GOD'S TOUCHPOINTS

LTAL ON LTAL DRUDGED BY THE PRESENCE THE PRESENCE

Old Testament Summary The Patriarchal Ages The Judges The Reign of Royalty The Prophetic Era

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A walk thru' the Old Testament (OT).. Lesson 31: Jeremiah, the weeping prophet

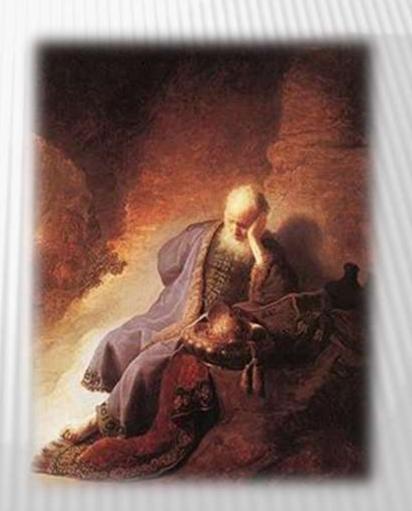
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OT WALKTHRU- THE PROPHETIC ERA

The Early Prophets 1. Elijah, the Prophet who never died 2. Isaiah, the man of unclean lips 3. Jeremiah, the weeping prophet 4. Daniel, Highly Esteemed by God 5. Daniel: Visions of the Future 6. Ezekiel, the Watchman The Minor Prophets 8. Israel restored to receive Christ 9.

PRESENTATION OVERVIEW – JEREMIAH, THE WEEPING PROPHET

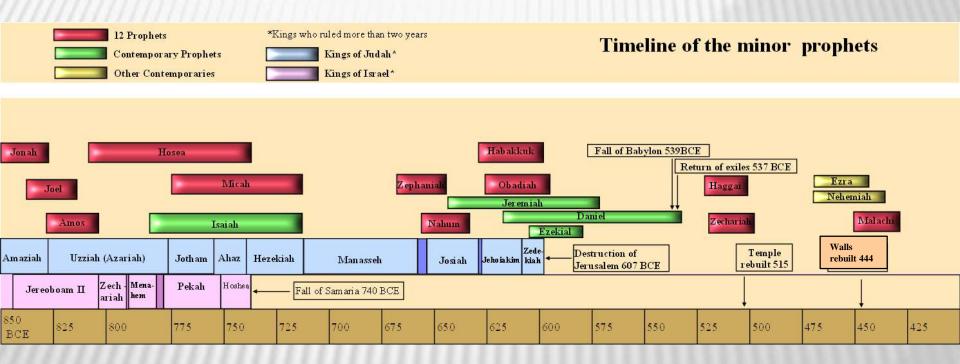
Outline and Summary Jeremiah Purified Jeremiah and the Potter **Jeremiah Prepared Jeremiah Prophecies** persecution of Jews Jeremiah Pulverises **Popularity Prophets** Jeremiah Prays, Preaches and Laments **Jeremiah Prophecies** Messiah, New covenant



PREPARATION

- Read Jeremiah
- Read Jeremiah 31-33. Get learnings on the new covenant.
- What does Jeremiah foretell on the future of Israel? Study Jeremiah 18:1-12
 - Compare Jeremiah and Jesus

TIMELINE OF THE PROPHETS



OBJECTIVES

- Key Theme: Divine judgment is at hand Key Purpose -To:
- Demonstrate God's judgment over Judah as it gets overthrown by its enemies
- Highlight that this is only for purification purposes as God waits for His people to repent
 - Unveil the promise of the Messiah (Jesus) and new covenant as hope in darkness

See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthow, to build and to plant.

KEY VERSE

JEREMIAH'S AUDIENCE

- Jeremiah proclaimed a message of doom to the rebels before the Babylonian captivity (Jer. 1-39)
 - Jeremiah proclaimed a message of hope to the discouraged and dismayed remnant (Jer. 40-52) (Lamentations 3)

JEREMIAH AUTHORSHIP

- Jeremiah means "Jehovah throws"
- Several ancient writers said that Jeremiah was stoned to death (by the Jews), in Tahpanhes, Egypt.
 - Jeremiah's life spans preexile and exile reflected in his prophecies



JEREMIAH THE MAN

Jeremiah, facing intense persecution and rejection, wanted to resign, but he had a burning desire to proclaim God's word (20:7-9)

- Pagan king took better care of him (39:11,12)
- He was not allowed to marry (16:1-4)

Completely identified with their sin (Lamentations)

Jeremiah was finally exiled in Egypt (43:1-7)

JEREMIAH, LAMENTATIONS OUTLINE

- Jeremiah dictated his words to his scribe, Baruch (36:1-4,27-32; 51:64)
- Not chronological, the books cover:
 - Call of Jeremiah (1)
 - Prophecies of doom (2-29)
 - Prophecies of hope (30-33)
 - Siege and fall of Jerusalem (34-39)
 - Jeremiah laments but hopes (Lamentations)
 - Post Jerusalem fall (40-44)
 - Prophecies to foreign nations (46-51)
 - Fall of Jerusalem (52)

DATE OF JEREMIAH'S BOOKS

- Jeremiah prophesied approximately 46 years,
 627-580 B.C. The book Jeremiah was also written during the time.
- Lamentations was likely written between 586 and 575 B.C., during or soon after Jerusalem's fall

