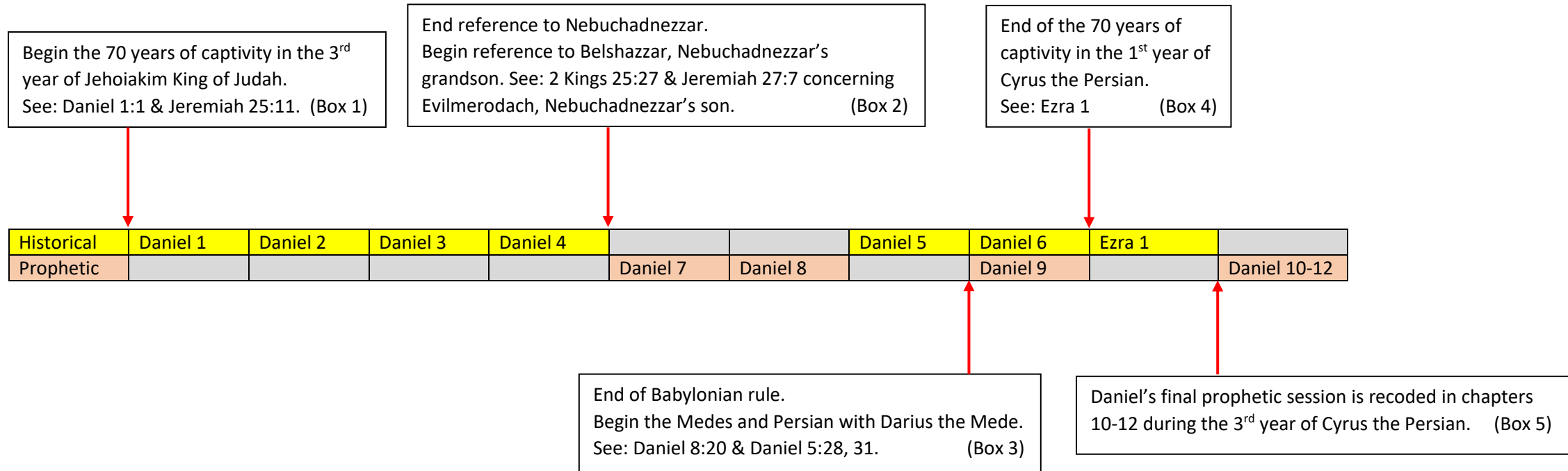


Chronological Outline of the Book of Daniel, with the addition of Ezra 1 for historical clarity.



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Box 1:

Jeremiah 25:11 – **And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.**

Daniel 1:1 – **In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.**

Daniel and his three friends were taken captive in this first wave of Babylonian captivity in the third year of Jehoiakim marking the beginning of the 70 years of captivity. Jehoiakim though continued to reign in Jerusalem under Nebuchadnezzar for another eight years until being taken captive in the second wave of captivity (2 Chronicles 36:5-8). The prophet Isaiah told King Hezekiah that this would happen in the future (2 Kings 20:16-18 & Isaiah 39:5-7), and five Judean kings later it came to pass during the reign of Jehoiakim. Jehoiachin succeeded Jehoiakim for 3 months before being taken captive in the third wave of captivity (2 Chronicles 36:9&10). Zedekiah succeeded Jehoiachin and reigned for 11 years before being taken captive in the 4th wave of captivity ending the reigns of the Judean Kings (2 Kings 24:17-25:10 & 2 Chronicles 36:11-13).

