

Daniel

Suggested Bible Reading: Daniel 1: 1-21

*The following edited presentation is based on notes and
illustrations by the Rev. L. G. Daughman*

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NEW NAMES	
OLD	NEW
Daniel (God is Judge)	Belteshazzar (Bel protect the king)
Hananiah (God is Gracious)	Shadrach (Command of Aku)
Michael (Who is what God is?)	Mesach (Who is as Aku?)
Azariah (God is Keeper)	Abed-Nego (Servant of Nego)

Daniel ch. 1 vs. 6-7

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- Nebuchadnezzar's image of gold. ‡ Daniel chapter 3. ‡ Probably represented himself, was 90 feet high, and was set up in the plain of Dura... ‡ Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego were present. It is possible that Daniel was away on business. ‡ When the music played (horn, flute, lyre, harp and psaltery) the Kings' subjects were expected to bow down to the image. Otherwise they would be thrown into the fiery furnace. The three friends did not bow down. This was reported to the King who demanded an explanation. Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego declared that they would not bow down to the image. ‡ They declared their trust in God, who could deliver them from the furnace – "but if not..." they would still not bow down. They are given another opportunity to bow down; on their refusal they are thrown into the furnace. The king observes that there is ‡ a 4th person in the fire – verse 25. We believe that this person was the Lord Jesus Christ. The men come out of the fire unharmed. The King then declares that no one is to speak against the men's God. ‡ to open →

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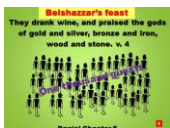
- Nebuchadnezzar's second dream. ‡ This is recorded in chapter 4. ‡ He tells Daniel the dream – vs.10-18. Outline the dream. ‡ Daniel explains the dream – vs.19-27. Briefly explain the interpretation. ‡ to open →

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- All that Daniel said came to pass. ‡ The tree was chopped down, leaving just the stump with a band of bronze. Nebuchadnezzar's ‡ humiliation, ‡ his boasting; ‡ he is told to break off his sins. ‡ He is told that he will be as the beasts of the field, ‡ and shall eat grass like the oxen, ‡ until he acknowledges the Most High God. ‡ to open →

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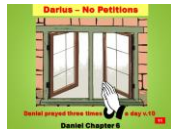
– Belshazzar's feast. He was probably the grandson of Nebuchadnezzar. ‡ Daniel chapter 5 tells us about the feast. They drank ‡ wine etc. The gold and silver cups were those taken from the temple in Jerusalem - vs.2-3. There were a ‡ thousand guests. ‡ to open →

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– While the guests were feasting, ✚ the fingers of a man's hand ✚ wrote on the wall – “Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin”. God has numbered your kingdom and finished it.... (etc.) vs.25-27. Daniel is brought in to interpret the writing. ✚ You have not glorified God v.23, ✚ That very night Belshazzar was slain v.30; ✚ King Darius receives the kingdom v.31. ✚ to open →

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– In the time of King Darius, there were those who were determined to achieve Daniel's downfall. They persuaded the King to make a law that for thirty days, no-one was to ask anyone for anything except to the King. Breaking that law would mean being thrown into the den of lions. ✚ It was Daniel's custom to open his window towards Jerusalem - chapter 6. ✚ He prayed three times a day. v.10. How important for us to come to God daily in prayer, and to read His Word. ✚ to open →

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- Daniel was caught praying to God. The King had no option but to throw Daniel into ✚ the lion's den, but he did say - ✚ “Your God who you continually serve, He will deliver you.” v.16. ✚ Early the next morning, the troubled King shouted down to Daniel – “Has your God been able to deliver you from the lions?” – v.20. ✚ Daniel's reply to the King was – “My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths.” v.22. The outcome was that Daniel was vindicated and the King destroyed those who had introduced the wicked law. Daniel was loyal to Jehovah, and insisted on daily prayer. ✚ to open →

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– Daniel's prayer for his people. ✚ Remembers Jeremiah's word from God about Jerusalem's 70 years of desolation. Chapter 9: 2. ✚ Confesses his sin, and the sin of his people. Chapter 9: 4-13. ✚ Pleads for God's mercy on His people. Chapter 9: 16-18. ✚ Asks God to hear and answer his prayer. Chapter 9: 19. ✚ to open →

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– Daniel's prophecy for his people. Chapter 9 is Messianic in character. ✚ Gabriel tells Daniel that 70 weeks are determined for his people. (70x7 years) ✚ 69 weeks (of years) from the time Nehemiah issued a decree to repair the wall of Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 2 v.1) until Messiah is cut off. Note: This is primarily concerned with dealing with sin through the coming of Messiah, (vs. 26-27) accepted

by Protestant Christians as fulfilled in the crucifixion, followed by the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70. (the 70th week) In more recent times, the view has become popular that the seventieth week is yet to be fulfilled. ‡ to open →

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– The coming of the Messiah as prophesied in ‡ Daniel 9: 25-26. Cut off? = ‡ the crucifixion. ‡ Daniel is told to seal the book until the end. ‡ In Revelation 20: 12 * we are told that the books were opened. Are we ready for that day?

‡ → End of slide show (black screen)

*Revelation 20 verse 12 – And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.