JEREMIAH COMISSIONED

- Jeremiah ch 1
 - Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "I have put my words in your mouth. Jer 1:9



JEREMIAH AND THE POTTER

Whenever a pot turns out badly, the potter simply starts over. 5-10 Then GOD's Message came to me: "Can't I do just as this potter does, people of Israel?" Jeremiah 18



THE POTTER AND THE CLAY

- ¹⁴ "**Do not pray** for this people.., because I will not listen... Jeremiah 11
 - ³ 'Call to me and I will answer you...'
 - ⁴...**I will slay** in my anger and wrath.. because of all its wickedness.
 - ⁶ "Nevertheless, **I will bring health and healing** to it.. ⁷ I will bring Judah and Israel back from captivity and will rebuild them. Jer 33.

THE POTTERS FIELD [1]

Jeremiah, Zechariah

- In Jeremiah 19:1 Chief priests and elders purchase from the potter a pot – a symbol of God's judgments against themselves
- 2 In Jeremiah 19.10 *the earthen container* bought from the potter was cast down in front of his opponents again in his case as a symbol of judgment and as a portent of destruction of Jerusalem. Cf Zech 11:12,13

Matthew

In Matt 17:1, chief priests and elders purchase plot – symbol of God's judgment

In Matthew 26.15; 27.3, 5, Matthew 27.5 Judas betrays Jesus for 30 pieces of silver and casts the 30 pieces of silver down to the elders in the temple

THE POTTERS FIELD (CONT'D)

Jeremiah, Zechariah

- In Jeremiah 19.6 the valley
 where the casting down took
 place had its name changed to
 the Valley of Slaughter
- 4 And in Jeremiah 32.7-14 field's title deeds were put in *an earthen container* similar to that bought from the potter in 19.1. This signified that after judgment had come, mercy would follow so that fields would have value again

Matthew

In Matt 27:8, the field bought by the chief priests was known as field of blood

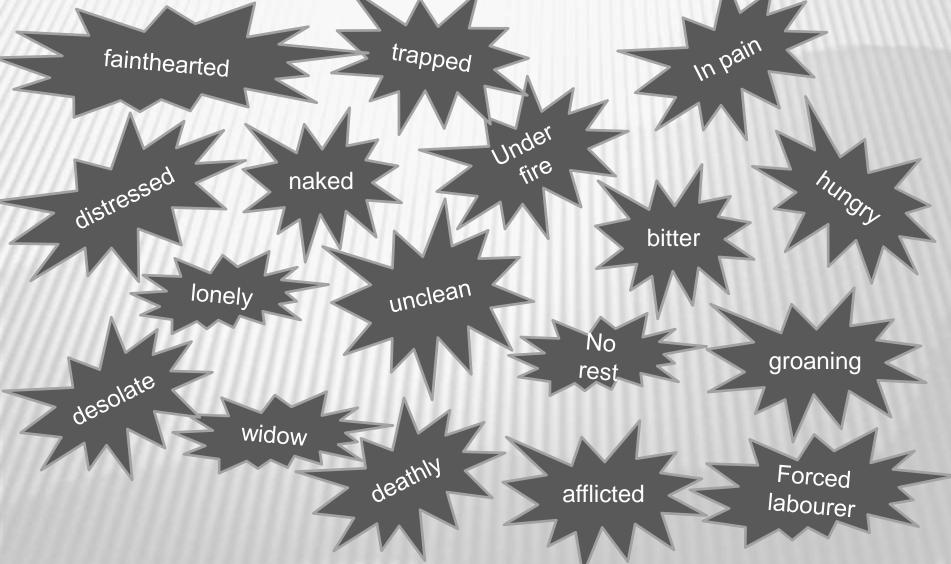
After Christ's death and subsequent judgment to the Jews, mercy would follow and they will be the light of the nations once again.

JEREMIAH PREPARED

"If you have raced with men on foot and they have worn you out, how can you compete with horses? Jer 12:5



