

The Book of Daniel Part 1

Daniel 1:1-3

by Erik Olsen

I. DANIEL'S HISTORICAL SETTING

A. c.605 B.C. Daniel depretd to Babylon

-- Daniel 1:1-3: "In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god. 3 Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles..."

-Daniel the person:

- teenager at time of deportation
- wrote book of Daniel 70 years later near end of captivity

B. c.597 B.C. King Jehoiachin deported to Babylon (2 Kings 24:10-16)

C. c.587 B.C. Jerusalem destroyed and King Zedekiah (last king to rule in Jerusalem) deported to Babylon

-- 2 Kings 25:4-10: "Then the city wall was broken through, and all the men of war fled at night by way of the gate between two walls, which was by the king's garden, even though the Chaldeans were still encamped all around against the city. And the king went by way of the plain. 5 **But the army of the Chaldeans pursued the king, and they overtook him in the plains of Jericho. All his army was scattered from him.** 6 So they took the king and brought him up to the king of Babylon at Riblah, and they pronounced judgment on him. 7 Then they killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes, put out the eyes of Zedekiah, bound him with bronze fetters, and took him to Babylon. 8 And in the fifth month, on the seventh day of the month (which was the nineteenth year of King Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon), Nebuzaradan the captain of the guard, a servant of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. 9 **He burned the house of the LORD and the king's house;** all the houses of Jerusalem, that is, all the houses of the great, he burned with fire. 10 And all the army of the Chaldeans who were with the captain of the guard broke down the walls of Jerusalem all around.

-last king captured and his army scattered on the plains of Jericho where the glorious conquest began

D. For the Jews, the unthinkable has happened... without a king and without a homeland

-- Psalm 137:1-4 "**By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept when we remembered Zion.** 2 We hung our harps Upon the willows in the midst of it. 3 For there those who carried us away captive asked of us a song, And those who plundered us requested mirth, Saying, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!" 4 How shall we sing the LORD's song In a foreign land?"

E. But the promise of God still remains and the line of David is miraculously preserved

-- God promised to establish David's throne "forever"

-- 2 Sam 7:16-28: "[God spoke to David] your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. **Your throne shall be established forever.**' ... [David replied] 28 "And now, O Lord GOD, You are God, and Your words are true, and You have promised this goodness to Your servant. 29 **Now therefore, let it please You to bless the house of Your servant, that it may continue before You forever;** for You, O

Lord GOD, have spoken it, and with Your blessing let the house of Your servant be blessed forever."

-- all the son's of Israel's last king were killed, but David's line is preserved through King Jehoiakin

--*Jehoiakim -> Jehoiakin -> last king: Zedekiah*

-- 2 Kings 25:27-30: "Now it came to pass in the thirty-seventh year of the captivity of Jehoiachin king of Judah, in the twelfth month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, that Evil-Merodach king of Babylon, in the year that he began to reign, released Jehoiachin king of Judah from prison. 28 He spoke kindly to him, and gave him a more prominent seat than those of the kings who were with him in Babylon. 29 So Jehoiachin changed from his prison garments, and he ate bread regularly before the king all the days of his life. 30 And as for his provisions, there was a regular ration given him by the king, a portion for each day, all the days of his life.

II. INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF DANIEL

A. God's reign over Israel from the wilderness wandering before the conquest of Canaan to the future of God's reign of which Daniel provided new details unknown to all the other prophets:

1. God reigned over Israel with supernatural manifestations during wilderness wandering before conquering Canaan

-- Exodus 13:21: "And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire..."

2. Israel complained and God granted their request for a human king

-- 1 Samuel 8:19-22: "Nevertheless the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel; and they said, "No, but we will have a king over us, 20 that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles." 21 And Samuel heard all the words of the people, and he repeated them in the hearing of the LORD. 22 So the LORD said to Samuel, "Heed their voice, and make them a king."

3. the last human king taken away and return to God directly reigning over Israel

-- Hos 13:9-11: (originally spoken to the norther kingdom on the eve of their fall)
"O Israel, you are destroyed, **But your help is from Me. 10 I will be your King;** Where is any other, That he may save you in all your cities? And your judges to whom you said, 'Give me a king and princes'? 11 I gave you a king in My anger, And took him away in My wrath."

4. Daniel's 70 weeks prophecy pinpoints the exact day when Christ presents Himself as King of Israel

-- throne of David preserved through Jesus Christ

-- **Luke 1:30-33:** "Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. 32 He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and **the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. 33 And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.**"

-- Jesus Christ was the first King of Israel to return to Jerusalem after King Zedekia was deported to Babylon over 600 years earlier

-- Matthew 21:1-9: "Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to

Me. 3 And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." 4 All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying: 5 "Tell the daughter of Zion,

'Behold, your King is coming to you, Lowly, and sitting on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.'" 6 So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. 8 And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: **"Hosanna to the Son of David! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD! Hosanna in the highest!'"**

B. God is the Judge who gave the sentence and then stepped down and paid the penalty

-- *Hosanna* means "save us now" ... the common expectation among the Jews was that the Messiah would provide political salvation from the Romans, but Jesus Christ came to bring a different salvation - salvation from sin and freedom not on earth but in heaven

-- *Daniel* means "God is my judge"

-- *Jesus* (Greek for Joshua) means "Jehovah is salvation"

-- Hosea 13:9 – "O Israel, you are destroyed [judgement of God],
But your help is from Me [salvation of God]"

--Jesus Christ paid the penalty for our sins...

-- 2 Corinthians 5:20-21: "Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God. 21 For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him."

-- Rom 3:23-26: "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being **justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood**, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, **that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.**

- **propitiation**: "the atoning death of Jesus on the cross, through which He paid the penalty demanded by God because of man's sin, thus setting mankind free from sin and death. The word comes from an old English word, propitiate, which means "to appease." Thus, **propitiation expresses the idea that Jesus died on the cross to pay the price for sin which a holy God demanded of man the sinner.**" (Nelson's Bible Dictionary)

--love... the heart of God... the tender face of Jesus...