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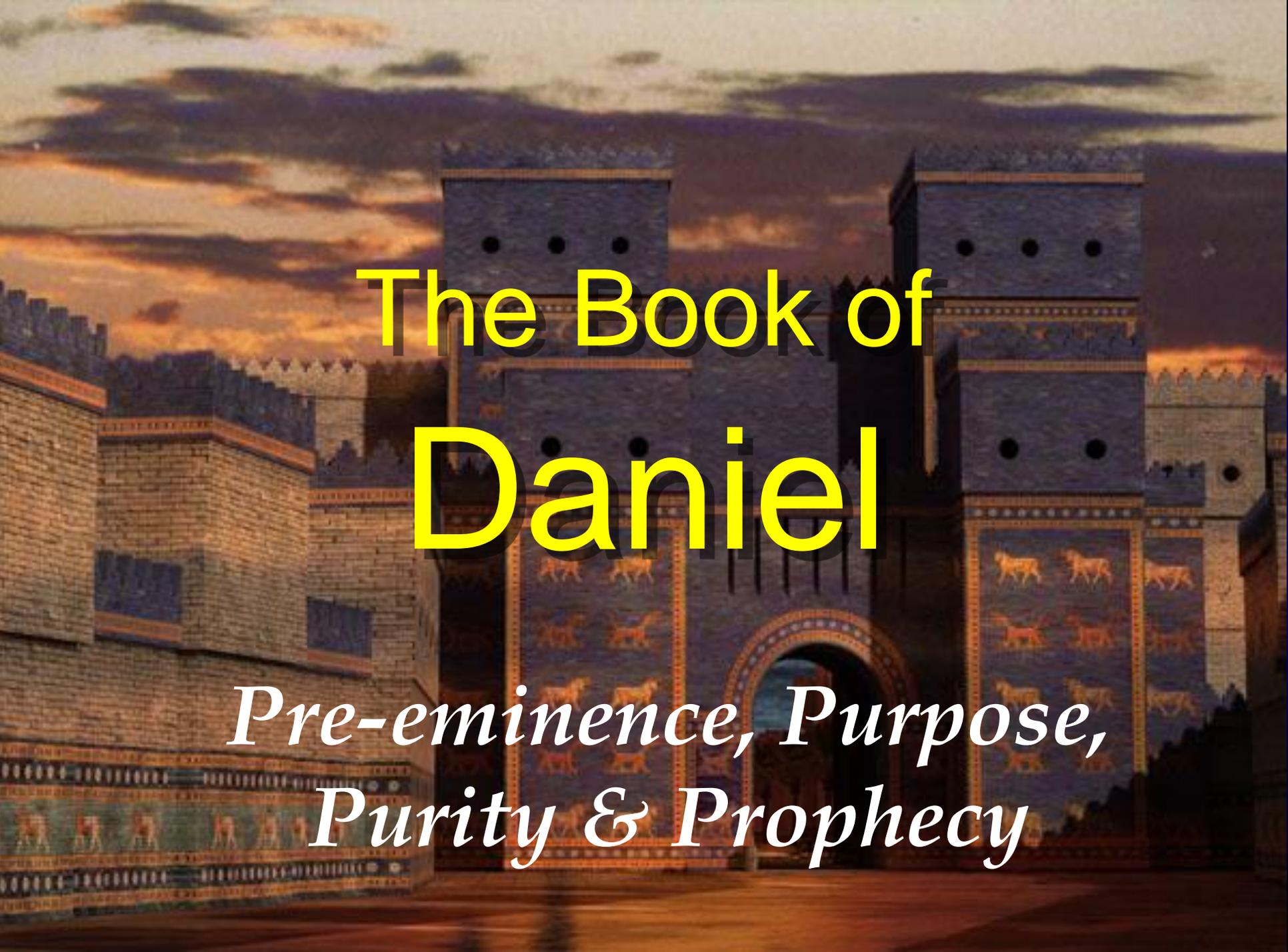
Through The Bible