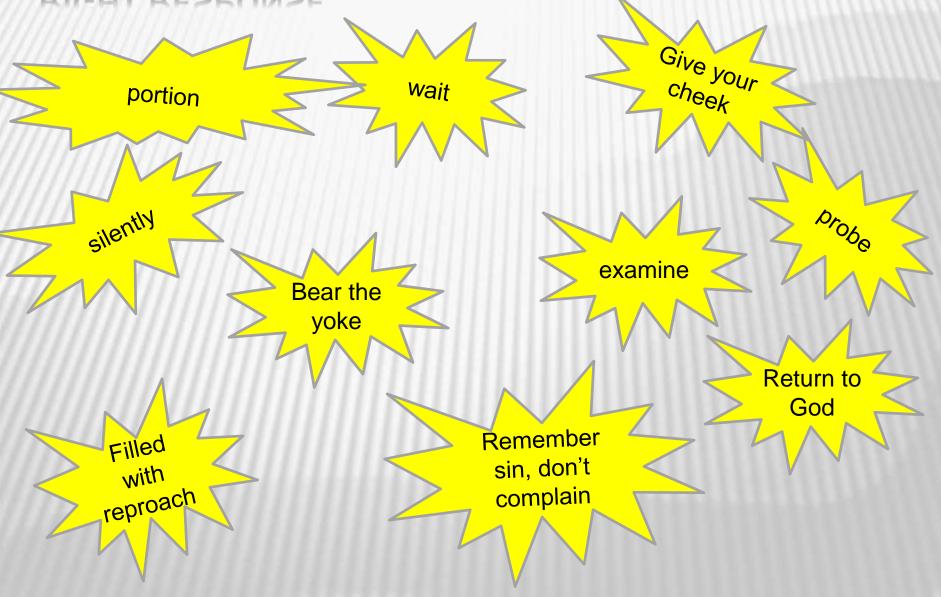
JEREMIAH LAMENTS (LAM 1,4) IDENTIFIES WITH ISRAEL'S STATE



HOPE IN DESPAIR

- 22 The Lord's loving kindnesses indeed never cease,
- For His compassions never fail.
- 23 They are **new every morning**;
- Great is Your faithfulness.
- Lam 3

HOPE IN DESPAIR (LAM 3) RIGHT RESPONSE



ALL POWERFUL GOD

- 37 Who is there who speaks and it comes to pass,
 - Unless the Lord has commanded it?
 - 38 Is it not from the mouth of the Most High
 - That **both good and ill** go forth?

JEREMIAH PULVERISES POPULARITY PROPHETS

Jer 23"Don't listen to the sermons of the prophets.

It's all hot air. Lies, lies, and more lies.

They make it all up.

Not a word they speak comes from me.

They preach their 'Everything Will Turn Out Fine' sermon

to congregations with no taste for God,

Their 'Nothing Bad Will Ever Happen to You' sermon

to people who are set in their own ways.v 16,27



JEREMIAH'S PROPHESIES JESUS' RULE

"In those days and at that time I will make a **righteous Branch s prout** from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land..' 33:15



JEREMIAH PROPHECIES PERSECUTION OF JEWS IN END TIMES

Jeremiah 30:7

Alas! For that day *is* great,

So that **none is like it**;

And it *is* the time of **Jacob's trouble**, But he shall be saved out of it.



JEREMIAH'S PROPHESIES NEW COVENANT END TIMES

"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a **new** covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah.... for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more." - Jer 31:33



JEREMIAH PROPHESIES NATIONS UNITING TO WORSHIP CHRIST

17 At that time they will call Jerusalem The Throne of the Lord, and all nations will gather in Jerusalem to honor the name of the Lord. No longer will they follow the stubbornness of their evil hearts. 3



JEREMIAH PROPHECIES GOOD SHEPHERDS

3 "I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them ... 4 I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing," declares the Lord. - Jer 23



JEREMIAH - REGATHERING OF ISRAEL

Jeremiah 23:7–8

⁷ "Therefore, behold, *the* days are coming," says the LORD, "that they shall no longer say, 'As the LORD lives who brought up the children of Israel from the land of Egypt,' but, 'As the LORD lives who brought up and led the descendants of the house of Israel from the north country and from all the countries where I had driven them.' And they shall dwell in their own land."

DISCUSSION

- What are common features of Jeremiah's time and today's age
 - How can we respond to God's commission in the current times to the saved? Unsaved?
 - What responses can we expect from the saved? Unsaved?
 - What motivates the prophets to lead a lonely life of constant rejection?

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1.http://www.angelfire.com/ok/bibleteaching/jer emiahorzechariah.html

REFERENCES: BABYLONIAN CAPTIVITY

Date	Deportation	Captives Taken
605 (first year)*	First	Nobles, Daniel (2 K. 24:1; Dan. 1:1-2)
597 (seventh year)*	Second	Jehoiachin, Ezekiel (2 K. 24:12; Jer. 52:28; Ezk. 1:1-2)
586 (nineteenth year)*	Third	Jerusalem (2 K. 25:8; Jer. 52:29)
582 (twenty-third year)*	Fourth (Minor)	Small Group of 745 Jews (Jer. 52:30)

* Years of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar

GOD'S TOUCHPOINTS

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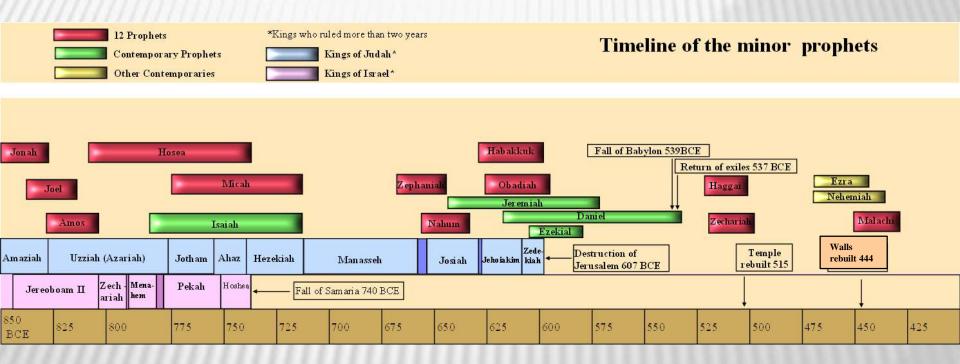
A walk thru' the Old Testament (OT).. Lesson 32: Daniel, Highly Esteemed by God

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OT WALKTHRU- THE PROPHETIC ERA

