two == Daniel and his friends are tested in
captivity/Chapter One

- 1) What historical mileposts and political powers are noted in the first two verses of the chapter? Is there any conflict between this passage and Jeremiah 25:1?

- 2) What does Nebuchadnezzar do with the items taken from the temple of God? What does this tell us about his attitude toward the God of Israel?

- 3) Who was given the task of selecting the ones among the captives to serve in the king's palace and what was the basis used to make the decision?

- 4) What were they to be taught and what "privileges" were they given as part of their period of training? How long was the training to last?

- 5) List the Hebrew and Babylonian names of the four men selected from among the Jews to serve in the palace? What was the significance of the name changes and what may have been the reason(s) their names were changed?

- 6) What resolution is made by Daniel in verse 8 and how does he approach the potential controversy this could cause? What was the initial reaction of the chief of the court officials? Why?

- 7) What are some possible reasons that Daniel would have been required to make the resolution noted in verse 8 (e.g. why might he have been "defiled")?

- 8) What test did Daniel propose to resolve the situation in a way that could be satisfactory to all involved? What can we learn about his character/judgment from this situation?
- 9) What was the result of the ten day “experiment” and how did the Jewish exiles compare physically with the other in the king’s training program?
- 10) Contrast the list the skills and abilities noted in Daniel’s three friends with the miraculous gifts given to Daniel. Why do you think that Daniel was given the special gifts?
- 11) What was Nebuchadnezzar’s assessment of the skills and abilities of Daniel and his Jewish companions in comparison with the others in the king’s training program? What are some other examples of God’s servants (OT or NT) who advanced well beyond their peers?
- 12) What does the final verse of chapter one tell us about the length of time Daniel served in the royal service?

Application Questions:

- 1) List a few lessons we can learn from the way that Daniel handled the issue with the food from the king’s table. What were the critical steps in dealing with this situation and how might make application to our lives today?
- 2) List examples of God’s providential and supernatural actions in this chapter. How do both of these lead to the accomplishment of God’s will?
- 3) Try to list situations in which you might be tempted to compromise your convictions for the sake of avoiding conflict or personal convenience.

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Lesson Three == Daniel reveals and interprets
Nebuchadnezzar's dream/Chapter Two

- 1) When did Nebuchadnezzar have his first dream recorded in the book and how did this dream affect him? Who does he summon initially to help him to know the dream and its interpretation?

- 2) What do the wise men ask Nebuchadnezzar (they asked him twice) to do in order to aid them with the interpretation of the dream? What reasons did they give for their request?

- 3) What did Nebuchadnezzar say would be done to the one(s) who could not reveal the dream and its interpretation? To the one(s) who could do both?

- 4) What was the decree made by Nebuchadnezzar following the wise men's failure? How does Daniel find out about the king's decree and what favor does he ask of the king?

- 5) What is the first thing Daniel and his friends do to help with this seemingly hopeless situation? What was the result of their combined efforts and what can we learn from their example?

- 6) What was Daniel's reaction to God's answer to his/his friend's request? What powers does Daniel ascribe to God in this outburst of praise?

- 7) What does Daniel's request to Arioch in verses 24 tell us about the Daniel's character?

- 8) How does Daniel explain his ability to reveal the dream and its interpretation? Could this ability be a source of pride for Daniel or other people who were given miraculous gifts?

- 9) Briefly describe the four-part statue of Nebuchadnezzar's dream. What do the four different parts represent? Do you think these symbols are appropriate for each of the empires? If so, why?

- 10) What pivotal idea was introduced in verse 44 of the chapter? See Hebrews 12:29, Mark 9:1 and Mark 1:14-15. Is there agreement in the "religious" world about the fulfillment of Dan 2:44? If not, what are some ideas about the coming of the kingdom?

- 11) What is Nebuchadnezzar's reaction to the revelation of the dream and its interpretation by Daniel? What is his assessment of "Daniel's God" at this point in the book?

- 12) What does Daniel request from the king? What can we learn from his example?

Application Questions:

- 1) What proper, Christ-like attitudes can we learn from Daniel's examples in this chapter? Try to list several we can add to our daily lives.

- 2) The theme of the book is introduced in Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Why do you think this vision was given to Nebuchadnezzar?

- 3) How do some premillennialists deal with Daniel 2:44? What would you say to them if asked to discuss this prophecy?

