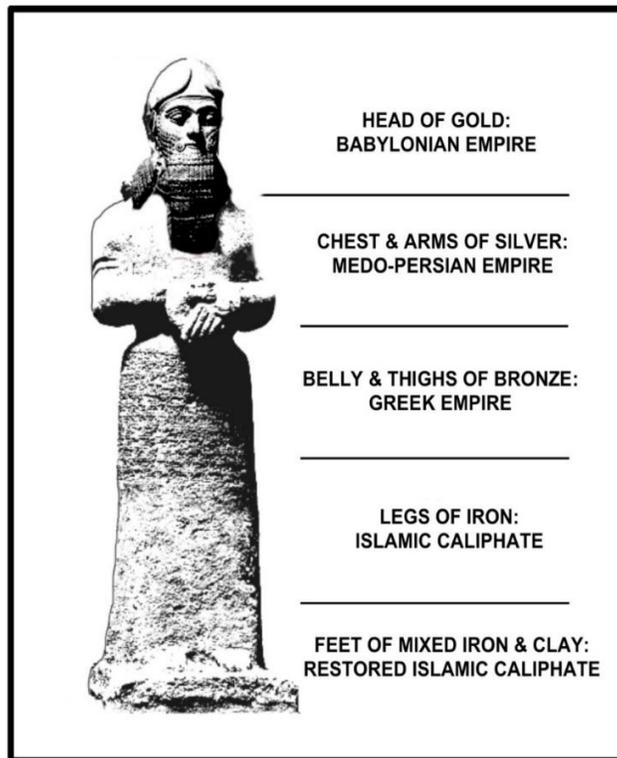


- Overview -

The 12 Chapters of Daniel

Understanding Daniel's Prophetic Perspective



DANIEL UNSEALED

*Establishing the '7-YEAR TRIBULATION'
As the Primary Theme for the Book of Daniel*

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Key Events in the 12 Chapters of Daniel

Showing the '7-YEAR TRIBULATION' as the Theme of Daniel

1. Daniel and His Friends Go to Babylon

- The exile begins – God protects the Jewish remnant in Babylon and returns them to the land 70 years later
- A season of darkness will befall the State of Israel in the last days as the West-Bank Jewish remnant goes into exile to Petra during the 2nd half of the Tribulation, protected & fed by God (Rev. 12:6) they return to the land

2. King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream & Blazing Statue of World Kingdoms

- The first disclosure of Satan's Kingdoms designed to destroy Israel & kill Messiah (5 of 8 revealed in Daniel 2)
- Shows the historical world empires that will make up the Empire of Antichrist: Babylon, Persia/Iran, Greece (Seleucid)/Turkey/Syria, and the 10-King, revived Ottoman Caliphate
- Christ is depicted as the rock that crushes the final empire of Antichrist and becomes a great mountain kingdom that fills the whole earth – a symbolic depiction of the Millennial Kingdom

3. The Image of Gold, Daniel's 3 friends thrown into the Fiery Furnace

- Parallel's the False Prophet's 'Image of the Beast' in Revelation 13:14-15. Bow down or be killed!
- Israel will not bow to the image of the beast in the Tribulation (Depicts the Muslim call to prayer & forced conversion to Islam enforced by the revived Ottoman Caliphate). Israel will be supernaturally preserved in the fiery trial of the 7-year Tribulation (Zech. 13:8-9) just as a 4th person (Jesus) appeared in the fiery furnace

4. Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of a Giant Tree being cut down

- The King's personal testimony: It takes 7 years for God to break the pride and humble King Nebuchadnezzar
- Analogy: The 7-year period of Nebuchadnezzar's insanity is a 'type' of the 7-year Tribulation period
- Analogy: It will take 7 years for God to break the pride of Israel in the Tribulation (Dan. 12:7)

5. The Handwriting on the Wall... Time is up for Babylon

- The sudden & unexpected fall of ancient Babylon to the Medes and Persians in one night
- Analogy: Just as the ancient Babylonian empire came to its end in one night by Cyrus the Great of Persia, so Mecca and Saudi Arabia as 'Mystery Babylon' will come to its end in one hour (Rev. 18:10, 17, 19) by the 10-king empire of Antichrist (Rev. 17:16-18). Israel's Temple will become the new Grand mosque of Islam in Jerusalem.

6. Daniel in the Lion's Den

- Analogy: God's protection & preservation of Israel during the Tribulation (Daniel is a "type" of Israel)
- A forewarning that Israel will be "thrown to the lions." God uses the Empire of Antichrist as His instrument to humble Israel and bring the Jews to repentance and receiving Jesus as their Messiah (Dan. 12:7; Rom. 11:25)

7. Daniel's Vision of 4 Beasts Representing 4 World Empires

- The 4 Beasts: Babylon, Persia, Greece/Seleucid and Islamic empire. These 4 historical empires also represent the world empires that comprise the Empire of Antichrist in the Tribulation
- Parallel passage in Revelation 13:2 shows the same empires make up the 'beast empire' of Revelation 13
- Analogy: The 'little horn' (7:8) represents Antichrist & connects him to the 'little horn' of Antiochus Epiphanes

