

Daniel Introduction

August 3, 2025

Daniel, as a captive of Babylonian soldiers, faced a long and difficult march to a new land. The 500 mile trek, under harsh conditions, certainly tested his faith in God. This land is now Iraq.

The first six chapters of Daniel give a selected historical look at the Babylonian captivity beginning with the conquest of Jerusalem to the downfall of the Babylonians and the rise of the Medo-Persian Empire. The final six chapters of Daniel (7-12) reveal Daniel's prophetic visions and the hope of God's coming kingdom. The following chart helps us to see the timeline of these two segment divisions. Note that chapters 7 and 8 take place prior to the events recorded in chapters 5 and 6. The prophets Jeremiah (627-586 BC), Habakkuk (612-588 BC), and Ezekiel (593-571 BC) are contemporary prophets to Daniel.

Chapter 1- 605 BC First siege, Daniel was 15 years old, Babylonian Empire, King Nebuchadnezzar

Chapter 2- 603 BC Second siege 597 BC, Daniel was 17-23 years old

Chapter 3- 586 BC Third siege, Daniel was 34 years old

Chapter 4- 575 BC, Daniel was 45 years old, King Nebuchadnezzar died in 562 BC

GAP Time period between Kings Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar when other kings ruled the empire

Chapter 7- 553 BC, Daniel was 67 years old, Kings Belshazzar and Nabonidus

Chapter 8- 551 BC, Daniel was 69 years old

Chapters 5, 6, 9- 539 BC, Daniel was 81 years old, Medo-Persian Empire, Kings Darius the Mede and Cyrus the Persian

Chapter 10, 11, 12- 537 BC, Daniel was 83 years old

Homework for August 10, 2025: Read Daniel 1:1-16 and pages 17-top of 24 in the Be Resolute book by Warren Wiersbe. Answer questions 1-3 and 5-6 on pages 29-30.