



The Daniel Series

Week 01

Daniel:

A Prototype of the
Mature Church

14 Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver but their own lives by their righteousness, declares the Lord GOD...16 even if these three men were in it, as I live, declares the Lord GOD, they would deliver neither sons nor daughters. They alone would be delivered, but the land would be desolate...20 even if Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it, as I live, declares the Lord GOD, they would deliver neither son nor daughter. They would deliver but their own lives by their righteousness. (Ezekiel 14:14, 16, 20)

We have to pay attention to the book and life of Daniel

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. 17 If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. 18 But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.”

19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with fury, and the expression of his face was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. He ordered the furnace heated seven times more than it was usually heated. 20 And he ordered some of the mighty men of his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace. 21 Then these men were bound in their cloaks, their tunics, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the burning fiery furnace.

Daniel 3:16–23 [ESV]

22 Because the king's order was urgent and the furnace overheated, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. 23 And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell bound into the burning fiery furnace.

Daniel 3:16-23[ESV]

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God.

The Main Message of Daniel – Jesus Christ and His Church

When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. (1 Cor 2:1-2)

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him. (Eph 3:8-11)

Daniel is a prototype for the end time church unlike any other in scripture

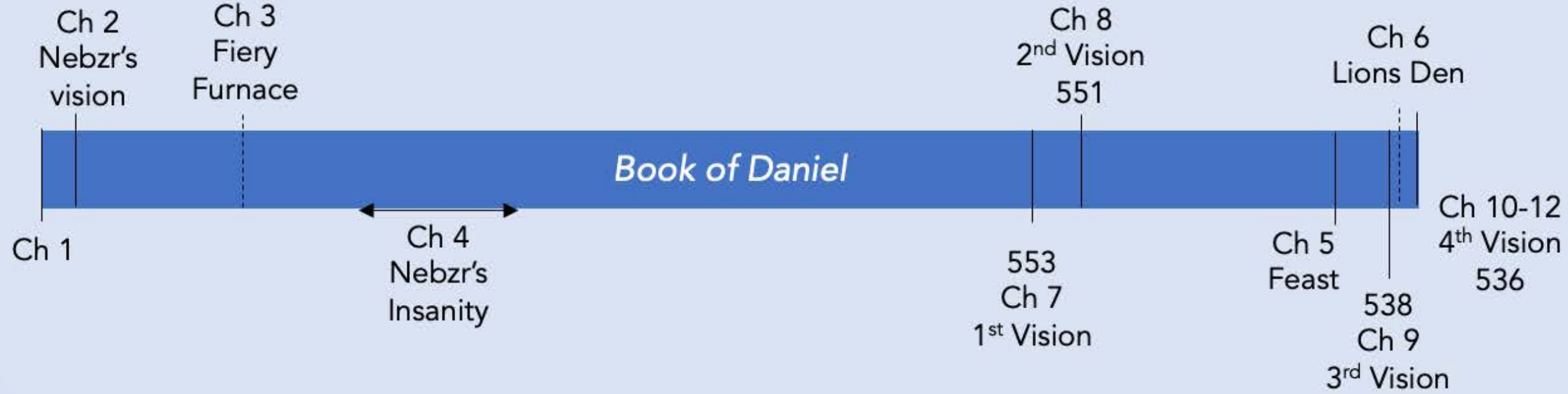
1. He lived through a prototype of the end of the age.
 2. He lived through a delay in the fulfilment of God's promises.
 3. He was identified as one of the greatest intercessors in history.
 4. He was identified as one of the wisest human beings.
 5. He was told repeatedly he was dearly loved in heaven.
 6. His prayers moved God to give him insight and set in motion heavenly conflict.
 7. There are no flaws in the way he was presented in Scripture
-