Daniel 1:

Daniel 1:1, 2 – **In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. (:2) And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.**

So, Daniel went into Babylonian captivity in the 3rd year of Jehoiakim's 11-year reign marking the beginning of the 70 years of captivity as spoken by the prophet Jeremiah, and decades later in Daniel chapter 9, it shows that Daniel understood what was going on concerning this 70-year prophecy spoken by the prophet Jeremiah. But the Kings of Judah along with the remaining of the tribes of Judah, Benjamin and the Levites in Jerusalem would continue for another 19 years under the ruling of Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon while Daniel and his three friends were already in captivity. Let's now stop here for a moment in the 3rd year of Jehoiakim's reign and take a look around Biblically, the Prophet Jeremiah is still in Jerusalem and the book of Jeremiah continues to record events in Jerusalem. There is also a young man in Jerusalem the age of 17 years whose name is Ezekiel, and he will go into captivity 8 years later after Daniel and become Prophet also in the 5th year of Jehoiachin's captivity (Ezekiel 1:1&2). And let's not forget that the Books of 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles which are also recording the remaining 19 years of Jerusalem under the reigns of Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin and Zedekiah while Daniel and his three friends are already taken captive into Babylon.

Daniel 1:3, 4 – **And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes; (:4) Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.**

In these two verses we see the word children used twice. The first use of the word children could be interpreted as descendants of Jacob of any age but as we read on this is not the case, but the word children here is referring to youth. Now we don't know how old Daniel was at this time, many speculate around 17 the same age as Ezekiel, but it is safe to

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say they are under the age of 20 where the young men of Israel could be numbered for war. Daniel and his three friends were placed under the care of Ashpenaz the master of the eunuchs. Now there is much debate whether Daniel was made into a eunuch or not, but the Bible is very clear that if Daniel was of the Kings seed he would have been made into an eunuch. You can learn more about this in 2 Kings 20:16-18, Isaiah 39:5-7, and Mathew 19:10-12. Where this question arises concerning Daniel is that children were also taken of the general population and of the princes too, which would be of tribes of Benjamin, Levi and Judah. You can learn more about these princes in 1 Chronicles 27:16-22. Also see Deuteronomy 23:1 concerning eunuch's congregating with the children of Israel if Daniel was made into a eunuch, he would have been an outcast if he returned to Jerusalem.

But despite being taken captive, carried away 500 miles to a foreign land what was on Daniels mind recorded in Daniel chapter 1? He and his friends didn't want to defile themselves with the king's food, and God blessed them with wisdom and understanding. Now before we move on to Daniel chapter 2 there is a couple of things we should know before we move on. Daniel chapters 1-6 are the historical chapters, and Daniel chapters 7-12 are the prophetic chapters. And these two portions both historical and prophetic overlap during the reigns of Belshazzar King of Babylon and Darius the Mede ruler of the Medes and the Persians. Also, when we move on through the remaining chapters of Daniel, we won't find the close of the 70 literal years of captivity, and the answer is right here in Daniel chapter 1. Remember the 70 years of captivity began in the 3rd year of Jehoiakim, king of Judah and then ended in the 1st reginal year of Cyrus. Let's now go to the last verse of Daniel chapter 1.

Daniel 1:21 – And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

This is a chronological summary of Daniels prophetic office. In chapter 1 we are still with Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon and will continue with Nebuchadnezzar all the way to Chapter 4. However, this summary in verse 21 skips over Nebuchadnezzar's son, grandson and Darius the Mede where it states, continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus. And two years after the 1st year of Cyrus Daniel has his final prophetic session recorded in chapters 10-12. And remember, what's so important about the 1st year of Cyrus is the close of the 70 years captivity, the first and last verses of Daniel chapter 1 delineates or defines the period of captivity. And you can re about the first year of Cyrus in 2 Chronicles 36:22&23 and Ezra 1.

Daniel 2:

Daniel 2:1-3 – And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him. (:2) then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to shew the king his dreams. So, they came and stood before the king. (:3) And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.

Hear we have a time stamp of Nebuchadnezzar's 2nd reginal year, Remember, Nebuchadnezzar in his 1st reginal year invaded Jerusalem in Jehoiakim's 3rd reginal year. Daniel and his three friends were still in training at this point and time under the care of Ashpenaz and were not supposed to stand before the King (Daniel 1:5).