Session 28

The Book of Daniel

(Chapters 5-12)

From the miracle of our origin to the mystery of our destiny



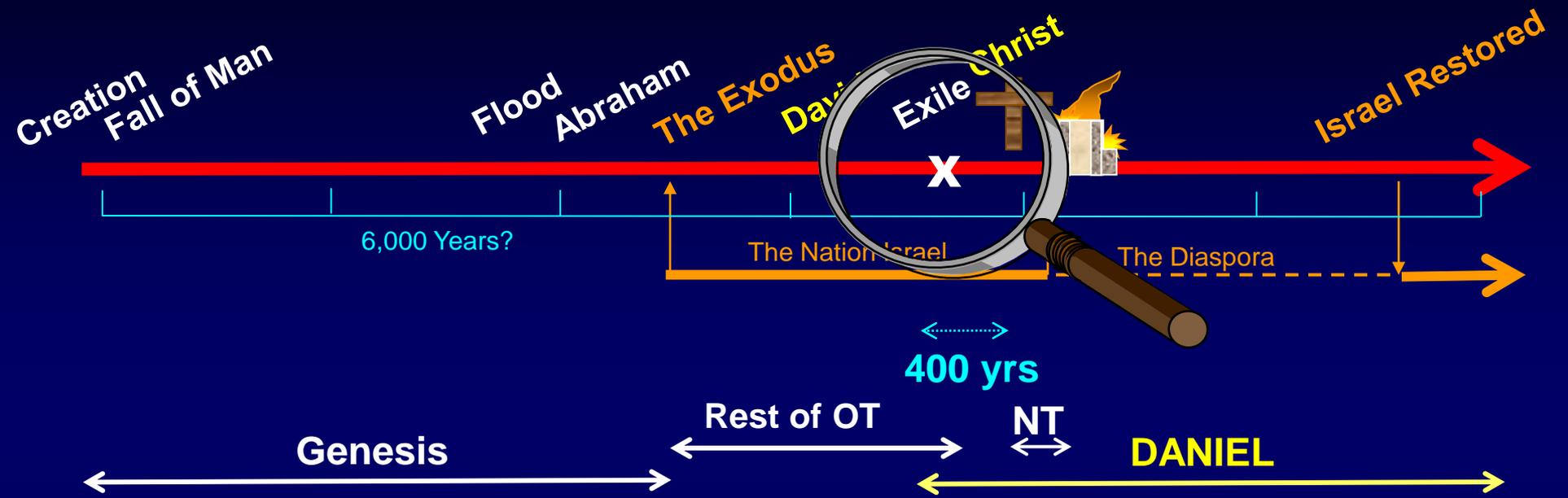
The Book of Daniel

*Pre-eminence, Purpose,
Purity & Prophecy*

Theme of the Book

- Pre-eminence - The Lord Reigns!
- Purpose
 - Purpose in life
 - Purpose of heart
- Purity
 - The decision is made before the choice is presented!
- Prophecy
 - Job 24:1 *“Why do they that know Him not see His days?”*

The Panorama of History



- The book of Daniel records the collapse of the nation of Israel and the beginning of the **'times of the gentiles'** - a period of time that will last until the Messiah of Israel will return and re-establish Israel.