610 600 590 580 570 560 550 540 530 520 BC

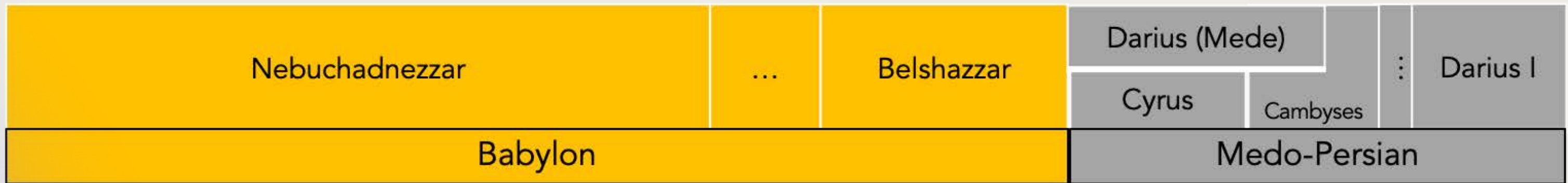
Israel



Daniel

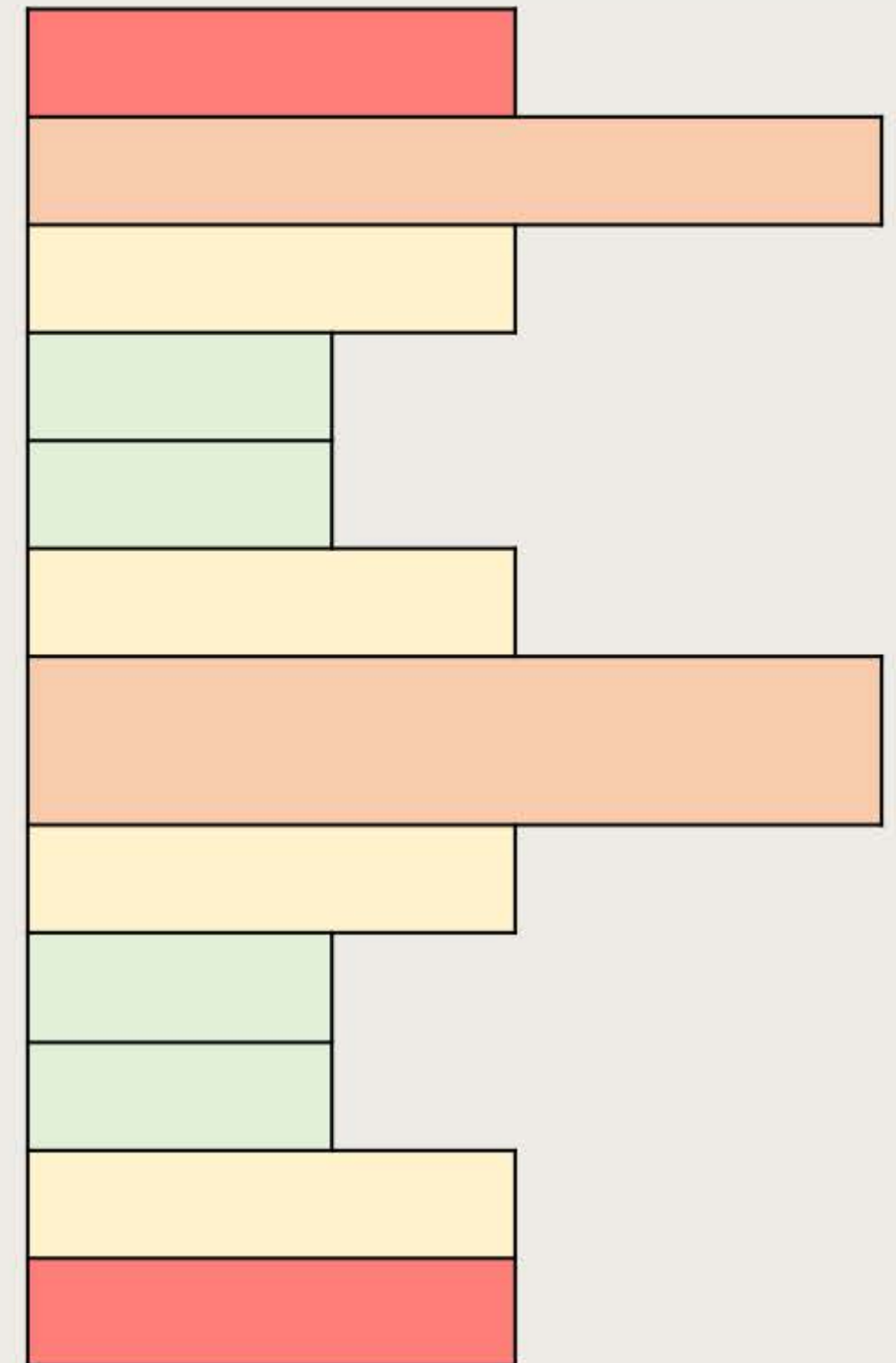


Kingdoms



Structure of the book of Daniel

Aramaic Mostly Third Person	Historical-Prophetic	1	Daniel is given wisdom and understanding
		2	Vision: 4 kingdoms (Great Statue)
		3	God delivers from trial
		4	God humbles Nebuchadnezzar
		5	God humbles Belshazzar
		6	God delivers from trial
Hebrew First person	Eschatological	7	Vision: 4 kingdom (beasts). The Son of Man receives an eternal kingdom and people from every nation and language.
		8	God delivers from trial
		9	Daniel humbles himself before God
		10	Daniel humbles himself before God
		11	God delivers from trial
		12	The wise shine like stars and lead many to understanding



The book is an invitation to understanding

Historical-Prophetic	1	Daniel is given wisdom and understanding	<i>Prototypes of the wise</i>
	2	Vision: 4 kingdoms (Great Statue)	<i>Daniel's wisdom is that he knows God</i>
	3	God delivers from trial	<i>S/M/A's witness leads the king to understand</i>
	4	God humbles Nebuchadnezzar	<i>Daniel gives understanding to the vision</i>
	5	God humbles Belshazzar	<i>Daniel gives understanding to the vision</i>
	6	God delivers from trial	
Eschatological	7	Vision: 4 kingdom (beasts). The Son of Man receives an eternal kingdom and people from every nation and language.	<i>Daniel asked for understanding</i>
	8	God delivers from trial	
	9	Daniel humbles himself before God	<i>Daniel understood from the scriptures</i>
	10	Daniel humbles himself before God	<i>Daniel set his mind to understand</i>
	11	God delivers from trial	<i>The wise will instruct many</i>
