

The Daniel Series

Sermon Series
Starting 8 October

21 days

"And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever." Daniel 12:3

The Daniel Series

Week 02

Daniel:

The Gospel of the Kingdom

Recap: Chapters 1-3

Under the rule of Nebuchadnezzar (prototype of the antichrist),

Chapter 1: Resolve to trust God even when our senses tell us not to

Chapter 2: Resolve to anchor on the hope of the eternal kingdom

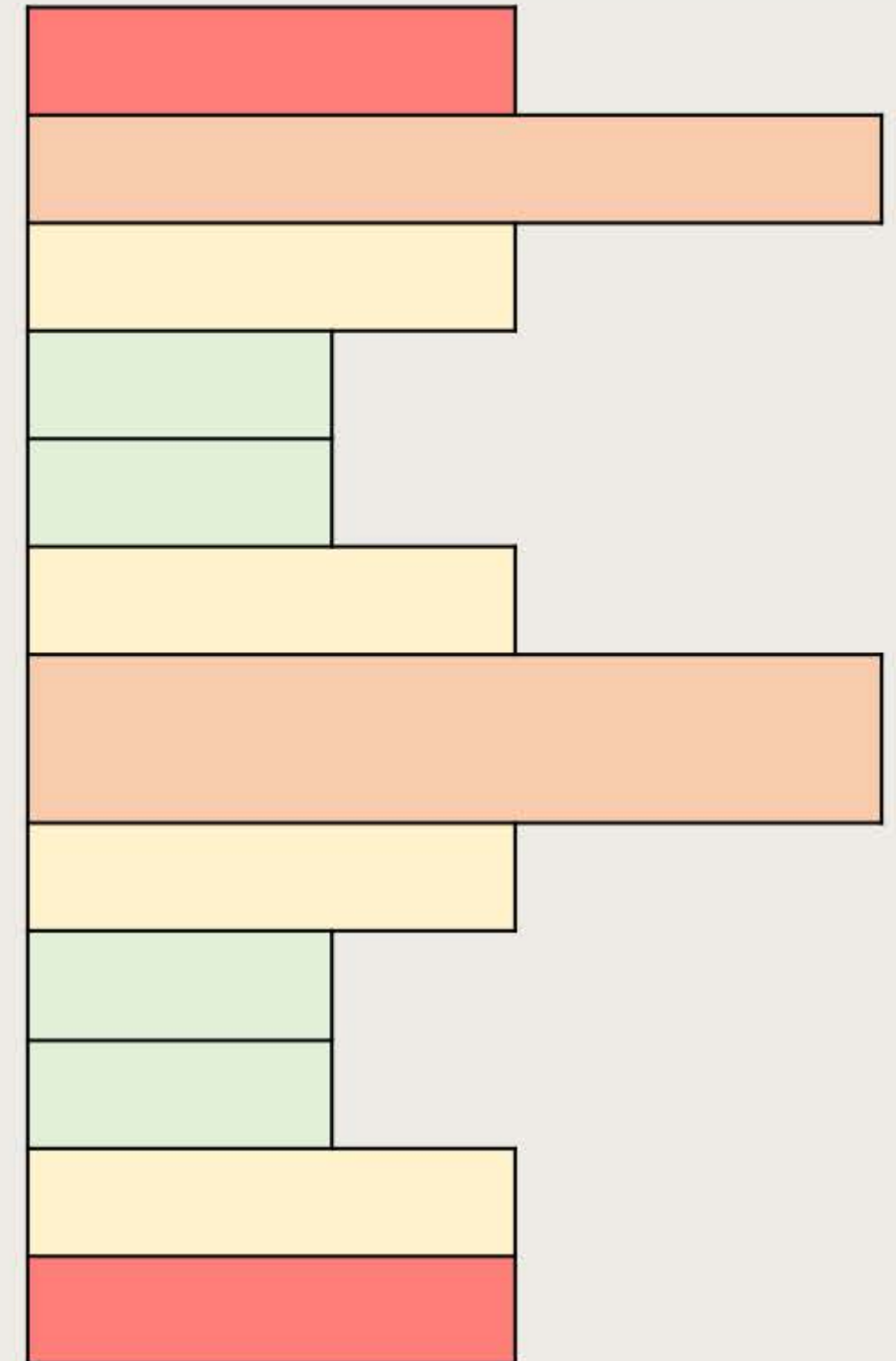
Chapter 3: Resolve to worship even when everything in Babylon resists it.

Daniel is a prototype for the end time church who overcomes

1. Crisis of faith: God had “failed” to deliver his people; evil had triumphed
 2. Personal suffering: Daniel is a slave that has his identity wiped away and put through cultural re-programming
 3. Seduction: Offered pleasure, power and privilege for conforming to Babylonian culture
 4. Spiritual Warfare: Wise men in Babylonian court likely practiced witchcraft; Daniel experienced principalities resisting his intercession (Dan 10)
 5. Great falling away: most of the exiles did not remain faithful. Of those exiled, we are only told of a small faithful remnant.
 6. Persecution: Daniel and his friends are threatened with death over the issues of prayer and worship.
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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