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Now concerning Nebuchadnezzar's dream, Daniel chapter 2 is a historical chapter during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar. However, Nebuchadnezzar had the dream not Daniel, and when the astrologers, sorcerers and Chaldeans could not reveal and interpret Nebuchadnezzar's dream a death decree went out to destroy all of the wise men of Babylon which included Daniel and his three friends. But Daniel interceded and they petitioned the God of Heaven, the same God in whom they didn't want defile themselves before in Chapter 1, and in a night vision was this matter revealed to Daniel. And Daniel glorified the God of his fathers and later Daniel would reveal the dream and give the interpretation.

So, Daniel glorifies the God in Heaven before Nebuchadnezzar then first reveals the dream: a head of gold, arms of silver, belly of brass, legs of iron, feet mixed of iron and clay, and then the stone cut out without hands destroys the image. It is safe to say that Daniel has caught Nebuchadnezzar's attention. Next Daniel gives the interpretation: "**You are this head of gold**", so far so good, but after that "**shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee**" at this point Nebuchadnezzar could have beheaded Daniel but he didn't and when Daniel finished the interpretation Nebuchadnezzar acknowledge that Daniels God is God and promoted Daniel and his three friends, but Daniel chose to sit at the Kings gate talk about being humble. And Nebuchadnezzar's vision encompasses all of the Earth's kingdoms from Babylon to the second advent of Jesus Christ, which Daniel will learn more about around 50 or more years later in the first year of Belshazzar, Nebuchadnezzar's grandson in Daniel chapter 7.

Daniel 3:

This chapter has no time stamp, but it is a good lesson about human nature and future events. Apparently, Nebuchadnezzar didn't like the interpretation recorded in chapter 2. So here in chapter 3 he, Nebuchadnezzar decided to make an image out of all gold signifying that Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom shall stand forever. But only King Jesus' kingdom shall stand for ever. This golden image is about 90' tall and 9' wide, and the people are told to bow down to it when the music stops. Now let's pause for a moment and think about the loving God we serve, Nebuchadnezzar has blasphemed the God of Heaven, but instead of smashing him like a bug the God of Heaven is going to reveal His Son Jesus Christ to him. As we continue, when the music stops what did Daniels three friends do? Nothing, absolutely nothing, if they wouldn't violate God's laws of health they certainly aren't going to violate the 2nd commandment even though they would be thrown into the fiery furnace that may have been used to make the 90' image. With that being said, some of the Chaldeans informed the king that Shadrack, Meshach and Abednego wouldn't bow down to the image. By the way this may have been some of the same Chaldeans who were spared by the death decree in Daniel chapter 2 with Daniels intercession through God's revelation. So, Nebuchadnezzar gave them a second chance to bow down, but they basically told Nebuchadnezzar not to waste his time they will not bow down. And after that the furnace was heated 7 times hotter and they were thrown into the fiery furnace bound up, yet they were seen walking around with the presence of Jesus. The flames only burned the ropes and Nebuchadnezzar himself called them out of the furnace. Then Nebuchadnezzar blessed the God of Shadrack, Meshach and Abednego and decreed that no one shall speak against their God. Also, Shadrack, Meshach and Abednego were given another promotion in the province of Baylon. And many people ask where was Daniel during this time? The golden image was set up in the plains of Dura and Daniel was probably sitting at the king's gate as recorded in Daniel 2:49.

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Daniel 4:

This chapter you could almost call it the book of Nebuchadnezzar because the first 18 verses are Nebuchadnezzar's narrative until Daniel begins to explain and interpret the dream. The chapter starts out with Nebuchadnezzar glorifying the High God and that he had a dream and visions of this great tree which troubled him upon his bed. And he called the astrologers, Chaldeans, soothsayers and magicians but finally Daniel arrives. And Daniel was troubled by the interpretation for about an hour until Nebuchadnezzar convinced Daniel not to be troubled and to make known the interpretation. Then Daniel explains the dream and that the tree represents Nebuchadnezzar and the cutting down of the tree represents him being driven out of the kingdom for seven times or seven years. Daniel continues and in Daniel 4:27 – **Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity.**

So, a year passes by and Nebuchadnezzar has an I and My session with himself recorded in verse 30 and let's see what happens next.