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Lesson Four == Daniel's companion's faith is tested/
Chapter Three

- 1) What does Nebuchadnezzar create in the first few verses of the chapter? What was the scale of his creation?

- 2) Who was called to attend the “dedication” and what were they commanded to do along with all the people of the land? What was the penalty for non-compliance?

- 3) Who comes to Nebuchadnezzar with a report of individuals who were not following the decree? Why? Who is accused of this crime against the king?

- 4) What was Nebuchadnezzar's reaction to this insubordinate behavior? Does it appear that he had more trust in the accusers or the accused? What solution does he propose?

- 5) How did they answer the king in this matter? What can we learn for their statement of faith and trust in God?

- 6) How could they have “justified” complying with the king's decree? Try to list some ways we may be tempted to make a “justifiable” compromise?

- 7) What does Nebuchadnezzar command the soldiers to do with the fiery furnace? Why? What happens to the soldiers assigned to carry out the king's command?

- 8) What did Nebuchadnezzar see in the furnace and what question does he ask the soldiers? Why do you think he was looking into the fiery furnace?

- 9) How did Nebuchadnezzar describe the fourth “man” he saw in the fiery furnace? How does Nebuchadnezzar address the ones he had placed in the fiery furnace and why?

- 10) How does Nebuchadnezzar react to the miraculous event he had witnessed? What kind of “faith” does he show in this instance? Is this declaration similar to the one made after Daniel revealed/interpreted his dream in chapter two?

- 11) What penalty was given to those who would speak against “the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego”? Why do you think Nebuchadnezzar made this decree?

- 12) What reward was given to the three men who came out of the fiery furnace? Why do you think this was done?

Application Questions:

- 1) Does God ever accept someone who is willing “compromise” with the influences of the world? What sort of compromises do we face each day and how can we deal with them?

- 2) Compare and contrast the faith of the Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego with the “faith” demonstrated by Nebuchadnezzar and the demons in James 2:19. What applications can we make to our own walk of faith?

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Lesson Five == Nebuchadnezzar Is Shown God Rules In the
Nations/Chapter Four

- 1) Based on the declaration made by Nebuchadnezzar in verses 1-3, what is his current concept of the Most High God? Do you think he has changed his view of God since the beginning of the book? If so, why?

- 2) Compare the statement made by Nebuchadnezzar in verse 4 with King David's "activities" described in II Samuel 11:1. What was about to happen to these two kings soon afterward? What lessons can we draw from their example?

- 3) Who does Nebuchadnezzar call for initially to help him with the interpretation of his dream? Are these men able to help him to understand the dream?

- 4) Briefly describe the tree in the dream Nebuchadnezzar described to Daniel? What happens to the tree? What is to be done with the stump and roots of the tree? Why?

- 5) How long will the "tree" have his mind changed to that of an animal? What could this period of time represent?

- 6) What will happen to the one represented by the tree and why will these things happen to him? What do we see about God's rule among the nations from this passage?

- 7) In Daniel's interpretation of the dream, how is the tree (Babylon represented by its king) described?

- 8) What does Daniel tell Nebuchadnezzar he should do in light of the revelation of the meaning of the dream? Does he heed this advice?

- 9) What does Nebuchadnezzar's declaration in verse 28-30 tell us about his view of himself? Can you think of other examples of this attitude either in the scriptures or current events?

- 10) What does the voice from heaven declare while the words are still in Nebuchadnezzar's mouth?

- 11) What happens to the king while he is dwelling "away from mankind"? What was the purpose of the things which he endured during this period?

- 12) List the major declarations made by Nebuchadnezzar (about God) in his first moment after he returned to sanity? What is his view of the Most High God at this point? How strong was his "faith"?

Application Questions:

- 1) God clearly demonstrates that He rules in the kingdoms of men in this and several other places in the Scriptures. How should we view the modern day political situations in light of this knowledge?

- 2) We can see the damaging effects of pride on Nebuchadnezzar, Herod and others in the scripture? Are we sometimes tempted to let pride creep into our thinking? What are some things we can do each day to help us avoid this sinful attitude?

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Lesson Six == Belshazzar's Feast and Babylon's Unexpected
Fall/Chapter Five

- 1) How is the feast of Belshazzar described in the first verses of the chapter? What order does he give while he was under the influence of the wine? What reason is given?

