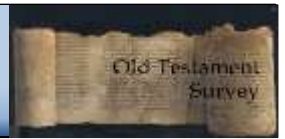




Daniel Reading Schedule



Bible Reading (Other chapters may be read for extra credit/benefit)	Textbook Reading (Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)
Daniel	Ch. 31
☐ ch. 1 ☐ ch. 2 ☐ ch. 4 ☐ ch. 7 ☐ ch. 9 ☐ ch. 12	☐ Daniel as Apocalyptic Literature ☐ Theological Themes of Daniel

Study Guide for Daniel

Chapter 1

- According to this chapter, how did Daniel and his friends end up in Babylon? What did the Babylonians plan to do with them? What reason was given for this? How were they to be prepared?
- How did Daniel resist being “defiled”? Why do you think that would have been defiling to him? What does this tell us about Daniel’s character?
- How did Daniel request for this? How did the official respond? What does it say about the reason Daniel had favor with the official?
- What did Daniel propose to the guard? What does this demonstrate about Daniel’s character, tact, and wisdom? What can we learn from this?
- What happened at the end of ten days? What does this demonstrate about God’s character?
- What does it say God gave to these four young men? How does this help explain all that they did in this book? How did the king of Babylon respond to these four? What does this demonstrate about God compared to the gods of Babylon? What difference does this make?

Chapter 2

- What did Nebuchadnezzar experience? What did he ask his advisors to do in response? What did his advisors say to him? How did the king respond? What did he promise and threaten to do to them?
- How did the advisors respond to the king’s demand? How did the king respond? What decree did the king make? What do you expect would happen next?
- How did Daniel respond to the decree of the king? What does this demonstrate about Daniel’s wisdom, tact, and character? What can we learn from this?
- What did the four friends do? What did they ask from God? How did God respond?
- What specifically did Daniel praise God for? How did he describe the way God deals with nations and rulers? What does this reveal about God’s power and wisdom?
- How did Daniel respond to the king when asked if he could interpret the dream? How did Daniel act as a good witness for God?

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- How did Daniel describe what the king had seen in his dream? What do you think the statue represents? What do you think the different parts of it represent? What did the rock do in the dream? What do you think this represents?
- How did Daniel interpret the dream? What did he say each part represented?
- What did Daniel predict about God's Kingdom? How did it relate in time to the other kingdoms described? How did it relate in power to the other kingdoms? How did it relate in length to the other kingdoms? What is the significance of this? What difference does it make?
- How did the king respond to Daniel's explanation? What did he say about Daniel's God? What did he do for Daniel and his friends? What is the significance of these things for the overall message of Daniel?

Chapter 4

- Who is speaking in this chapter? Who was he writing to?
- What did he say about the Most High God? What is the significance of this?
- What did the king experience? What did he ask of his advisors as a result? What did Daniel do? How is this similar to what happened in chapter 2?
- Describe the vision that the king saw? What do you think it represented? What did the messenger say about the tree and what would happen to it? What was the king to know as the result of what this dream predicted? What does this demonstrate about God and His purposes?
- How did Daniel interpret this dream? What did it represent? What did Daniel predict would happen to the king? Daniel proclaimed that the king would remain in that condition until what happened? What will happen after that? What advice did Daniel give the king? How is that significant for the message of this book?
- What actually happened to the king? In what circumstances did this happen? What do you think is the connection? How is this related to the message of this book?
- How did the king describe the end of that time? What did he say about God? Why do you think this was emphasized in this book? How does this fit into what the rest of the Old Testament says about God? How should we respond?

Chapter 7

- Describe what Daniel saw in his dream? What was each best like? What do you think each represents? How was the fourth beast different from the other? What does Daniel say about its horns? Why is this significant?
- What else did Daniel see at that time? How was the Ancient of Days described? Who do you think this represents? What difference does this make?
- What happened to the horn and the last beast? Why? What does this tell us about the power of the four beasts compared with the power of the Ancient of Days? How should we respond?
- What did the "one like a son of man" do? What was given to Him? How is His Kingdom described? Who do you think this represents? What does this tell us about His relationship to all the kingdoms of the world?
- How did Daniel respond to this vision? What did he ask?
- How was this dream interpreted for Daniel? What does each best represent? What will happen to the saints of the Most High?