	12	The wise shine like stars and lead many to understanding	<i>Those who are wise will understand</i>

Understanding anchored on an eternal kingdom

Historical-Prophetic	1	Daniel is given wisdom and understanding	
	2	Vision: 4 kingdoms (Great Statue)	<i>Earthly kingdoms are replaced by eternal one</i>
	3	God delivers from trial	
	4	God humbles Nebuchadnezzar	<i>God is sovereign over all kingdoms (Dan 4:37)</i>
	5	God humbles Belshazzar	
	6	God delivers from trial	
Eschatological	7	Vision: 4 kingdom (beasts). The Son of Man receives an eternal kingdom and people from every nation and language.	<i>Climax/Apex: Revelation of Jesus. The Son of Man receives the eternal kingdom and rule with the saints</i>
	8	God delivers from trial	
	9	Daniel humbles himself before God	<i>Seventy weeks prophecy (Dan 9:24-27)</i>
	10	Daniel humbles himself before God	
	11	God delivers from trial	
	12	The wise shine like stars and lead many to understanding	

Faith that God will deliver his people from trial

Historical-Prophetic	1	Daniel is given wisdom and understanding	
	2	Vision: 4 kingdoms (Great Statue)	
	3	God delivers from trial	<i>Fiery Furnace</i>
	4	God humbles Nebuchadnezzar	
	5	God humbles Belshazzar	
	6	God delivers from trial	<i>Lions' Den</i>
Eschatological	7	Vision: 4 kingdom (beasts). The Son of Man receives an eternal kingdom and people from every nation and language.	<i>Saints are handed over to the beast</i>
	8	God delivers from trial	<i>Little horn tramples underfoot the saints</i>
	9	Daniel humbles himself before God	
	10	Daniel humbles himself before God	
	11	God delivers from trial	<i>Those who know God will resist the little horn</i>
	12	The wise shine like stars and lead many to understanding	