- 2) What were the people doing while they used the captured items from the temple? What does this show about their "view/assessment" of the "God of the Jews"?

- 3) What miraculous event interrupts the feast and what was Belshazzar's reaction? Who does he send for immediately, and what does he promise to the one who could help him? Why does he make this promise?

- 4) Who recommends Daniel as the one who could help Belshazzar and how does she describe Daniel's "skills"? How do you think she knew about Daniel?

- 5) What does Daniel say to Belshazzar concerning the reward he had promised to the one who could explain the writing on the wall? Why do you think he would react in this way?

- 6) What events does Daniel re-count for Belshazzar before the revelation of the meaning of the writing on the wall? What was the purpose in telling Belshazzar all these things from Babylonian history?

- 7) What specific act does Daniel say cite as the reason for God's miraculous deed recorded in this chapter? What comparison is made between the false gods of the Babylonians and the one true God?

- 8) List the three words written on the wall and briefly describe the meanings of the words individually and taken as a whole.

- 9) What did Belshazzar do in response to Daniel's revelation of the meaning on the inscription on the wall? Why would he react in that way?

- 10) What happens to Belshazzar the very night he heard the news from Daniel about the writing on the wall? Babylon also fell from its place as a world empire at the same time. Would you expect Babylon to fall in one night? Why or why not?

- 11) Read Isaiah 45:1-5 and compare the prophecy with the way the fall of Babylon was actually recorded in secular history. How can you explain the accuracy of the word of Isaiah so many years prior to these events?

Application Questions:

- 1) We see that Belshazzar did not learn the lessons from history and repeated some of the same mistakes. Try to list some examples from the Scripture and current events of history's mistakes repeated generation after generation.

- 2) When will all of us be "weighed in the balances"? What can we do each day to help us to be found faithful?

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Lesson Seven == Daniel's Faith Is Tested and
Vindicated/Chapter Six

- 1) Who took over the reigns of power after the Babylonian empire was brought to an end by God? What governmental structure was put in place and what position was given to Daniel? How can we see God's providence in this situation?

- 2) What was the king's assessment of Daniel's performance in his duties within the government? What did the king have in mind for Daniel?

- 3) What plot do his rivals devise to potentially cause Daniel to fall from the king's favor? What area of Daniel's life did they decide to attack in order to cause him to cause the king to remove him from office? Why?

- 4) What law was put in place to cause Daniel to potentially fall from favor with the king? Who was able to change the law once it was committed to writing among the Medes and Persians?

- 5) How does Daniel react when he learned of this new law of the empire? Who was there to "observe" his lack of compliance with the new law?

- 6) What did they ask the king about the law he had just committed to writing? Why would they do this?

- 7) What was the king's reaction to the news about Daniel? What did the king try to do for him? What forced his hand to act against Daniel?

- 8) What did the king say to Daniel before he threw him into the lion's den? What was done to make sure the "fate" of Daniel could not be altered?
- 9) What does the king do the night after Daniel was put into the lion's den? What does this say about the king's "faith" in the God served by Daniel?
- 10) How does the king address Daniel when he comes to see if he has been saved from the lion's mouths? What can we learn from Daniel's example before the king?
- 11) What does Daniel say about his deliverance from the mouth's of the lions? How does Daniel show his respect for the king? Why?
- 12) What was Daniel's condition when he was removed from the lion's den and what was the king's reaction?
- 13) What did the king do to those who had falsely accused his servant Daniel? Who else was hurt by the actions of Daniel's accusers? What can we learn about sin's effects from this situation?
- 14) What new law was put into place after Daniel's miraculous deliverance? What truth does this pagan king state in his declaration? How might he have learned these things?

Application Questions:

- 1) Daniel was forced to make a choice to obey God or to obey the government God had ordained. Try to list some ways that we may face (now or in the future) this test of our faith.
- 2) What can we learn about Daniel's character from these events in this chapter?

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Lesson Eight == Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts and
Interpretation/Chapter Seven

- 1) At what time does Daniel see the vision in this chapter and what is the first thing he reveals about what he saw? What might the winds and the sea represent? Where did all of the beasts come up (out) from in the vision?

- 2) Briefly describe the appearance of the first beast and what was done to the beast and what was given to the beast? What or whom does this beast represent?

- 3) Briefly describe the appearance of the second beast and what did the beast have in its mouth? What could these objects represent and what was the beast told to do?