Daniel 4:31 – **While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.**

What a loving God we serve, the Kingdom departed from Nebuchadnezzar and not his life, furthermore the kingdom remained in his family as prophesized all the way to his grandson. And God called Nebuchadnezzar His servant in Jerimiah 25:9, and God chastens those he loves.

Box 2:

A large time transition in the book of Daniel, from Nebuchadnezzar to his grandson, 2 Kings 25:27 records Evil Merodach King of Babylon, Nebuchadnezzar's son, in the 37th year of Jehoiachin's captivity which is the 45th year of the 70 years of captivity. Remember Jehoiachin was taken captive eight years after Daniel.

2 Kings 25:27 – **And it came to pass in the seven and thirtieth year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the seven and twentieth day of the month, that Evilmerodach king of Babylon in the year that he began to reign did lift up the head of Jehoiachin king of Judah out of prison;**

See Jerimiah 27:7 below with the names added in parentheses:

Jeremiah 27:7 – **And all nations shall serve him (Nebuchadnezzar), and his son (Evilmerodach), and his son's son (Belshazzar), until the very time of his land come: and then many nations and great kings shall serve themselves of him.**

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Daniel 7:

Daniel 7:1 – **In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.**

Notice the time stamp of the first year of Belshazzar, remember Daniel chapter 5 was in the last day of Belshazzar's life. As we go into the prophetic portion of the book of Daniel we go back in time from the historical section and then begin to move forward again. Please note that Daniel chapters 7&8 are chronologically located between chapters 4 and 5 of the historic section. A quick summary of Daniel 7, Daniel sees four great beasts come out of the sea which were diverse from one another. The first beast, the lion with eagle's wings was pretty obvious to Daniel because of the winged lions displayed in Babylon. The next two beasts Daniel will learn more about in chapter 8. And of course, the great and terrible fourth beast in which the little horn came out of and the first reference to the 1260 days is given, and remember the day for year principal applies with this time prophecy recorded in Daniel and Revelation.

Daniel 8:

Daniel 8:1 – **In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.**

Here we have another time stamp which is in the third year of Belshazzar king of Baylon. This prophetic session occurs two years after the first where verse 1 states: "**after that which appeared unto me at the first**". Which is referring to the previous session recorded in chapter 7. A quick summary of Daniel 8, Daniel now sees a Ram with two horns, which was overtaken by a he goat with a great horn between his eyes, and when the great horn was broken up four notable ones took its place. Let's stop here for a moment before getting to the little horn. It is later explained to Daniel by the Angel Gabriel that the ram with two horns is the Medes and the Persians, and the he goat with the great horn, which is Greece, in which that horn would break up into four notable ones. First notice that this vision leaves Babylon and starts out with the 2nd beast of Daniel chapter 7 now being represented by a ram. The reason probably for this is Daniel already understood who the first beast was in chapter 7. Second, the horn of the he goat represents the ruling of Greece under Alexander the great, whom died at a young age and left the kingdom to the strongest thereby causing the four divisions. Moving on next comes the little horn, and this can be very difficult, but we will let the Bible explain it.

Daniel 8:8 – **Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.**

Daniel 8:9 – **And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.**

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So, this is where it gets little confusing, we went from the 3rd beast of Daniel 7, directly to the little horn which came out of the 4th and dreadful beast in Daniel chapter 7. Remember this is the recording of Daniels vision, let's let the Angel Gabriel explain it to us.

Daniel 8:21 – **And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.** (Alexander the great)

Daniel 8:22 – **Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.**

Alexander dies in 323BC and leaves the kingdom to the strongest. This became a huge struggle for supremacy between many, and in 301BC in the **battle of Ipsus** where Seleucus, Cassander, and Lysimachus joined forces and took out Antigonus who briefly claimed to rule the Grecian empire. Leaving Seleucus, Cassander, Lysimachus and Ptolemy as the four kingdoms stated in verse 22.