The test is to remain faithful in worship and prayer

Historical-Prophetic	1	Daniel is given wisdom and understanding	
	2	Vision: 4 kingdoms (Great Statue)	
	3	God delivers from trial	<i>Worship of the golden statue</i>
	4	God humbles Nebuchadnezzar	
	5	God humbles Belshazzar	
	6	God delivers from trial	<i>Daniel's lifestyle of prayer</i>
Eschatological	7	Vision: 4 kingdom (beasts). The Son of Man receives an eternal kingdom and people from every nation and language.	
	8	God delivers from trial	<i>Worship (temple sanctuary)</i>
	9	Daniel humbles himself before God	
	10	Daniel humbles himself before God	
	11	God delivers from trial	<i>Worship (Holy Covenant)</i>
	12	The wise shine like stars and lead many to understanding	

To know God is to humble ourselves before Him

Historical-Prophetic	1	Daniel is given wisdom and understanding	
	2	Vision: 4 kingdoms (Great Statue)	
	3	God delivers from trial	<i>Builds the golden statue seen in the vision</i>
	4	God humbles Nebuchadnezzar	<i>The king's beastly nature is revealed</i>
	5	God humbles Belshazzar	<i>God transitions the kingdom acc to the vision</i>
	6	God delivers from trial	
Eschatological	7	Vision: 4 kingdom (beasts). The Son of Man receives an eternal kingdom and people from every nation and language.	
	8	God delivers from trial	
	9	Daniel humbles himself before God	<i>The end of the beastly ruler after 70 weeks</i>
	10	Daniel humbles himself before God	<i>Overcomes by humble intercession</i>
	11	God delivers from trial	
	12	The wise shine like stars and lead many to understanding	

Chapter 1: Daniel's resolve to trust God leads to understanding

Chapter 1 depicts a remnant who trust in what God has said more than their own physical senses.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and instruction. (Prov 1:7)

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. (Prov 3:4)

They pass the test of the Garden of Eden.

Who will raise a company of Daniels - ones who know and trust God - in our generation?

Chapter 2: Anchoring on the Eternal Kingdom

Chapter 2 reveals the hope of the eternal kingdom that anchors our faith

Pattern of the vision:

- Gold (current; Babylon)
- Silver (to come within Daniel's lifetime; Medo-Persian)
- Bronze (to come after Daniel's lifetime; Greek)
- Iron, with part clay (future last human kingdom)
- Stone (eternal kingdom of God)

Daniel's visions are all centered on the culmination of the eternal kingdom of God. His later visions (Dan 7, 8, 9, 11-12) all expound on this foundation.

Chapter 3: The central issue is worship

Chapter 3 is not about how the righteous will be rewarded with success/influence. Rather, it is about the resolve to worship even when everything in Babylon resists it.

Twice in the book Daniel/friends are threatened with death:

- Dan 3: thrown in the fiery furnace over worship
- Dan 6: thrown in the lions' den over prayer