- 4) Briefly describe the appearance of the third beast and what was different about this beast when compared to the first two beasts? What does this beast represent and what was given to this beast?

- 5) What is different about the description of the fourth beast compared to the other three? How many horns are seen at first glance in the vision? What comes up among the ten horns?

- 6) What were the characteristics of the new horn that arose? What might this final horn represent?

- 7) Describe the appearance of the next One who comes on the scene? Who do we see in His presence? What does this One do once all those around Him were seated?

- 8) What does the new horn continue to do in the presence of the Ancient of Days and what happens to him as well as all the other beasts? Who determines how long before they were destroyed?
- 9) Who comes to the Ancient of Days and what is given to Him? Who will possess this kingdom?
- 10) Who does Daniel ask for help to understand the true meaning of all the things seen in the vision? Who do the four beasts represent? What contrast is made in verse 18 in terms between the first four and the “fifth” kingdom?
- 11) What further information does Daniel ask for in verse 19? In verses 21-25 what things is the last horn doing to the saints? Does the third horn have some “success” and for how long?
- 12) Read Rev. 11:2-3, 12:6 and 13:5. If the “times” in verse 25 represent a year does this represent the same period of time noted in the passages in the book of Revelation? What do these symbols most likely represent?
- 13) What happens to the last horn in verse 25 and what does this represent? Who is given the dominion at this point and how long will it last? Compare this period of time to the thousand years of Revelation chapter 20.
- 14) What is Daniel’s reaction to this revelation and what does he do with the information he has been given? Why do you think he reacted in this way?

Application Questions:

- 1) List a few things we can learn from this chapter about God’s “involvement” in the kingdoms and the affairs of history?
- 2) What could the last horn represent and why was it allowed some “success”?

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Lesson Nine == Daniel's Vision of the Ram and the
Goat/Chapter Eight

- 1) When does Daniel tell us that a new vision came to him and who was in power at the time in the Babylonian empire? Where was Daniel when he received the vision?

- 2) Briefly describe the creature that appears first in the dream. What does this creature do in order to show its power and might? How successful was this creature "in its time"?

- 3) What creature appears on the scene next in Daniel's vision? What did the second creature do to the first one? Did the first creature have any success standing against the onslaught of the second one?

- 4) What happens to the second creature after he has shown his power and dominion over the first creature? What appears next?

- 5) What comes up out of one of the four horns from the previous question? What does this small horn do to God's people and His temple?

- 6) Who does Daniel hear discussing these events described in question five? What does he learn about how long these things would last? What could this period of time represent?

- 7) Who is sent to Daniel to help him understand the vision he has just seen? What was Daniel's reaction to this visitor? How does the "interpreter" refer to Daniel? Why?

- 8) What does the interpreter tell him about the time(s) his vision was revealing? (The phrase is used twice in verses 17-19.) What can we learn about Daniel's standing before God based on the visitor he received?

- 9) What or whom did the ram represent? What was the difference in the two horns and what might this difference represent? How is this description very appropriate in light events in the future?

- 10) What or whom did the goat represent? What is the difference between the first horn and the four that followed?

- 11) Who might verses 22-25 describe? What will this "horn" say about himself and what (Whom) will he vehemently oppose?

- 12) What will be the end of the destructive work of the one described in verses 22-25? What does this tell us about the control of events in human history?

- 13) Who does Daniel tell about the vision? Why?

- 14) How does Daniel react to the information he was given about the interpretation of the dream? Why do you think he would react in that way?

Application Questions:

- 1) Why is this further explanation of a portion of the statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream of chapter two and his own vision of chapter seven given to Daniel?

- 2) Why do you think Daniel was inspired of God to begin writing in the Hebrew language at the beginning of this chapter?

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Lesson Ten == Daniel's Prayer and the Vision of the Seventy
Weeks/Chapter Nine

- 1) What historical milepost are we given in the first verse of the chapter? What does this tell us about the length of time Daniel was among the ruling class even though a captive?

- 2) Where does Daniel read and what is his reaction to this reading? What elements are involved in Daniel's prayer recorded early in the chapter?

- 3) Make a list of all the things he ascribes to God and the transgressions he says His of which his people were guilty? Read Duet 28 and Lev 26 to see if this was a predictable outcome for God's people.