Daniel 8:23 – **And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.**

Their kingdom meaning Alexanders divided Grecian empire. The transgressors are now introducing a new kingdom arising, and it comes to a full in the latter time of their kingdom, a king of fierce countenance, which is the little horn which came from the great and dreadful 4th beast of Daniel chapter 7. Now many claim that Antiochus Epiphanes from the Seleucid empire is this little horn in Daniel 8:9 who in 168BC campaigned against the Jewish religion forcing pagan worship in the Jerusalem Temple. Remember Daniel 8:9 stated that this little horn would wax great. Well, a year later in 167BC the Macbean revolt broke out in Jerusalem and Antiochus Epiphanes' men were eventually defeated and the Temple was rededicated. So much for waxing great. But, also back in 168BC in the Battle of Pydna Rome seized the first piece of Alexanders divided empire in Macedonia where Alexander the Great had first started out. And Rome continued to seize the divided Grecian empire all the way to 31BC in the **battle of Actium**, and with the death of Cleopatra 7th in 30BC, Rome has now seized full control of Alexanders divided empire. And back in 63BC Rome also took control of the pleasant land Jerusalem as referenced in verse 9. And this little horn waxed great which emerge from this great and dreadful beast in the 6th century AD which practiced and prospered by casting down the truth of salvation through Jesus Christ only.

Now back to this vision recorded Daniel Chapter 8, this little horn which would later emerge after the division western Roman Empire hence the 10 toes of Daniel Chapter 2 and the 10 horns of Daniel chapter 7. And this little horn, Papel Rome would take away the daily sacrifice of Jesus' heavenly ministry by casting the truth of Salvation through Jesus Christ and Him only to the ground!

Daniel 8:13&14 – **Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot? (14) And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.**

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The 2300 days is now something new being introduced to Daniel. Daniel has seen all of the succeeding kingdoms with Nebuchadnezzar's vision back in chapter 2, and he, Daniel knew who was the first kingdom when he stated to Nebuchadnezzar "you are this head of gold". Then in chapter 7 Daniel sees 4 beasts and the 4th is dreadful and terrible in which the little horn arises. Then here in chapter 8 the Angel Gabriel then identifies by name the next two succeeding kingdoms by name during Babylonian rule, so Daniel already knew the Medes and Persians were coming next before the handwriting on the wall in Daniel chapter 5.

Daniel 8:27 – And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

Brethren the newly introduced 2300 days causes Daniel to have a complete melt down. And let's not forget where Daniel left off with the 2300 days when we get to Daniel chapter 9.

Daniel 5:

Daniel 5:1 – Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand.

Here in Daniel chapter 5, we make a quantum leap in time from chapter 4. But if you read the book of Daniel in chronological order chapters 7&8 preceded chapter 5, whereas Daniel chapter 7 occurred in Belshazzar's 1st reginal year and Daniel chapter 5 occurred in Belshazzar's last day of life and the last day of Babylonian rule. And remember back in chapter 8 during Belshazzar's 3rd reginal year the next two succeeding kingdoms were revealed to Daniel by name.

Daniel 5:1&2 – Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. (:2) Belshazzar, whiles he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein.

Do you think the God of Heaven, the Creator of the Heavens, Earth and Seas and fountains of waters was well please with the desecration of the dedicated vessels of the Temple while they praised the gods of gold, silver, brass and wood? Absolutely not and what happened next? The fingers of a man's hand appeared within the same hour and wrote on the wall, and the king was deeply troubled, to the point that his knees were knocking together. Then the king cried out for the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the sooth-sayers. But the king's wise men could not interpret the handwriting. Now when the Queen heard what was going, she went to the king to tell him there is a man in his kingdom.