8. Daniel's Second Vision: A Ram, a Goat, and a Little Horn (Syrian King, Antiochus IV, Epiphanes)

- History before it happens: Recounts Medo-Persia being conquered by Alexander the Great (Greece)
- This time, the 'little horn' (8:9) points to Antiochus Epiphanes IV, the Syrian king of the Seleucid Empire who's exploits in the second century BC serve as the forerunner of Antichrist: Similar activities, evil, hater of Jews

9. Daniel's Prayer and the '70 Weeks' of Years (490 years, the 'Calendar of Israel,' 7 years remain)

- Perhaps the Bible's greatest end-time prophecy: Daniel 9:24-27
- The first coming of Messiah • The second coming of Messiah
- A peace treaty will begin the Tribulation period
- The treaty will be broken by Antichrist & Israel's temple desecrated in the middle of the Tribulation
- Wars encompass all 7 years of the Tribulation
- Antichrist is destroyed at the Second Coming

10. Satan's high-ranking princes revealed who rule his 7 Empires in the invisible war against God & Israel

- Satan is depicted in Revelation 12:4 as a 7-Headed Dragon showing his creation of and connection to 7 specific empires designed for the purpose of destroying the nation of Israel and killing Messiah.
- Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, Ottoman (Rev. 17:9-11)

11. History Written in Advance: Over 150 prophecies in one chapter (See notes, MacArthur Study Bible)

- After Alexander the Great, his empire was divided into 4 kingdoms. Chapter 11 details the ongoing conflict between the two Grecian kingdoms of Ptolemy (Egypt/King of the South) versus the Seleucid Empire (Turkey-Syria/King of the North) . The purpose of the prophet's focus on the Seleucid division of the Grecian empire is because it serves as a "type" or representation of Antichrist's final empire in the Tribulation.
- The King of the North serves as the forerunner of Antichrist who wants control of Israel and Jerusalem
- Analogy: Provides the Middle East geography for the rise of Antichrist and crucial insights into his religious system (Islam) and the wars of Jihad against the nations during the Tribulation.

12. Chapter 12: The insightful wrap-up of the 7-Year Tribulation: The '70th Week of Daniel'

- Insights and events about the Tribulation period found nowhere else in Scripture including the resurrection of the Old Testament saints after the Tribulation
- Extra time is allotted at the end of the Tribulation for preparation and set-up of Christ's Millennial Kingdom

THE END OF TIME

The Hebrew phrase, “the end of time,” is found five times in the Old Testament and all five uses are found in the book of Daniel (8:17; 11:35, 40; 12:4, 9). In addition, a similar phrase, “the appointed time of the end,” is also found in Daniel 8:19.

Daniel 8:26, speaking of a prophetic vision, says, “For it pertains to many days in the future.” Then Daniel 10:14 tells us, “Now I have come to give you an understanding of what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision pertains to the days yet future.” Interestingly, this shows that at the end of Daniel’s book, where there is a concentration of future prophecy, a statement relating to the end of time is used at least eight times. This lets us know that the primary theme of Daniel’s prophecies relates to the Tribulation period.

THE TIME OF THE END... THE ‘INDIGNATION’

Daniel 8:17 says, “Son of man, understand that the vision pertains to the time of the end.” While verse 19 says, “Behold, I am going to let you know what will occur at the final period of the **indignation**, for it pertains to the appointed time of the end.” When we take 8:17 and 19 together, we see that they both must have in mind the same time reference also described as the time of ‘**indignation**.’ In the context, the first period of indignation would be to the events related to the time of Antiochus IV Epiphanes (Daniel 8 & 11) in the second century B.C. whose oppression of the Jewish people prefigures the activity of Antichrist.

But here (8:19) the angelic messenger tells Daniel he is speaking of “the final period of **indignation**, for it pertains to the appointed time of the end.” Throughout the Old Testament and the book of Daniel the word “indignation” consistently points to the Tribulation period right before the coming of Messiah.

THE 'INDIGNATION'

Daniel's use of the word 'indignation' is an allusion back to Isaiah 26 describing the Tribulation period,

*"Come my people, enter into your rooms and close the door for a little moment until the **indignation** passes"*(Isa. 26:20).

The concept of the "indignation," is frequently mentioned in the prophets and points to the Tribulation (Isaiah 30:30; 34:2; 66:14; Jer. 10:10; Dan. 11:36 KJV; Nahum 1:6; Hab. 3:12; Zeph. 3:8).

Daniel's amazing and accurate prophecy of '70 weeks' (9:24-27) outlines God's calendar for Israel. The Lord announced He would complete His work regarding Israel in 490 years. Since Israel rejected their Messiah and crucified Him, only 483 years has been completed. God then put Israel on hold and commenced with the Church-Age focusing on a period of grace and offering salvation to the Gentiles. Seven years still remain unfulfilled for God to complete His work for Israel.

Thus the prophecies revealed in Daniel have primary application to those living in 'the time of the end' referring to the 7-year Tribulation period that ends with Christ's Second Coming.