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TIMELINE OF THE PROPHETS



DANIEL, ESTEEMED OF GOD PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

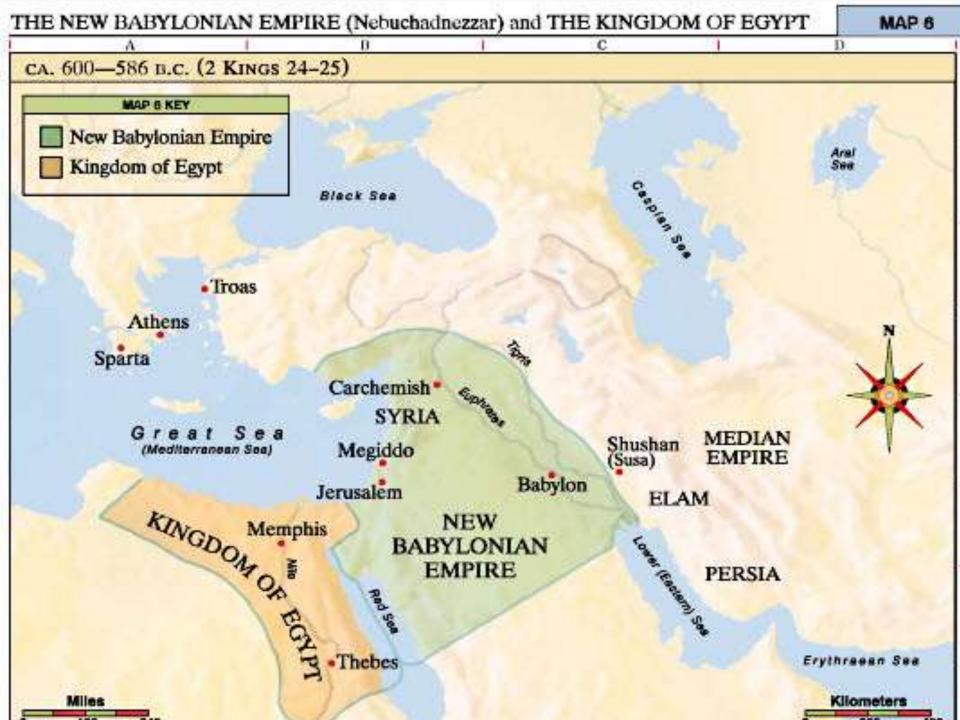
- On Food
- On Worship
- On Integrity
 - On Prayer
 - On Wisdom

DANIEL - AUTHORSHIP

- 1. The book directly states that Daniel was the human author (10:2, 12:4-5)
 - 2. The author shows a remarkable knowledge of Babylonian and Persian customs and culture.
 - 3. Jesus said Daniel was the author (Matt 24:15).