Daniel 5:11 – There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers;

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So, they called for Daniel whose Babylonian name is Belteshazzar not to confused with Belshazzar the king. And he told Belshazzar that he has not humbled himself before the Most High God whom as his father Nebuchadnezzar did after he was chastened which Belshazzar has knowledge of. And Daniel continued to rebuke the king for the desecration of the dedicated vessels of the Temple while they praised the gods of gold, silver, brass and wood! Then Daniel gave the interpretation:

Daniel 5:25-28 – And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. (:26) This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. (:27) TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. (:28) PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

Let's take a time out here before we read the last two verses of chapter 5, while all this is going on with Belshazzar king of Babylon, in this very hour the Medes and Persians are already entering the city. How is this possible the city is impenetrable? It is impenetrable; however it has a weakness, the river Euphrates runs right through the city for a water supply and transportation. Let's see what the word of God has to say about this:

Isaiah 45:1 – Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut;

This prophecy is given to the prophet Isaiah during or before the reign of Hezekiah king of Judah at least 150 years prior. The Medes and the Persians had diverted the Euphrates River up stream and when the waters receded, and under the command of General Cyrus they simply walked in with the river gates open without making a sound. Let's now continue to the last two verses of Daniel chapter 5.

Daniel 5:30&31 – In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. (:31) And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.

So, with that being said, this brings an end of the head of gold and brings in the chest and arms of silver with Darius the Mede as the ruler and with Cyrus the Persian as his general. Now before we move on to chapter 6 there are three Darius' mentioned in the Bible, Darius the Mede as we see in the above scripture and later in the books of Ezra, Haggai, and Zechariah we will see Darius again but this is Darius the Persian, AKA Darius the Great, AKA Darius I. And finally in the book of Nehemiah 12:22 Darius is mentioned again but this would be what we would call Darius II of Persian descent.

Box 3:

End of Babylonian Rule, but the 70 years of captivity continues for a couple more years with Darius the Mede. Cyrus was Darius' general at the time of invasion and would later succeed Darius the Mede, see, EGW's Prophets and Kings/The Return of the Exile/¶10 – **Daniel's prayer had been offered "in the first year of Darius" (verse 1), the Median monarch whose general, Cyrus, had wrested from Babylon the scepter of universal rule. The reign of Darius was honored of God. To him was sent the angel Gabriel, "to**

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confirm and strengthen him.” Daniel 11:1. Upon his death, within about two years of the fall of Babylon, Cyrus succeeded to the throne. And the beginning of his reign marked the completion of the seventy years since the first company of Hebrews had been taken by Nebuchadnezzar from their Judean home to Babylon.

Daniel 6:

Daniel chapter 6 is the last historical chapter in the book of Daniel. Daniel chapters 6&9 chronologically run in parallel, remember, chapter 6 is a historical book and chapter 9 prophetic.

Daniel 6:1-5 – It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; (:2) And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. (:3) Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm. (:4) Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him. (:5) Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.

Let’s see what happens next:

Daniel 6:6&7 – Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. (:7) All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.

And we all know what happens next, Daniel continues to openly pray three times a day facing Jerusalem (1 Kings 8:29&30) and gets thrown into the Den of Lions. But the Angel of the Lord shut the mouths of the lions.

So, this concludes the Historical chapters of the book of Daniel, and we are now going to continue with the remaining prophetic chapters of Daniel. Now we are going to primarily focus on the timing and structure of these next prophetic chapters, so when you study these chapters for yourselves you will get a better understanding of them. And the more you understand the more God’s Spirit can reveal.

Daniel 9:

Daniel 9:1 – In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; Here we have a time stamp of the first year of Darius the Mede, in the prophetic portion of Daniel, therefore Daniel chapter 9 follows Daniel chapter 5 chronologically with the death of Belshazzar, just as chapter 6 follows after chapter 5 in the historical section of the book of Daniel.

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Daniel 9:2 – **In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.**

So, the Prophet Daniel also knows prophecy and let's see what he does next.

Daniel 9:3 – **And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:**

So, Daniel recognizing that the 70 years of captivity is about to come to an end goes into a prayer and fasting session. He confesses we have sinned including himself and continues to seek supplication for his people all the way to verse 19.

Daniel 9:20 – **And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God;**

Question, is Daniel in vision or prayer? Prayer.

Daniel 9:21 – **Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation.**

“Had seen in the vision” the vision recorded in chapter 8 where Daniel passes out after hearing about the 2300 days! Remember Daniel is still in prayer.