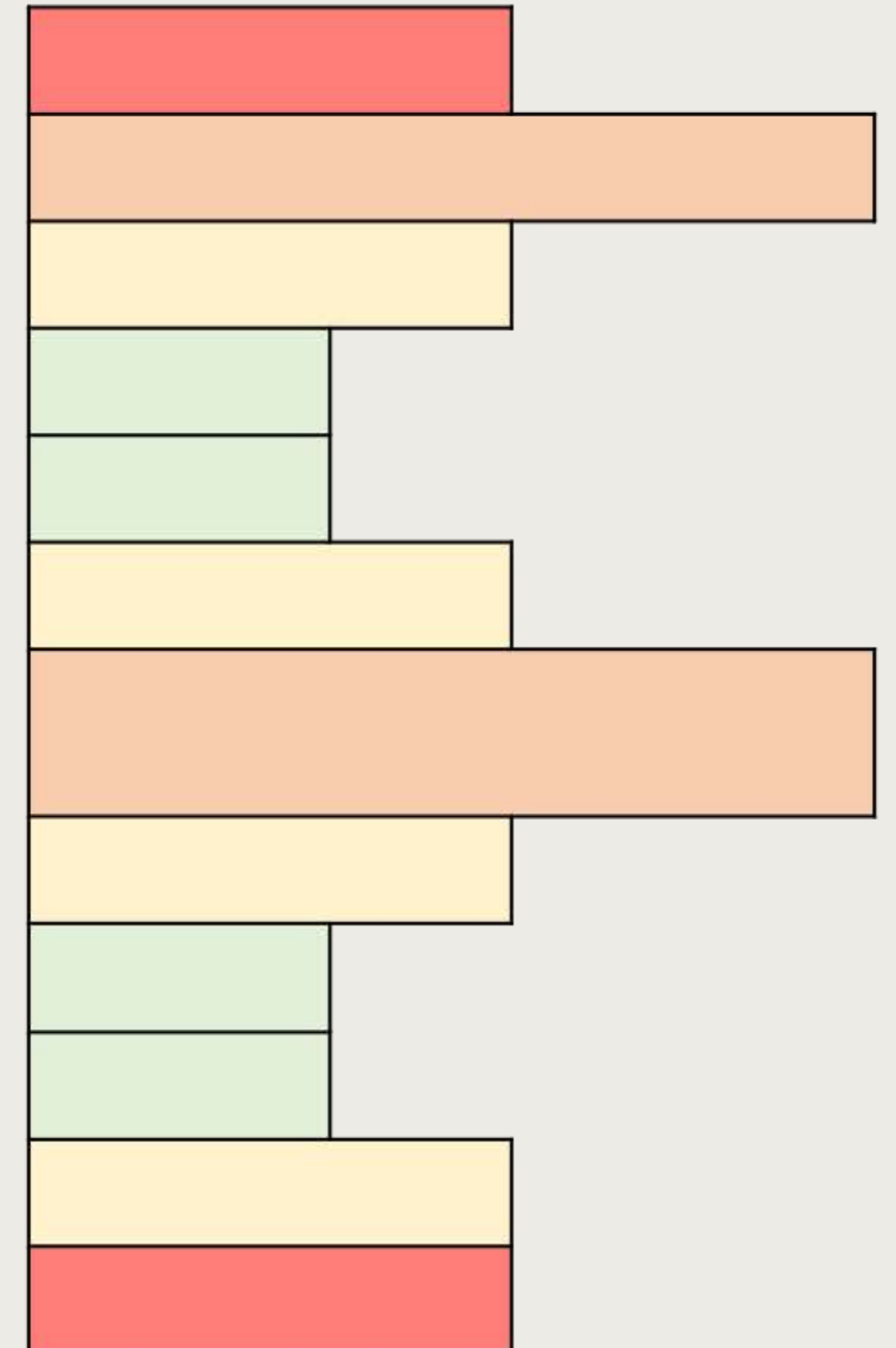
Their response is profound: God is able to deliver us from the fiery furnace, but we will remain faithful unto death even if he doesn't.

Twice more, the book of Daniel predicts a people who will stand firm in persecution:

- Dan 8: God delivers his people from the antichrist
 - Dan 11:32–35: God's people resist the antichrist even under intense pressure
-

Structure of the book of Daniel

Aramaic Mostly Third Person	Historical-Prophetic	1	Daniel is given wisdom and understanding
		2	Vision: 4 kingdoms (Great Statue)
		3	God delivers from trial
		4	God humbles Nebuchadnezzar
		5	God humbles Belshazzar
		6	God delivers from trial
Hebrew First person	Eschatological	7	Vision: 4 kingdom (beasts). The Son of Man receives an eternal kingdom and people from every nation and language.
		8	God delivers from trial
		9	Daniel humbles himself before God
		10	Daniel humbles himself before God
		11	God delivers from trial
		12	The wise shine like stars and lead many to understanding



The call is to remain faithful in worship,
anchored on the hope of the eternal kingdom,
even when living in a culture that resists it.

Let us worship