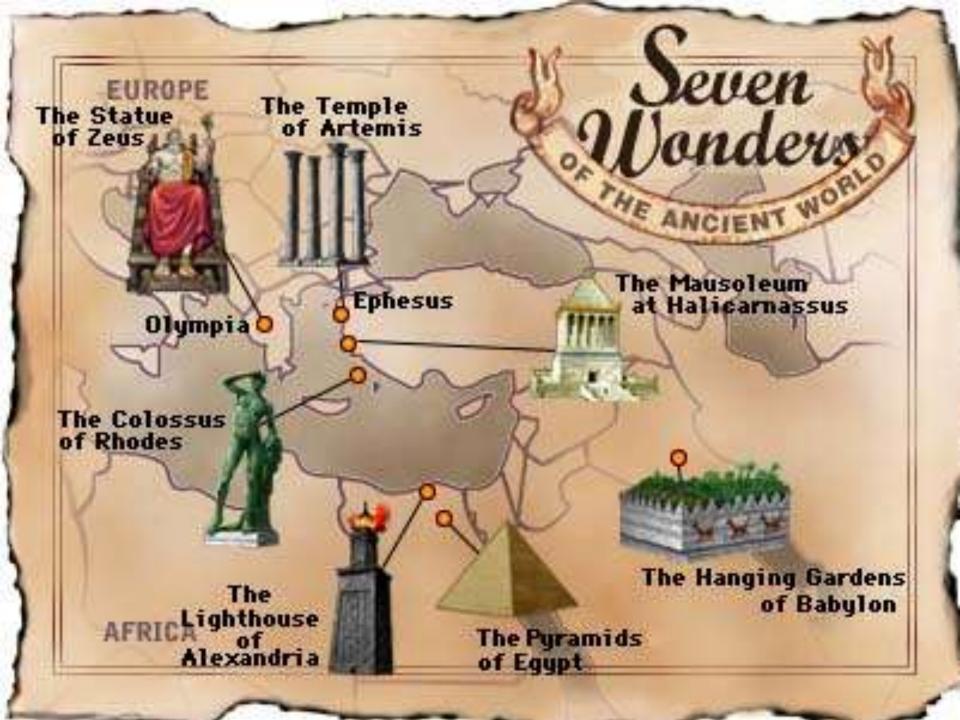
OUTLINE OF DANIEL

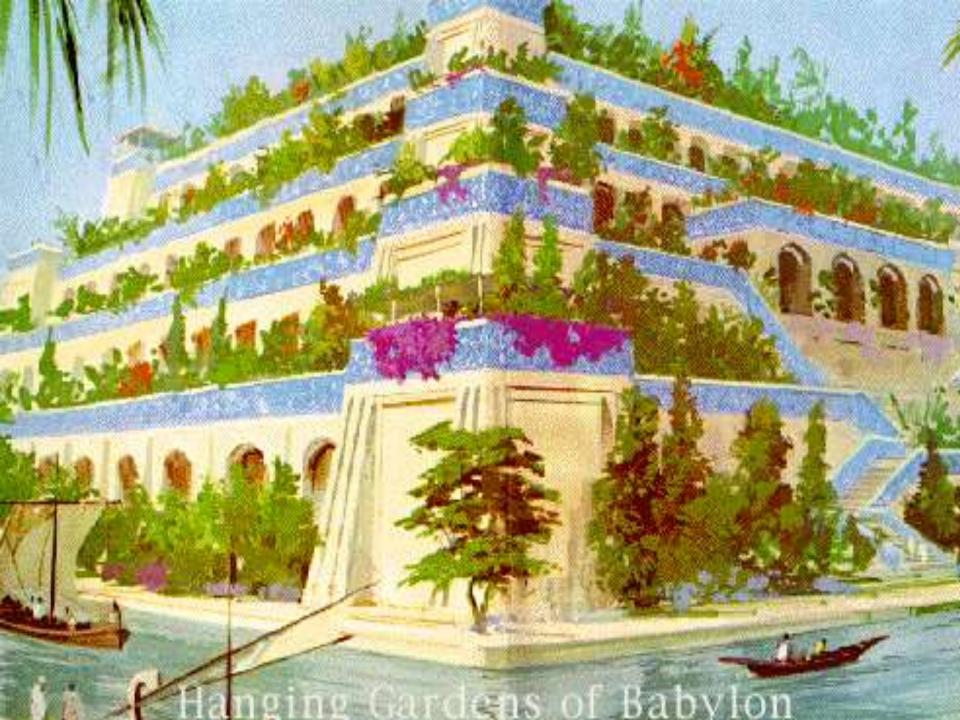
The <i>traditional</i> approach:	chapters 1-6: historical chapters 7-12: prophetic
The <i>linguistic</i> approach:	chapter 1-2:4a: introduction (in Hebrew) chapters 2:4b-7: Aramaic (referring to Gentiles) chapters 8-12: Hebrew (referring to Jews)





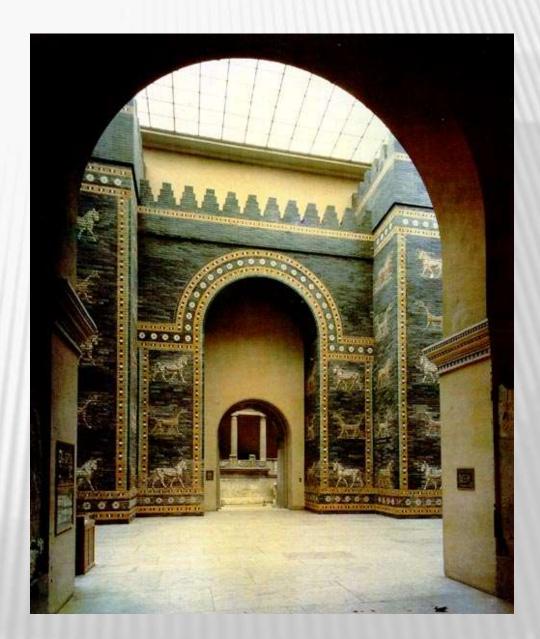








The Ishtar Gate



WHY WERE JEWISH YOUTHS TAKEN

- To secure Jehoiakim's loyalty (hostages)
- To train future leaders in Babylonians ways.
 - To serve as a constant reminder to Nebuchadnezzar of his success in battle.
 - To bring the best and most gifted people into the empire. To pool the best brains and abilities.

THE REQUIREMENTS

- Heritage Requirement Royalty
- Age Requirement "youths" (14-17 years old)
- Physical Requirement "no defect" (healthy) "good-looking" (physically appealing)
 - Mental Requirement "insight in all wisdom," "knowers of knowledge," and "understanders of knowledge"
 - Social Requirement "ability to stand in the king's court" (personality, proper poise)

THE BRAINWASHING PROCESS

The Regimen Language and Literature Lifestyle Loyalty Identity

THE REGIMEN AT BU



"and appointed that they should be educated three years, at the end of which they were to enter the king's personal service" (1:5b).

THE LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE AT BU

- *"and he ordered him to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans (Daniel 1:4b)*
- The Chaldeans accumulated literature included omens, magical incantations, prayers, hymns, myths, legends, scientific formulae for skills such as glass-making, mathematics and astrology.

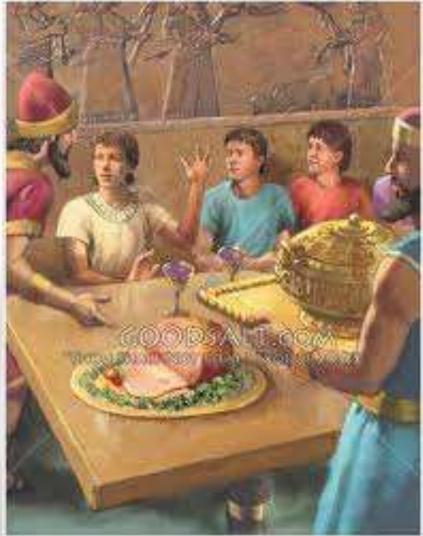
NEW LIFESTYLE AT BU

Daniel 1:5 "And the king appointed for them a daily ration from the king's choice food and from the wine which he drank

To solicit good will and a sense of obligation

To insure that they were healthy

To get them accustomed to the good life



NEW LOYALTY

Daniel (God is my Judge)	Belteshazzar (Bel protect his life
Hananiah (Yahweh is gracious)	Shadrach (Aku is exalted)
Mishael (Who is what God is?)	Meshach (Who is what Aku is?)
Azariah (Yahweh is my help)	Abednego (Servant of Nebo)

NEW IDENTITY

While the new identity was a matter of convenience and ideology, it's objective was:

- To demonstrate control
- A gesture giving credit to the gods of Babylon To further divorce and alienate the young men from their background and assimilate them into Babylonian life.

WAS DANIEL A TRUE EUNUCH?

Probably Not:

- Jewish law forbade castration (Deut 23:1)
- "Ashphenaz, the chief of his officials" (eunuchs / saris) Daniel 1:3

DANIEL'S STAND

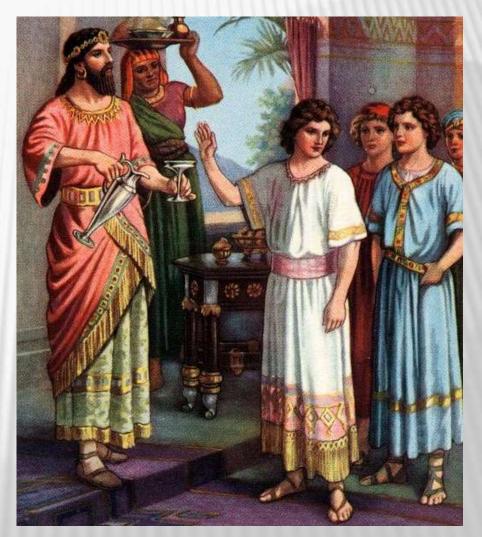
- While he excelled in his work and knowledge of the culture, when a conflict arose
- He never compromised
- He never allowed himself to be brainwashed

DANIEL, THE LEADER WHO NEVER COMPROMISED

- On Food
 - On Worship
- On Integrity
 - On Prayer
 - On Wisdom
 - Daniel's visions

DANIEL REFUSES THE KING'S FOOD

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.



GOD GIVES THEM WISDOM

¹⁷ To these four young men God gave
knowledge and understanding of all kinds of
literature and learning. And Daniel could
understand visions and dreams of all kinds.
Daniel 1

ON WORSHIP

* ¹² But there are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon— Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego—who pay no attention to you, Your Majesty. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up."

JESUS WALKS WITH THEM IN THE FIRE

²⁵ He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a son of the gods."

GOD GAVE HIM SUPREME FAVOUR

³ Then Daniel *began distinguishing himself* above the administrators and the satraps *because* an exceptional spirit *was* in him, and *so* the king planned to appoint him over the whole kingdom. Daniel 6 Daniel stood out, not for his exceptional skills but for his exceptional Spirit

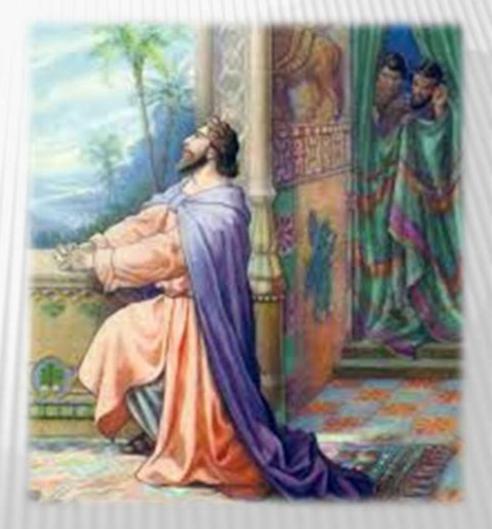
ON INTEGRITY

⁵Then these men said, "We will not find any pretext against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God." Daniel 6



ON PRAYER

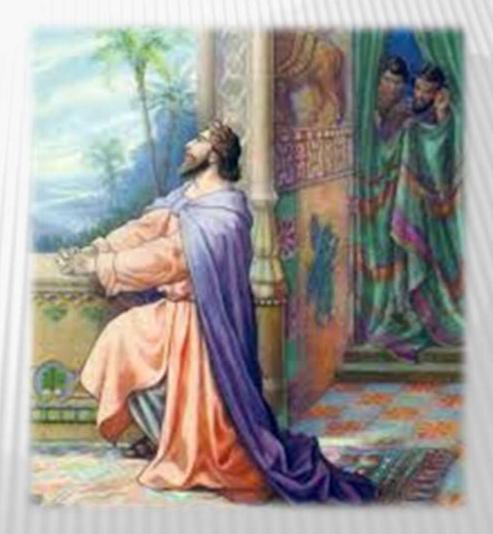
¹⁰ Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home.. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed,.. just as he had done before. Ch 6



ON PRAYER

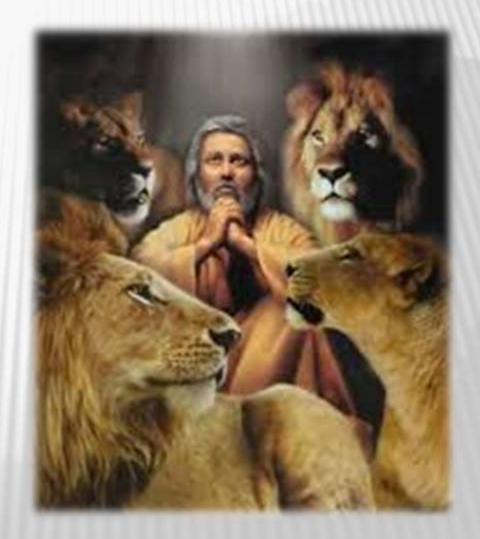
In Chapter 8 and 9 we see God's seriousness in responding to his prayer – first through Gabriel and next time probably Jesus himself.

This is because he was "highly esteemed" by God. "and I have come to tell *you*, for you are highly esteemed" – 9:23 "O Daniel, man of high esteem" – 10:11



GOD CLOSES THE MOUTH OF LIONS

My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. ch 6



THE LEADER WHO NEVER COMPROMISED

a alles

Dare to be a Daniel, Dare to stand alone! Dare to have a purpose firm! Dare to make it known.

DISCUSSION

- What were Daniel's faith survival secrets in a foreign regime?
 - What prevents us from taking the stand of Daniel? How can we change our stance?
 - In a corrupt world, how do we achieve the longevity that Daniel did?

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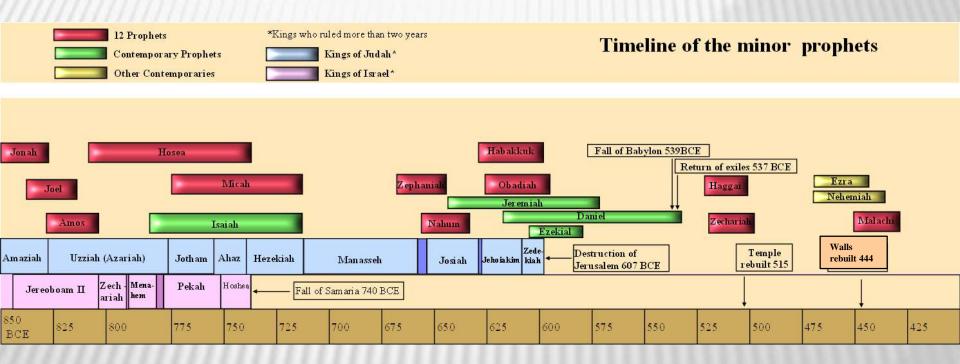
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TIMELINE OF THE PROPHETS



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Nebuchadnezzar's visions
 - Belshazzar writing on the wall
- Daniel's visions
 - 4 beasts (ch 7)
 - Ram and goat (ch 8), Gabriel's explanation
 - Gabriel's response to prayer (ch 9) 70 weeks
 - God's response to prayer (ch 10-12)

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S VISION

- Vision in Dan. 2:24-49 (4 empires):
- Babylonian (gold)
- Medo-Persian (silver)
- Greek 4 parts (bronze)
- Roman (iron)
 - Divided Kingdom (10 toes)
 - God's Kingdom
 - Dan. 2:26-28, "There is a God in Heaven who reveals secrets"

NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM - IDOL

Dream of Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon interpreted by Daniel after vision.

Kingdoms of the earth 39-46) Babylon (gold) Medo-Persia (silver) Greek [4 part] (bronze) Rome (iron) Divided kingdom (iron and clay) God's kingdom



OTHER ROYAL VISIONS

These are more short term:

- Nebuchadnazzar's second vision
 - God brings down the great King
 - Balshazzar's sees writing on wall
 - Kingdom given to Medes and Persians



DANIEL'S VISION OF FOUR BEASTS - CH 7

- Lion with eagle's wings
- Bear
- Leopard 4 heads
- Beast
- 10 horns –
- Antichrist 1 v powerful destroy 3 kingdoms
- Christ's kingdom rules earth



DANIEL'S VISION OF RAM AND GOAT - CH 8

Gabriel's interpretation

- Ram with 2 horns Medes, Persians
- Goat Greece
- One powerful horn Alexander
 - Little horn Antichrist
- Desecrate sanctuary for 2300 days



THE ANTICHRIST DANIEL 8

Daniel's Revelation	New Testament Revelation
Vs 24 He will become very	Rev 13:2 and the dragon gave him his
strong, but not by his own	power, and his seat, and great authority.
power.	
Vs 24 He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does.	Rev 13:3-4 All the world wondered after the beast they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?
Vs 24 He will destroy the mighty men and the holy people	Rev 13:7 And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them.

THE ANTICHRIST DANIEL 8

Daniel's	New Testament Revelation
Revelation	
Vs 25 He will cause	Rev 13:5,13-14 It performs great signs it deceives
deceit to prosper,	those who dwell on earth.
and he will consider	2nd Thes 2:3-4,9-10 who opposes and exalts
himself superior.	himself against every so-called god or object of
	worship
Vs 25 When they	1 Thess 5:2 While people are saying, "There is peace
feel secure, he will	and security," then sudden destruction will come upon
destroy many and	them
take his stand	Rev 19:19 And I saw the beast and the kings of the
against the Prince	earth with their armies gathered to make war against
of princes	him who was sitting on the horse (Jesus – the King of
	Kings)
	///////////////////////////////////////
Vs 25 Yet he will be	<u>2 Thess 2:8</u> The lawless one will be revealed, whom
destroyed, but not	the Lord Jesus will kill with the breath of his mouth and
by human power.	bring to nothing by the appearance of his coming.

DANIEL AND GABRIEL - 70 WEEKS CH 9

24 "Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy place. 25 So you are to know and discern that from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince there will be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. 26 Then after the sixty-two weeks the **Messiah will be cut off (killed)** and have nothing (but not for himself),

INTERPRETATION OF 70 WEEKS

- In Ezra 7 Artexerxes gives decree to rebuild temple – 457 BC. In Nehemiah 1 ie 444 BC
 Cyrus [4] gave decree to rebuild walls of Jerusalem.
 - The first 69 weeks (of years ie. 69*7 years), starting 444 BC. refer to the rebuilding of Jerusalem, and using Jewish calendar could date to death of Christ (anointed one).

INTERPRETATION OF 70 WEEKS

.. and the people of the prince who is to come will **destroy the city and the sanctuary**. And its end will come with a flood; even **to the end there will be war**; desolations are determined. V 26

There appears to be a gap after the 69th week during which Jerusalem and the temple is destroyed. There are wars and desolation for the Jews.[1]

The end is (v 27), Christ's final and ultimate victory The description of the final 7 years also maps to the 7 years of tribulation in ch 12, with the desolating sacrilage/ abomination of desolation.

VISION (CH 10)

Daniel sees a man – probably Jesus

5 ...man dressed in linen, whose waist was girded with a belt of pure gold of Uphaz. 6 .. his eyes were like flaming torches, his arms and feet like the gleam of polished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a tumult. Daniel 10

Compare with John's vision of Jesus in Revelation

..like a son of man, clothed in a robe.. girded across His chest with a golden sash. 14 .. His eyes were like a flame of fire. 15 His feet were like burnished bronze, when it has been made to glow in a furnace, and His voice was like the sound of many waters. Rev 1

VISION (CH 11)

Prophesy on:

- Rise and fall of Babylon, Persia, Greece (with division into four), Antiochus; desolating sacrilege. 11 v.1-35
 - Bridge (time gap) ³⁵ Some of those who have insight will fall, in order to refine, purge and make them pure until the end time; because it is still to come at the appointed time. V 35 Antichrist, final war, his final destruction. v. 36 onward.

VISION CH 12

- Great tribulation, rapture and judgment. (v 1-3)
- Time frame: 3.5 years (time, times and half a time), till (another) desolating sacrilege/ 1290 days till holy people are shattered.
 - Another (3.5 yrs) 1330 days for Christ's complete victory.

CONFUSIONS IN DANIEL

- Due to event gaps between seemingly continuous conversation it may appear confusing to do many apparent repetitions but they are separate as we have seen:
 - >1 anointed one/ prince (in 70 weeks) in different versions
 - >1 reference to Rome past and futuristic
 - >1 King of North and King of South past and futuristic
 - >1 abomination of desolation or desolating sacrilege past and futuristic

CONFUSIONS IN DANIEL

- > 1 period of 7 years (last vision) also 2300 days (ram and goat vision)
- > 1 period of 3.5 yrs (approx) 1290, 1330 days, time, times, half a time – past and futuristic. (last vision)
- Last week of 70 weeks could describe both first and second coming of Christ (ch 9:24,25) – dual referencing
- In ch. 12 righteous and wicked rise in one sentance (in Rev there is 1000 years in between that)

IN THE INTERIM...

But you, Daniel, keep this prophecy a secret; seal up the book until the time of the end, when many will rush here and there, and knowledge will increase. – Daniel 12:4

DANIEL CONTINUED

"As for you, go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance." Daniel 12:13

RECAP - ROYAL VISIONS

- Nebuchadnezzar's first vision: Idol Babylon,
 Persia, Greece, Rome, (+ revived Rome),
 God's rule
 - Nebuchadnezzar's second vision: tree followed by his fall
 - Belshazzar writing on the wall followed by his fall

RECAP - DANIEL'S VISIONS

- 4 beasts (ch 7) Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, (+revived Rome), God's rule
- Ram and goat (ch 8) Gabriel's explanation:
 Babylon, Persia, Greece, desolating sacrilege,
 Antichrist rise and fall, Christ's rule.
 - Daniel's prayer and Gabriel's response (ch 9) 70weeks: rise and fall of Jerusalem, Christ's death, desolating sacrilage, Antichrist.
 - Daniel's prayer and God's response (ch 10) Babylon Persia, Greece, Ch 11 (Antiochus, desolating sacrilages, Antichrist), Ch 12 End times

DISCUSSION

- 1. What gave Daniel's prayers such power that God's response was so prominent.
- Why does God want to hide the future? (12 v 4,10)
- 3. What are some common aspects of all dreams (other than short term)? What can we learn?
- 4. What lessons can we learn from Daniel's life and influence (on heaven and earth)?

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