Organization

- Historical Chapters 1 - 6

- 1 Deported as a teenager

Hebrew

- 2 Nebuchadenzzar's Dream

- 3 Bow or Burn: the Furnace

- 4 Nebuchadnezzar's Pride

- 5 The Fall of Babylon

- 6 The Lion's Den

- 7 Daniel's Vision

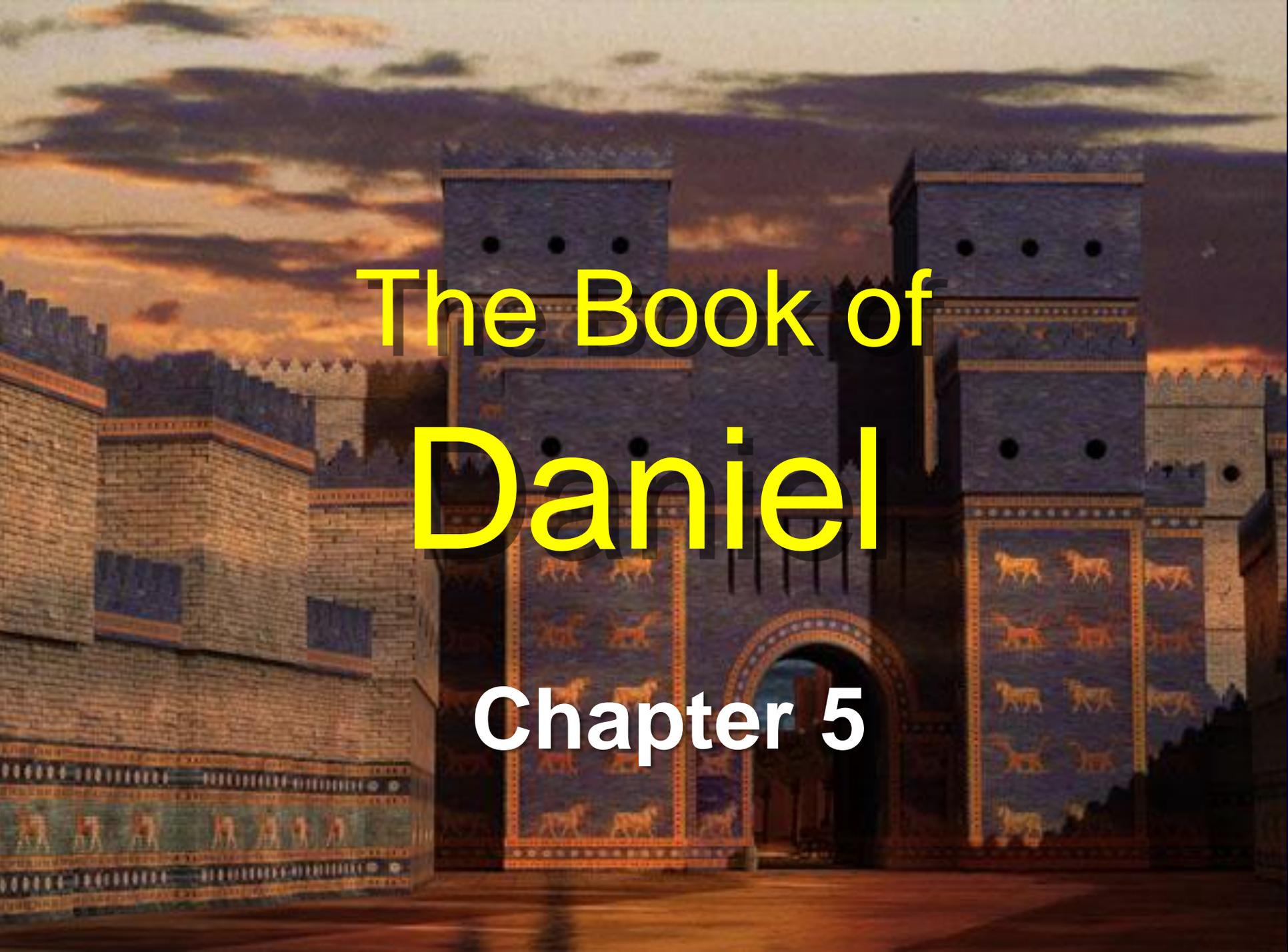
Aramaic

Organization

- Visions Chapters 7 - 12
 - 7 Four Beasts
 - 8 The Ram and the He-Goat
 - 9 The Seventy Weeks
 - 10 A Glimpse of the Dark Side
 - 11 The “Silent Years” (in advance)
 - 12 The Consummation of All Things