- 4) On what basis does Daniel ask God to forgive His people? What does this show about Daniel's attitude and reverence for God? Is our forgiveness any different than the people of Daniel's time?

- 5) Who comes to visit Daniel to comfort him in his anxiety and when does he come to him? When have we seen him previously and when do we see him in the future?

- 6) Why did he visit Daniel at this time and what does this tell us about how important it was to God that the message of Daniel's vision be clearly understood?

- 7) What decree is made for God's people by the angel?

8) Verse 24 contains six very clear references pointing to the Messiah. We will look at each one individually and try to understand them in light of other scriptures.

A) “Finish the transgression” Col 2:14-17 and Ephesians 2:15

B) “Make an end to sin” Heb 2:14-15 7:27

C) “Make atonement for sin” Col 1:20-23

D) “To bring everlasting righteousness” 2 Cor 5:21 Romans 3:21-31

E) “To seal up vision and prophecy” Rev 10:7 Jude 3

F) “To anoint the Most Holy” Heb 1:8-9 10:19-22

9) When did the period of seventy weeks begin? When does the sixty ninth of the seventy weeks end? What will happen in the seventieth week according to the prophecy? What does seven (or multiples thereof) usually represent in the scripture?

10) What do premillennialists use this text to “prove”? What particular phrases do they use to bolster their theories?

11) What will happen in the last week according to verse 27? What will happen at the end of this week? What events are the most likely fulfillment of this prophecy?

Application Questions:

1) What Christ-like characteristics do we see in Daniel in this chapter? What can we do each day to bring these same attributes to our walk of faith?

2) What events during Christ’s life on earth and the early days of His church are most likely described in the latter part of this chapter?

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Lesson Eleven == Daniel's Vision of the Times of the
End/Chapter Ten

- 1) What historical milepost are we given in the first verse of the chapter? Who was the ruling power at the time and what was Daniel's position in the government? What does this tell us about God's providential care for His people?

- 2) What does Daniel see in the vision given to him by God and how does he react to the things he had seen? What does he see on the banks of the Tigris River?

- 3) Whom does he see in the vision, what is he wearing and how is his appearance described? Compare this with description Jesus in Rev 1:13-15. How did the words spoken sound to Daniel? What does this remind you of in Israel's history?

- 4) Did those who were with Daniel hear the same things he heard? What did they do and why do you think they reacted in this way? How did Daniel react to this event?

- 5) What does the one sent by God to Daniel do for him? What does he say he will reveal to Daniel?

- 6) How does the one sent from God refer to Daniel? What does this tell us about his relationship to God? Why does he say that he had been sent to him?

- 7) There appears to be some sort of spiritual warfare occurring in verse 13. Where else do we see this type of spiritual warfare referred to in the Scripture?

- 8) What does the one sent to Daniel say he would reveal to him? What time period and what group of people would be involved in the things revealed in this vision? How does Daniel react to this new revelation? Why would he react this way?

- 9) Who comes to Daniel to comfort him and what does he do for him. Why does Daniel say he was not able to speak to him when he first arrived to help him?

- 10) What does this one tell Daniel he should do? Why would the events Daniel had seen have such a profound effect on him?

- 11) What does the one with human appearance call Daniel? What is Daniel told to do and how does he react what he is told?

- 12) What does this one with human appearance ask Daniel? Where does he say he must go and what does he have to do? What (whom) will he have to deal with when the task at hand has been completed?

- 13) What will this one reveal to Daniel according to verse 21 of the chapter? What could these “writings” be and what would they reveal?

Application Questions:

- 1) What can we learn about the power of prayer from this chapter and the ways that God will answer our prayers?

- 2) We are told about several conflicts among “princes” in this chapter. Who is involved in these conflicts and what might these conflicts represent in the context of the book?

Book of Daniel == Winter Session 2009
Embry Hills church of Christ
Lesson Twelve==Daniel's Vision of the Times of the
End (Cont'd)/Chapter Eleven

Daniel's vision of the times of the end continues from chapter ten

- 1) What historical milepost is given to us in the first verse of the chapter? How many kings will arise in Persia following Darius? What are their names and do we have any other record in the Scripture of their dealings with God's people?

- 2) What do we learn about the Greek empire from verses 3 and 4? How accurate is this prophecy based on what we know from history? Who is the mighty king and who are the "four points of the compass" to whom his kingdom is divided?

