



LISTENER'S GUIDE | SESSION 21 | AN OVERVIEW IN RETROSPECT | DR. RANDY WHITE

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## THE PURPOSE OF THE BOOK

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- The book of Daniel, more than any other book, gives the prophetic overview of the times of the gentiles, under the reign of the all-powerful Nebuchadnezzar.
  - Darby: *the "dominion of the head of the Gentiles, and of the Gentile kings"* <sup>1</sup>
  - Scofield: *"But Daniel is distinctively the prophet of the "times of the Gentiles" (Lk. 21:24, refs.). His vision sweeps the whole course of Gentile world-rule to its end in catastrophe, and to the setting up of the Messianic kingdom."* <sup>2</sup>
- The book is about the reign of the Gentile kings, but is concerned with the condition of the Jewish remnant.

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## AN OUTLINE OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

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- 1) Setting the Scene | Daniel 1:1-21 | 606 BC
  - a) An Historical Introduction | 1:1-4
  - b) Daniel's Introduction and Proposition | 1:5-16
  - c) God's Blessing | 1:17-21
- 2) The Prophetic History of the Gentile Reign | Daniel 2:1-7:28
  - a) Introducing Nebuchadnezzar | 2:1-30 | 604 BC
    - i) Nebuchadnezzar's dream and dilemma | 2:1-6
    - ii) The Chaldean Response | 2:7-11
    - iii) Daniel Seeks Revelation | 2:12-23
    - iv) Daniel's Presentation | 2:24-30
    - v) The Revelation and Interpretation of the Dream | 2:31-43
    - vi) Nebuchadnezzar's Response | 2:46-49
  - b) Nebuchadnezzar's Image of Gold | 3:1-30 | 580 BC
    - i) The Description of the Image | 3:1
    - ii) The Prestigious Gathering and Pronouncement | 3:2-6
    - iii) Obeying God not Man | 3:7-18
    - iv) Into the Furnace | 3:19-30
  - c) Nebuchadnezzar's Second Dream | 4:1-37 | 570 BC
    - i) Nebuchadnezzar's Praise of God | 4:1-3
    - ii) Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of a Tree | 4:4-17
    - iii) Daniel's Interpretation | 4:18-27
    - iv) The Dream Fulfilled | 4:28-37
  - d) The Handwriting on the Wall | Daniel 5:1-31 | 539 BC
    - i) Meet Belshazzar, last King of Babylon | 5:1-2

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<sup>1</sup> Darby, J. N. Synopsis of the Books of the Bible: Ezra to Malachi.

<sup>2</sup> Scofield, C. I., ed. The Scofield Reference Bible: The Holy Bible Containing the Old and New Testaments. New York; London; Toronto; Melbourne; Bombay: Oxford University Press, 1917.

- ii) Big promises for the one who can interpret | 5:3-7
  - iii) Daniel's Interpretation | 5:8-29
  - iv) The Fall of Babylon | 5:30-31
- e) Daniel in the Lion's Den | Daniel 6:1- 28 | 538 BC
  - i) President Daniel | vv. 1-3
  - ii) The Dirty Darius Decree | vv. 4-9
  - iii) Daniel Prays and Darius Laments | vv. 10-16
  - iv) Daniel in the Lion's Den | vv. 17-24
  - v) Darius' Second Decree | vv. 25-28
- f) Daniel's First Dream | Daniel 7:1-28 | 555 BC
  - i) The Four Beasts | vv. 1-8
  - ii) Judgment of the Empires | vv. 9-12
  - iii) The Kingdom of God Established | vv. 13-14
  - iv) Daniel's Inquiry and God's Interpretation | vv. 15-22
  - v) The Final Days of the Final Beast | vv. 23-28
- 3) Prophetic History of the Jewish Remnant | Daniel 8:1-12:13 | 553 BC
  - a) Vision of the Ram and the Goat | 8:1-27
    - i) The Circumstances of the Vision | 8:1-2
    - ii) The Vision | 8:3-12
    - iii) The Duration | 8:13-14
    - iv) The Angelic Insight | 8:15-19
    - v) The Interpretation | 8:20-27
  - b) The Most Important Chronological Prophecy in the Bible | Daniel 9:1-27 | 538 BC
    - i) The Timeframe of the Prophecy | 9:1-2
    - ii) Daniel's Humility | 9:3-19
    - iii) Gabriel's Arrival | 9:20-23
    - iv) Gabriel's Revelation of 70 Weeks | 9:24-27
      - (1) The Overview of the 70 Weeks | 9:24
      - (2) The Detail of the 70 Weeks | 9:25-27
  - c) The Most Comprehensive Prophetic Sweep of History in the Bible | Daniel 10-12 | 534 BC
    - i) The Introduction of the Messenger | 10:1-11:1
      - (1) The Timing of the Messenger's Arrival | 10:1
      - (2) Daniel's Humility | 10:2-3
      - (3) The Description of the Messenger | 10:4-9
      - (4) The Hand that Set Daniel Up | 10:10-15
      - (5) Daniel's Inquiry | 10:16-17
      - (6) The Voice of the Messenger | 10:18-11:1
    - ii) The Message Itself: *a prophecy of future history* | 11:2-12:13
      - (1) The Period from Persia to Alexander | 11:2-4
      - (2) The Period from Alexander to Antiochus IV | 11:5-20
      - (3) The Reign of Antiochus IV Ephiphanes | 11:21-35
      - (4) The Fulfillment of the Antiochus as the Type | 11:36-45
        - (a) Likely reference to the Antichrist | 11:26-39
        - (b) Certainly reference to the Antichrist | 11:40-45
      - (5) The Final Outcome and Hope of the Jewish Remnant | 12:1-3
      - (6) Instructions for Daniel | 12:4-13