Daniel 9:22 – **And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding.**

“Skill and Understanding” in what? The 2300 days in which Daniel didn't understand.

Daniel 9:23 – **At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.**

The matter and vision recorded in chapter 8.

Daniel 9:24 – **Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.**

Seventy weeks are determined or cut out of the 2300 days; this is a continuation of the vision in chapter 8 starting out where Daniel understood not.

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Daniel 9:25 – **Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times** (To restore and build Jerusalem as a whole, not just the temple as with the previous decrees)

Remember the seventy weeks are cut out of the 2300 days, therefore the 2300 days and the seventy weeks start at the same time with the going forth of this command or decree which was fulfilled in 457BC by king Artaxerxes recorded in Ezra chapter 7. Back to verse 25.

Daniel 9:25 – **Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times**

In this part of verse 25 the 70 weeks or 490 prophetic years is first subdivided into 7 weeks and then 62 weeks following totaling 69 weeks or 483 prophetic years, leaving one week remaining of the 70 weeks which we will learn about in verse 26. The 7 weeks or 49 prophetic years brings us to 408BC when the restoration of Jerusalem as a whole was completed leaving 62 weeks or 434 prophetic years remaining until Michael our Prince is Baptized in the Jordan River fulfilling the 69th week as stated by Jesus in Mark 1:15, **“the time is fulfilled”**.

Daniel 9:26 – **And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself: and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.**

The threescore and two weeks mentioned here follow after the seven weeks totaling 69 weeks, and after this 62-week time period, Jesus the Messiah or Christ will be cut off, which we will learn more about in verse 27.

Daniel 9:27 – **And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.**

When the disciples sat down with Jesus for the Passover Jesus said, **“Take, eat; this is My body”**. Followed by, **“for this is My blood of the New Testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins”**. And when did this symbolic ceremony go into effect?

Daniel 9:27 – **And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.**

On the cross of Calvary in the midst of the 70th week which followed **after** the 69 weeks. When the veil of the Temple was tore from top to bottom 3½ years from Jesus’ baptism in the spring of AD31.

Chronological Outline of the Book of Daniel, with the addition of Ezra 1 for historical clarity.

Before we move onto Daniel Chapters 10-12 let's close out the 70th week within the 2300 days. 3½ years after the crucifixion of Jesus Christ came the stoning of Stephen recorded in Acts chapters 6:9-7:60 bringing the 70th week which was determined or cut out for Israel to a close in the autumn season of AD34, leaving 1810 years remaining of the 2300 days recorded in Daniel chapter 8, which was fulfilled with the cleansing of the Heavenly Sanctuary in the Autumn season of AD1844 on October 22.

Box 4:

The end of the 70 years of Captivity where Daniel 1:26 states: **And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.**

Ezra 1:

Read Ezra 1 for chronological clarity concerning the 1st year of Cyrus the Persian before continuing to Daniel chapters 10-12 in the 3rd year of Cyrus.

Box 5:

Daniel's final prophetic session is recoded in chapters 10-12 during the 3rd year of Cyrus the Persian. The application of chapter numbering in this final prophetic session causes confusion, this final prophetic session is however broken up into three parts as follows:

10:1 through 11:1 is the introductory to this prophetic session.

11:2 through 12:4 is the unrolling of the scrolls of future history.

12:5 through 12:13 is a question and answering session with the man clothed in linen (Jesus).

Daniel 10-12:

Daniel 10:1 – **In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.**

So, here we have a time stamp of the 3rd year of Cyrus King of Persia. Remember we are in the prophetic chapters of Daniel and not the historical. But there was a major historical event that occurred in the 1st year of Cyrus king of Persia, when the 70 years of captivity as spoken by the prophet Jeremiah came to a close, which Daniel was anticipating in chapter 9. So, if you wanted to maintain a historical outline while studying the prophetic portion of Daniel you could read Ezra chapter 1 between Daniel chapters 9 and 10.