Aramaic

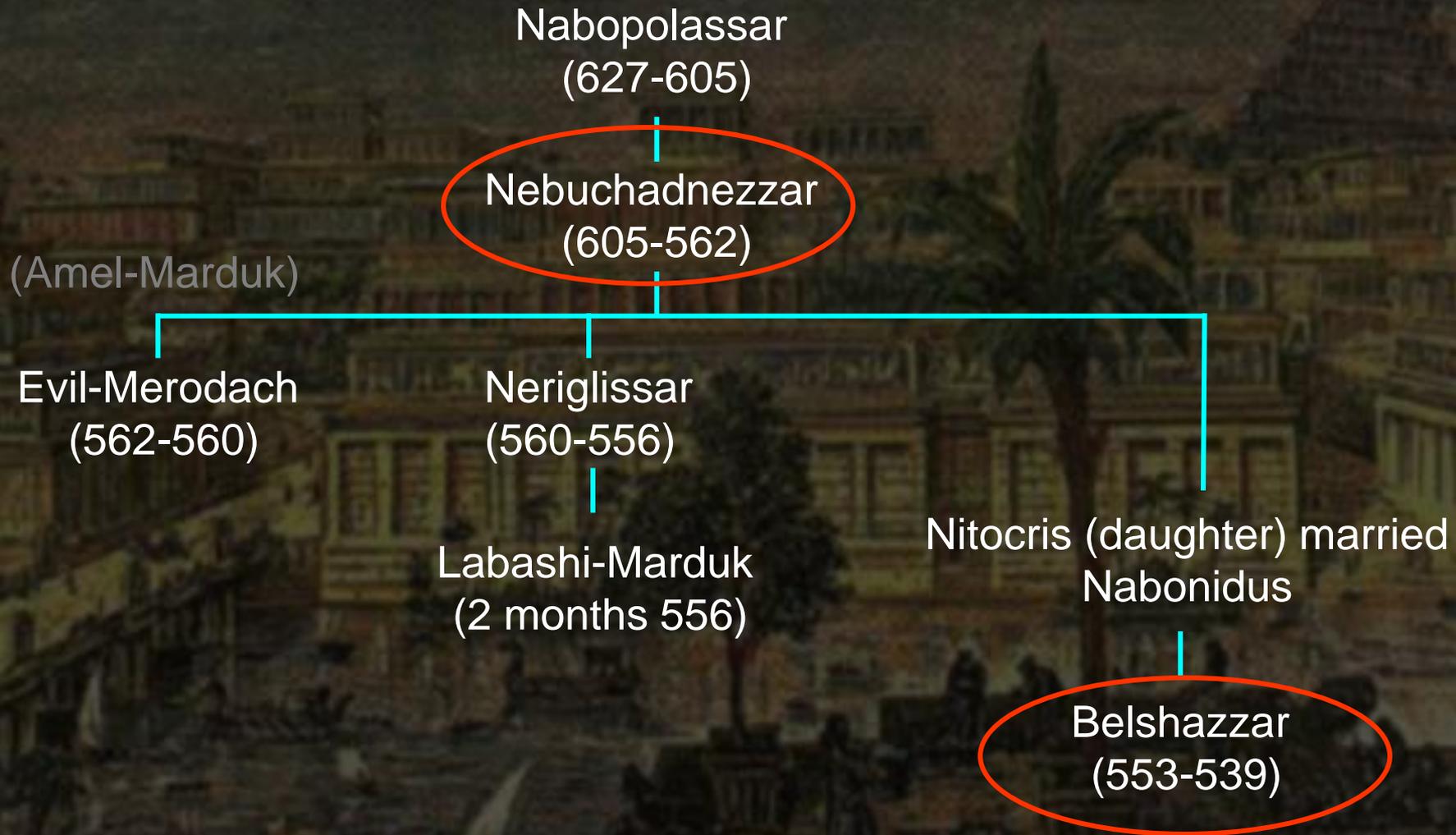
Hebrew



The Book of Daniel

Chapter 5

Kings of Babylonian Empire



The Fall of Babylon

- Nebuchadnezzar has been dead 23yrs
- News that the now united Medes & Persians are now on the move and heading for Babylon has filtered through to the Palace
- In this emergency situation what should the king do?
- Throw a party!
 - 1000 of the lords of Babylon invited
 - If over confidence was his first mistake...

² Belshazzar, whiles he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein.

Daniel 5:2

5 In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

6 Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.

Daniel 5:5-6

- Why couldn't anyone read the writing?
- The consensus is that it was encrypted

7 The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.

Daniel 5:7

The Fall of Babylon

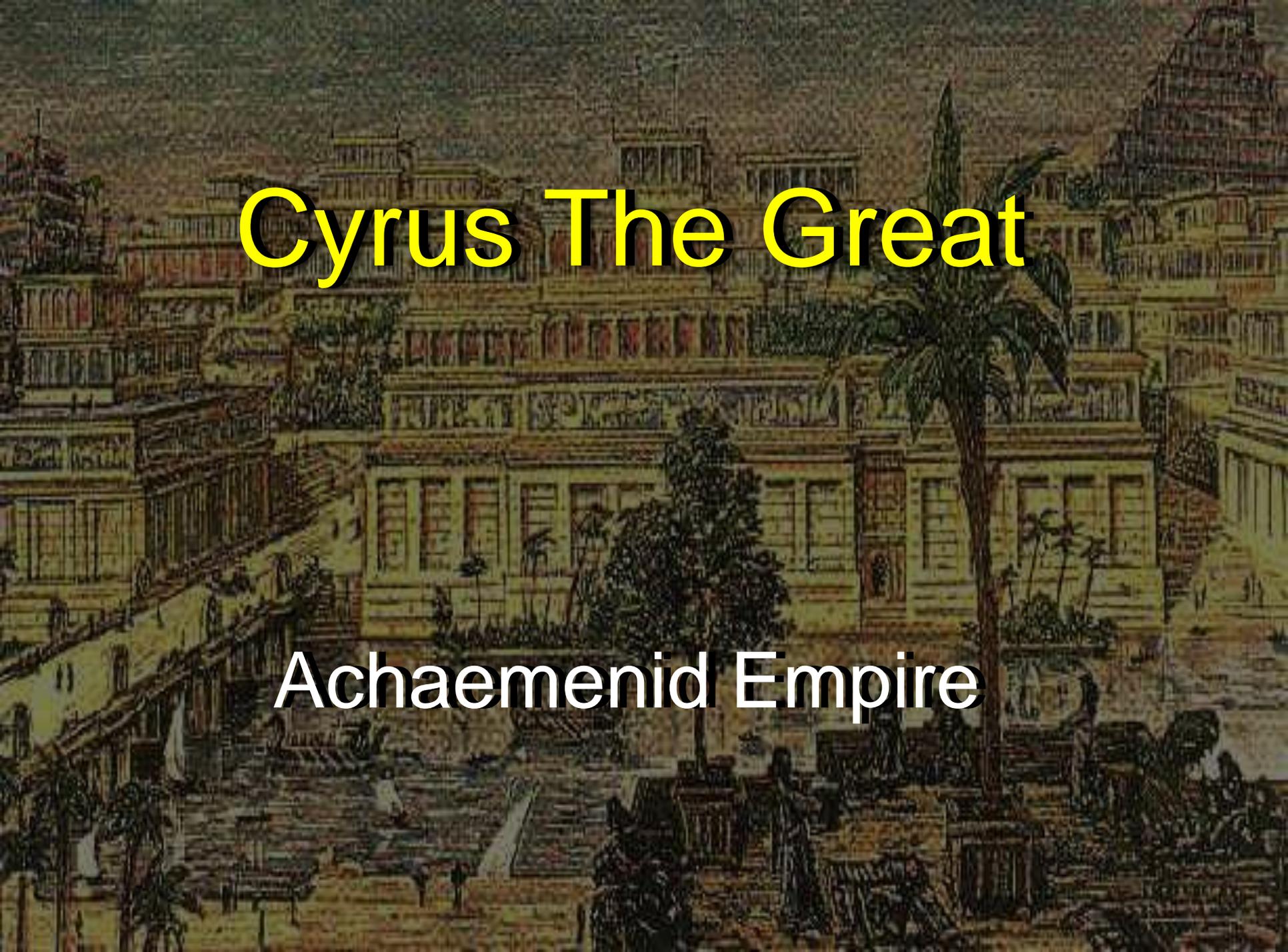
- The aged (81yrs) Daniel is sent for and arrives in the banqueting hall
- He first gives Belshazzar a telling off!
- Then begins to interpret the dream:
 - Mene
 - God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it
 - Tekel
 - You are weighed and are found wanting
 - Upharsin
 - Your kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