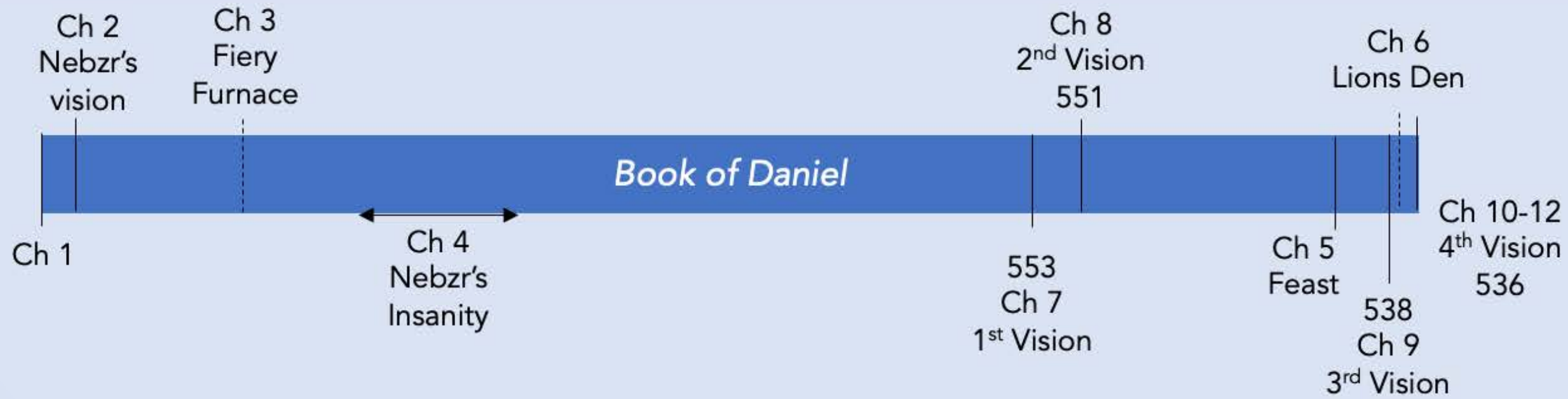


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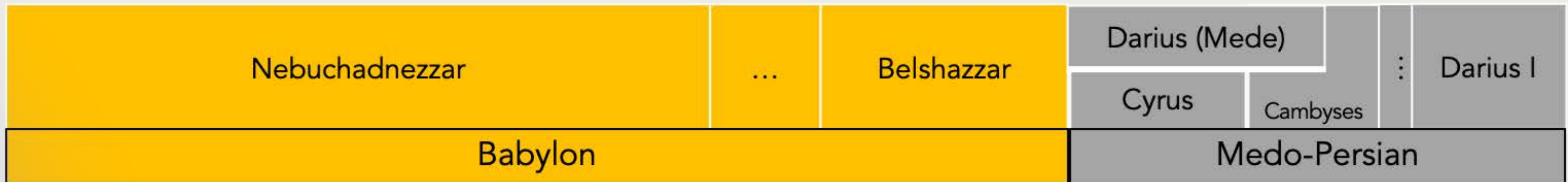
Israel



Daniel



Kingdoms



Daniel 7

Probably the most complete description of the gospel of the kingdom in a single chapter:

1. The present Age is under beastly rule
 2. All the kingdoms are distorted, setting the stage for the ultimate evil to manifest
 3. God (Ancient of Days) saves by bringing judgment to the beastly kingdoms
 4. The eternal kingdom is handed over to the Son of Man - a divine human unlike any other
 5. The kingdom is eternal (never passes away) and universal (dominion over all nations).
 6. After a pre-determined period of suffering, the saints overcome the beasts, and are ready to reign with the Son of Man
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Daniel 7

Daniel 7 is the pivot around which the entire book turns, the interlocking device that unites historical narratives (chapters 1–6) and eschatological visions (chapters 7–12) ... Daniel 7 is the key to understanding the major themes that run throughout the book: God's governance of history, the eschatological kingdom of God, the promise of the Messiah, the protection God affords his people even during the darkest hours of persecution, and eternal salvation he promises to all who are members of his kingdom already now through faith.

Andrew Steinmann

The Son of Man: Jesus' favourite title

Jesus referred to himself as "the Son of Man" 78 times in the gospels
More so than "Christ", "Son of God", "Son of David"

The title "Son of Man" was meant to point us to Daniel 7, the most comprehensive description of his identity.

Jesus' favourite topic: Gospel of the Kingdom - main point of Daniel 7

The Son of Man: Israel understood what it meant

The high priest said to him, “I charge you under oath by the living God: Tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God.”

“You have said so,” Jesus replied. “But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, “He has spoken blasphemy! Why do we need any more witnesses? Look, now you have heard the blasphemy.” (Matt 26:62–65)

Salvation through Judgment

God is both Judge and Saviour

And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. (Ex 14:13)

My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. (Isa 51:5)

"Hallelujah! Salvation and glory and power belong to our God, for his judgments are true and just; for he has judged the great prostitute who corrupted the earth with her immorality, and has avenged on her the blood of his servants."

(Rev 19:1-2)

Salvation through Judgment

Jesus secured salvation by suffering on the judgment of the cross

God's judgments are so perfect, He submitted to His own judgments

After offering mercy, God will comprehensively save by removing every instrument of evil and sin.

The Glory of Suffering

He [the little horn] shall speak words against the Most High,
and shall wear out the saints of the Most High,
and shall think to change the times and the law;
and they shall be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

But the court shall sit in judgment,
and his dominion shall be taken away,
to be consumed and destroyed to the end.

And the kingdom and the dominion
and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven
shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High
(Dan 7:25-27)

The Glory of Suffering

The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised.”

(Luke 9:22)

Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men.”

(Luke 9:44)

And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

(John 12:23–25)