Now Daniel chapters 10-12 are one prophetic session, which is Daniel's 4th and final session. Where Daniel was mourning for three whole weeks and ate no pleasant food, and let's see what happens next when Daniel was by the Hiddekel River.

Chronological Outline of the Book of Daniel, with the addition of Ezra 1 for historical clarity.

Daniel 10:5&6 – **Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: (:6) His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.**

Compare this with Revelation 1:13-15 the apostle John has a similar vision. Now let's jump ahead to chapter 12 to tie these chapters, chapters 10-12 together.

Daniel 12:7 – **And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever that it shall be for a time, times, and an half; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.**

Notice here in chapter 12 that Daniel now hears the Man clothed in linen which was upon the waters which he also saw in chapter 10, this is one prophetic episode which has been broken up with the **addition** of chapter numbering. So where does the confusion come from?

Daniel 11:1 - **Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him.**

Brethren this is not a time stamp we are still in the 3rd year of Cyrus; the angel is explaining to Daniel that he the Angel only had to confirm and strengthen Darius the Mede in his 1st year. The relevance of this is found in chapter 10:13 whereas the prince of Persia withstood the Angel for 21 days and needed help from Michael, but Darius Daniel's friend needed only to be confirmed and strengthened at the beginning of his reign. So, remember chapters 10-12 is one prophetic episode, see EGW comments below before continuing.

EGW's Prophets and Kings/The Return of the Exile/¶10 – Daniel's prayer had been offered "in the first year of Darius" (verse 1), the Median monarch whose general, Cyrus, had wrested from Babylon the scepter of universal rule. The reign of Darius was honored of God. To him was sent the angel Gabriel, "to confirm and strengthen him." Daniel 11:1. Upon his death, within about two years of the fall of Babylon, Cyrus succeeded to the throne. And the beginning of his reign marked the completion of the seventy years since the first company of Hebrews had been taken by Nebuchadnezzar from their Judean home to Babylon.

Daniel 10:14 – **Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.**

What understanding? In what has been numbered chapter 10 in the book of Daniel only 1 piece of prophetic information was given in verse 20 where it states, "the prince of Grecia shall come", that's it, which Daniel already knew from his 2nd prophetic session recorded in chapter 8. Let's now go to Daniel 11:2

Daniel 11:2 – **And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.**

Chronological Outline of the Book of Daniel, with the addition of Ezra 1 for historical clarity.

The angel then begins revealing the latter days of time to Daniel here in chapter 11:2 and will continue this this shewing of the latter days all the way to chapter 12:4. And back in chapter 10 the only future revelation was in verse 20 where the angel says “**the prince of Grecia shall come**”. But remember back in chapter 10 verse 14 the angel stated, “**Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days**”. And here in Daniel 11:2 we see this coming to pass and will continue all the way to verse 4 in chapter 12, proving that chapters 10 through 12 are one prophetic episode that Daniel had in the 3rd year of Cyrus king of Persia.

End study see comparison chart below:

Nation/Event	Daniel 2	Daniel 7	Daniel 8	Revelation 13	Revelation 17
Babylon	Head of Gold	Beast 1, Lyon with Eagles wings		1 st Beast with a mouth of a lion	
Media Persia	Arms & Chest Silver	Beast 2, Bear raised up on one side	Ram with two horns and one was raised Higher than the other	1 st Beast with the feet of a bear	
Greece Under Alexander	Belly of Brass	Beast 3, Leopard with four wings of a fowl	He Goat with a notable horn Not touching the ground	1 st Beast was like unto a leopard	
Greece after Alexanders Death			4 notable horns		
Rome	Legs of Iron	Beast 4, Dreadful and Terrible with Iron teeth	Transgressors		
Divided Rome	Feet of Iron & Clay	10 Horns		1 st Beast with 10 horns with 10 crowns	
Papel Rome		Little Horn	Little Horn	1 st Beast with 7 heads	7 Heads are 7 mountains
USA				2 nd Beast with 2 horns like a lamb	
Jesus' 2 nd Advent	Rock cut out without man's hand smashes into the feet and destroys the Image				