The Conquest of Babylon

- October 12, 539 BC, Cyrus' general captured Babylon without a battle.
- The Persians diverted the River Euphrates into a canal upriver so that the water level dropped "to the height of the middle of a man's thigh," which thus rendered the flood defenses useless and enabled the invaders to march through the river bed to enter by night.

Herodotus

Cyrus The Great



Achaemenid Empire

Kings of Persian Empire

Cyrus (559-530) (537 B.C. Jews Return Home)

Darius (Gubaru) (539-?)
Ruled Babylon

Cambyses II (Artaxerxes – Ezra 4:7-24)
(530-521) (Work on Temple stopped)

Smerdis
(8 months 521-520)

Darius The Great (Hystaspes)
(520 486) (Ezra 4:24)

Xerxes (Esther)
(486-465)

Artaxerxes
Longimanus
(465-424)

The Letter to Cyrus

- When Cyrus made his grand entrance Daniel presented him with an ancient scroll of Isaiah, which contained a personal letter *addressing him by name*.

Josephus, *Antiquities*, XI, 1, 2

- *Isaiah had died 150 years before Cyrus was born!*

Cyrus' Response

- Cyrus was duly impressed.
- He freed the captives and returned the vessels that had been plundered from the Temple 70 years earlier
- He even gave them incentives to return to their homeland and rebuild their temple.