- 3) Who is the king of the South of verse five? What do this king and the king of the North do to form an alliance? How well do things work out for the alliance and does it last? What is her offspring able to accomplish and what does he capture/deport?

- 4) Who is the king of the North mentioned in verse eight? What does he try according to verse 9-11 and how successful is his trip? What effect do these events have on the king of the South according to verses 12-13?

- 5) Who are those "who arise from among your people" against the king of the South? How successful was their invasion and what were the consequences of their actions according to verses 14-16? What is the "Beautiful Land" referred to in verse 16?

- 6) What does the king of the North do form an alliance with the king of the South? How does it work out for him? Where does he turn his attention in verses 18-19?

- 7) Who is the “despicable one” who is discussed beginning in verse 21 of the chapter? (Hint: He is the “little horn” of Dan 8: 9-12) What does he do to establish/increase his power? Is he more successful than his “fathers”?
- 8) What does verse 27 tell us about the times and the seasons appointed for the rulers among men?
- 9) What nation would be represented by the “ships of Kittim”? What did they cause “the despicable one” to do? What course of action does he turn to after he was turned back by the ships of Kittim? What were some of the consequences for God’s people and His temple?
- 10) What group of people is most likely being described in verses 36-45? What reasons and events of history would you give to support your conclusion?
- 11) How successful would this king be in his conquest of various people in the known world of the time? How far south would he expand the reach of his dominion? What does he capture in his southern campaign?
- 12) Will there ever be complete peace (all peoples bound together in harmony) during the dominion of these kings? How does this picture fit the times of the Messiah?
- 13) Where does this king pitch the tent of his royal pavilion? What events of history could this represent?

Application Questions:

- 1) After all the efforts of all the kings/rulers/military leaders mentioned in this chapter, Who controls the course of history/nations?

Book of Daniel == Winter Session 2009
Embry Hills church of Christ
Lesson Thirteen==Daniel's Vision of the Times of the
End (Cont'd)/Chapter Twelve and Final Review

Daniel's vision of the times of the end continues from chapter eleven

- 1) Who is charged to stand guard over God's people and what will he do "at that time"? What does this charge represent, and what will occur during those days? What does Jesus say about these events in Matt 24:15, 21-22? Who will be rescued and why?

- 2) What resurrection is being discussed in verses 2 and 3? What reasons would you give for your conclusions? (See John 5:28-29)

- 3) How long was Daniel told to conceal these words and seal up the book? What does this period represent? Is it the end of time, the end of the Jewish system, the end of Rome or some other period?

- 4) Who does Daniel see next and where are they located in his vision? What question was asked of the one dressed in linen? What posture does he take toward heaven and what does he reveal about the times of these things? (See Daniel 7:25 to review time, times and half times and Rev 11:4 12:6, 11:2 13:5 for a discussion of the same period in my opinion)

- 5) What will happen to God's people according to the last part of verse seven? What do you think could be the fulfillment of this prophecy? What did the ruling powers plan to accomplish with this effort? What did God have in mind?

- 6) What question does Daniel ask in verse 8 and what "answer" was he given in verse 9? What would happen to the righteous compared to the wicked according to verse 10? What will the righteous understand?

- 7) What “event” or series of events would be the beginning of the 1,290 days mentioned in verse 11? What will be the end of the 1,290 days as identified by Jesus in the passages noted earlier?

- 8) What will be the condition of those who attain to the 1,335 days? What could the additional 45 days represent (following the 1,290 days)?

- 9) What final instructions are given to Daniel? What would history demonstrate about the Daniel’s prophetic work?

Final Review Questions:

- 1) Briefly state in a few words the theme of each chapter.

Ch. One	Ch. Seven
Ch. Two	Ch. Eight
Ch. Three	Ch. Nine
Ch. Four	Ch. Ten
Ch. Five	Ch. Eleven
Ch. Six	Ch. Twelve

- 2) Make a list of the main characters in Daniel?

- 3) What lessons can we learn from observing Daniel’s attitudes, attributes and manner of life as seen in the book given him by the Holy Spirit?

- 4) What are the five kingdoms discussed by Daniel and how are they represented in chapters 2, 7 and 8? How accurate is Daniel’s prophecy of the future? Why?

- 5) What is the central theme of the book in your opinion?

THANKS SO MUCH FOR BEING PART OF OUR STUDY OF DANIEL