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- What was said about the fourth beast? What would he do? How would that turn out?
- What will be the outcome for God's people, as promised in the interpretation of this dream? What difference does this make?

Chapter 8

- Describe the vision Daniel saw in this chapter. What are the two main things that he saw? How is each described? What did each do? What do you think they represent?
- What happened to the goats horns? What did they do? How did this affect God's people and their sacrifices? What do you think this represents? Why is this significant?
- What question was asked about this vision? What answer was given? What difference does this make?
- What did the angel tell Daniel the vision was about? What did he say each beast represented? What did he predict about a later king? What would he do? How would that turn out?
- How did Daniel respond to this vision?
- What is your overall impression of the visions of the last two chapters? What does this demonstrate about God's relationship to the nations and all of history? How does this contribute to the overall message of Daniel? How should we respond?

Chapter 12

- What does this chapter say will happen in that time? What will happen to God's people? What will happen to the people who had died before that time? Describe the two possibilities. What can we learn from this? How should we respond?
- What was Daniel commanded to do with the words on the scroll? Why do you think he was commanded to do this?
- What question was asked about the timing of these things? What answer was given? What was Daniel's response to this?
- How are the wicked and the righteous contrasted in this chapter? How are their destinies contrasted?
- What was Daniel commanded to do? What was promised to Daniel?
- What does this chapter promise about the future? How should we respond?

Study Guide for Textbook chapter 31

Daniel as Apocalyptic Literature

- According to the textbook, why is Daniel not placed with the prophets in the Hebrew Bible? How is it different? What is the significance of this?

Uniqueness of Apocalyptic Literature

- What other biblical book is an example of Apocalyptic literature? What characteristics does this book have in common with Daniel? How does this help us understand the definition of "Apocalyptic Literature"?

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Characteristics of Apocalyptic Literature

- Describe the characteristics of the “intertestamental apocalyptic books.”
- What is the meaning of the term “pseudonym”? What does this say about the intertestamental books? Is there any evidence that Daniel shared this characteristic?
- What is the main focus of these apocalyptic books? Does Daniel share this kind of focus and content?
- What is the meaning of “vaticinium ex eventu”? How is this seen in intertestamental apocalypses? Is there any evidence this is happening in the book of Daniel?

“Biblical” Apocalyptic

- What distinction does the textbook make between intertestamental apocalyptic books and Biblical apocalyptic? What are some Old Testament examples of the latter?
- What difference between Daniel and the other prophets does the textbook emphasize? How does it describe the future? What does it call its readers to do? What does this tell us about Daniel and how to read and understand it well?

Theological Themes of Daniel

The Sovereignty of God

- How does Daniel demonstrate the sovereignty of God over all nations? How did this influence the attitude of the first readers? How should it influence our attitude and actions today?
- How does the author use the word “gave” to illustrate this theme? What can we learn from this? How should we respond?
- How does the book of Daniel describe the relationship between the other nations and God’s Kingdom? What difference does this make?

The Pride of Humankind

- According to the textbook, how is this theme demonstrated in the two main parts of Daniel? What specific examples are given?
- How did God deal with human pride in its many examples in Daniel? What does this demonstrate about God’s character? How should we respond?
- How does the textbook suggest this is a problem in our time? How does it suggest we deal with it? How can you put this advice into practice?

The Ultimate Victory of God’s Saints

- According to the textbook, what is the “fundamental message” of Daniel? What specifically does the book of Daniel teach about this? How does it apply?
- What does Daniel teach about the “fifth kingdom”? How does it relate to the other kingdoms? What is the point of this? What difference does this make?
- What point does the textbook make about delay in Daniel? How should God’s people respond?
- What point does the textbook make about eschatology and ethics? How are these things related? What can we learn from this? How does it apply?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter