

The book of Daniel: Who is in focus?

With the exception of the estimated date of Daniel's birth (620bc) the dates given below are found in NASB and NIV:
Daniel 1 H – 1 st year of Nebuchadnezzar . 605bc , 1 st deportation with Daniel (15 years old) and the Hebrew youth; 2 nd deportation 597bc including prophet Ezekiel; 3 rd deportation Jerusalem and temple destroyed 586bc – the House of Judah Welcome to Babylon in exile 150 years after the House of Israel was carried to Assyria. The Jewish people are a small part of greater father Israel who blessed Joseph's son with the birthright promises.
Written in: Hebrew and Aramaic ; Aramaic represents those governments during the time of the Gentiles.
Daniel 2 H/ A – 2 nd year of Neb . 604bc ; Daniel (16 years old), he interpreted Neb's dream of a great image: 4 brutal kingdoms; Daniel and 3 friends Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were elevated and celebrated. Nebuchadnezzar – I Have a Dream and ONLY 4 kingdoms are in focus: Babylon, Medo-Persian, Greece and Rome; the common denominator: all ruled over Jerusalem... until the time of the Gentiles is fulfilled; a Rock of ages shatters their dream!
Daniel 3 A – Neb . probably during his 2 nd or 3 rd military exploit out of Babylon... Chaldeans concocted the marriage of govt and religion policy, most likely to counter the influence of Daniel and his 3 friends (20-30 years old). Govt & Worship , government plays God / 3 condemned Hebrews didn't agree. Chaldeans are masters of humanism; where did those Babylonians go? Augustine said, Babylon is a former Rome, and Rome a later Babylon .
Daniel 4 A – final years: Official Government Proclamation , after returning to his right mind; Daniel (58 years old). Nebuchadnezzar declares what happened in his absence due to the high God King of heaven, his works are truth. Neb went loco! until he changed his thinking; death of Neb . 562bc . World govt will go crazy a period of 7 times?_ (Neb's son Nabonidus and grandson Belshazzar rule as coregents from 562 – 539bc)
Daniel 5 A – last day Belshazzar the Party's Over : Oct 12, 539bc . The wise of Babylon are clueless. Mama enters: she remembers Daniel (81 years old) who is called to interpret. God gave them the finger: the handwriting on the wall: mene = 1000 mene = 1000 tekel = 20 u-pharsin = and 500 = 2520, adios Babylon, enter Darius the Mede.
Daniel 6 A – 1 st year Darius, 539bc , treachery of the Chaldeans = Babylonian tradition lovers backfired, tried earlier with 3 Hebrew friends. Daniel (81 years old) put in the lion's den; Darius declared: Your God whom you serve will deliver you ; in the morning, the lion's den became cleanup crew <u>not</u> for Daniel, but for evil doers and their families.
Daniel 7 A – 1 st year Belshazzar , 553bc ; Belshazzar takes charge. Daniel (67 years old) has a vision: 4 great beasts: Babylon, LION; Medo-Persian, BEAR; Greece, LEOPARD; Rome DREADFUL beast; and 1 little horn are in focus for a specific, set time. Enter the Ancient of Days and the Son of man, the Messiah of God who will rule forever.
Daniel 8 H – 3 rd year Belshazzar , 551bc ; Belshazzar 3 years later. Daniel (69 years old) has a vision, he has moved to Elam, the doorway to Persia preparing the ground for Esther. Persia and Greece in focus; Medo-Persia RAM , and Greece, HE GOAT ; and LITTLE HORN, Antiochus Epiphanes, type of antichrist destroying daily devotion; rebellion in the sacred place; forward to end time: the Antichrist at work until he is broken . But we already know Messiah wins!
Daniel 9 H – 1 st year Darius, 539bc ; Daniel (81 years old) studied the word – he was doing the math, Jeremiah the prophet: 70 years to complete the desolations of Jerusalem. Daniel prayed, O Lord, Your city and Your people called by Your name – Gabriel interrupted who came to teach him: seventy shabua = sevens , detailing the rebuilding of the city Jerusalem; 69 sevens till Messiah is cut off... but not for himself — his crucifixion; gap in history... leaving 1 shabua - sevens (7 years) till a ruler / Antichrist comes like a flood of abomination and daily devotion ceases
Daniel 10 H – 3 rd year Cyrus, the Persian 537bc ; last vision of Daniel (83 years old) fasting, praying 3 whole weeks. One like a High priest touched him... in response to Daniel's prayer: I come to instruct you what shall happen to your people in the latter days ; in future... last and final days when the time of the Gentile nations is fulfilled.

Daniel 11 H – 1st year Darius, the Mede **539bc**; Daniel (**81** years old) learns: **Verse 1-20**, real details of history about Grecian Ptolemies / Egypt, **south**; and Seleucid/ Syria, **north**... particulars of their local history, validating the truth of God. **Verse 21 to the end of the chapter**, only the **vile Herodian leader** / the Antichrist is introduced... with many specific deeds in focus describing the worst of all scenarios he works until his demise... with none to help him.

Daniel 12 H – 1st year Darius, **539bc**; Daniel (**81** years old); Michael the archangel mops up; great tribulation and Armageddon with its eternal import in focus. Daniel sees it all; then told to close the book and seal it - make it secure until the last generation, it will make sense to them. Daniel was stunned. Who were these many people? He didn't know. We know: Ephesus, those **who lost their first love**; Laodicea and others who left the Lord standing outside their door; the foolish, unprepared when the Bridegroom came. This chapter describes the faithfulness of God who will do what is needed to take care of evil... once for all time.

Daniel says: the options are: **you**, **me**... or **God**. When Daniel prayed for God's people, he included himself, always.

Who is in focus?

Father God and the good news concerning His Son.