

DANIEL

LIFE IN THE LION'S DEN

Pembroke Bible Chapel
Mark Floyd – 2010 May 16
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INTRODUCTION TO DANIEL

(Daniel 1:1-7)

TAKEN CAPTIVE

- the Babylonians conquered Jerusalem in a series of raids starting in 605 BC (*1; 2 Kings 24-25; 2 Chronicles 36*)
- this was a fulfillment of prophetic warnings given by God to Judah who had:
 - forsaken the Mosaic Covenant (*Isaiah 24:5*)
 - worshipped false gods (*Jeremiah 1:16; 2:28*)
 - ignored Sabbath days/years (*Jeremiah 34:14*)
- they would go into captivity for 70 years (*Jer 25:1-11*)
 - the land would reclaim its Sabbath rests
- King Nebuchadnezzar brought back to Babylon:
 - gold & silver vessels from the temple (*2;5:2*)
 - excellent young men of Jewish nobility (*3-4*)
- Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah would be fed and trained for 3 years in the ways of Babylonian culture (*5-7*)
 - in order to serve in the King's palace
 - ***would they be culturally assimilated?***

“God is My Judge”

Book Overview and Practical Application

- originally written in two different languages:
 - Introduction: Daniel 1 (Hebrew)
 - The Times of the Gentiles: Daniel 2-7 (Aramaic)
 - Israel in Relation to the Nations: Daniel 8-12 (Hebrew)
- considered to be “apocalyptic scripture”...
 - with Ezekiel, Zechariah and Revelation
 - Greek *apokalypsis* = “unveiling of truth that would otherwise be concealed”

Daniel 1-6 (“Life in the Lion’s Den” - 1 Peter 5:8)

- watch for applications to today’s Christian living
 - life in a culture hostile to faith in the Lord
 - *are you being assimilated?*

Daniel 7-12 (“The Key to Prophetic Revelation”)

- God has unchanging plans for both Jew and Gentile
 - fulfilled according to His timetable
- rejoice that Jesus Christ has a pre-eminent place in those plans (e.g., “70 Weeks” of prophecy in Daniel 9)

“Worldly saints do not capture the world, but become instead the world’s captives” (John Walvoord)