2 Chr 36:22; Ezra 1:1-4

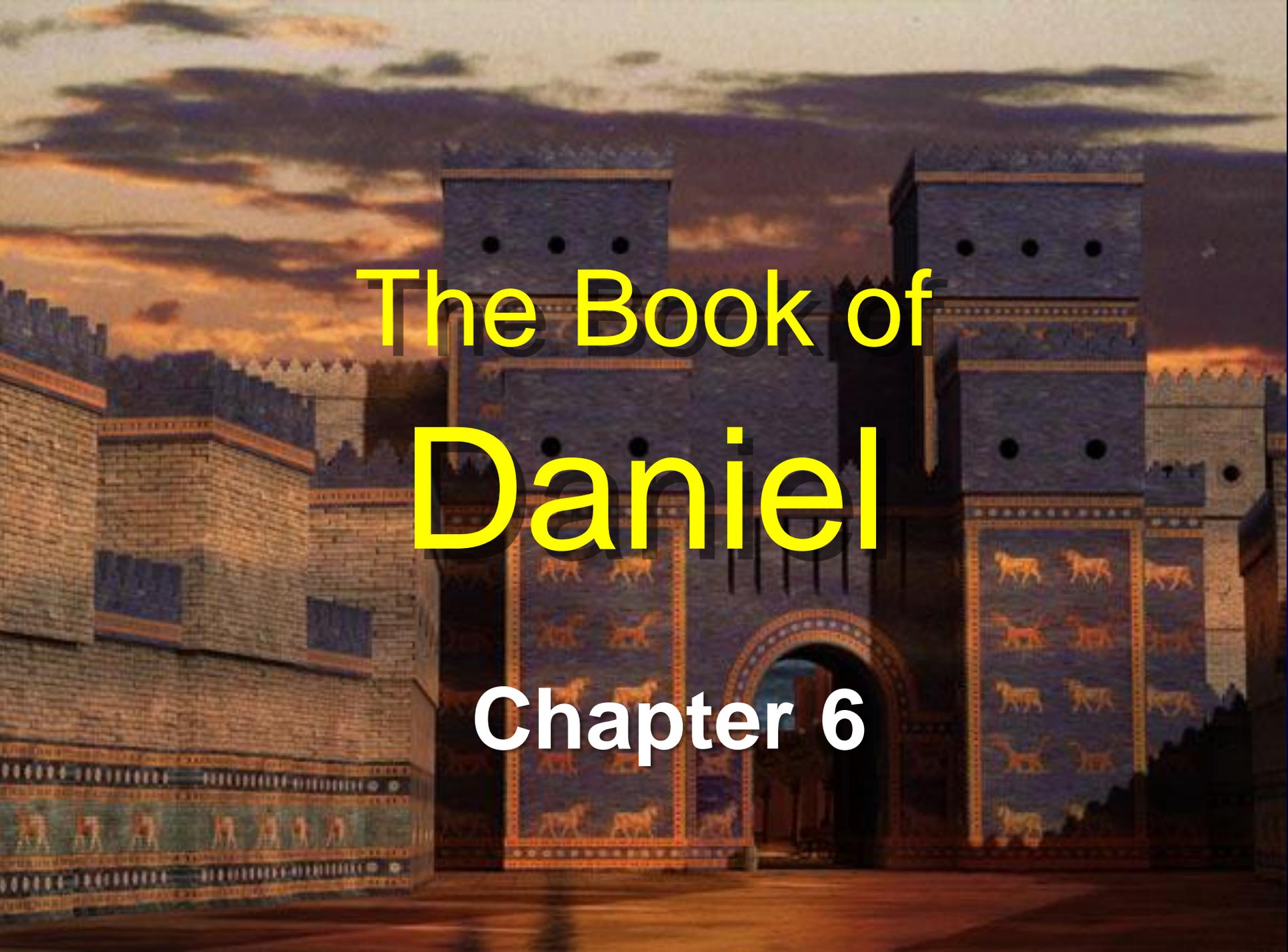
The Cylinder of Cyrus



The Cylinder of Cyrus

"...without any battle, he entered the town, sparing any calamity; ... I returned to sacred cities on the other side of the Tigris, the sanctuaries of which have been ruins for a long time... and established for them permanent sanctuaries. I also gathered all their former inhabitants and returned to them their habitations."

British Museum, London.



The Book of Daniel

Chapter 6

Daniel Chapter 6

- “It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom 120 princes...”
- “Darius” was a title given to Medo-Persian kings
 - much like Pharaoh for Egyptian kings
- “Darius” means “holder of the sceptre”.
- Cyrus was the king of the Medo-Persian empire, having united the two nations
 - Cyrus had one parent from Media and the other from Persia

Daniel Chapter 6

- Darius was 'appointed' to this position by Cyrus
- Daniel 9:1 confirms that he was '*made king over the Chaldeans*'
- Secular history records Darius the Mede as Gubaru – Cyrus' military general who captured Babylon in 539 B.C.

Daniel Chapter 6

- Daniel becomes one of Darius' government officials – much to the consternation of the other officials!
- Why the antagonism?
- Back in Ch 2 Daniel had been made 'Rab-Mag' (Chief of the Magi)
 - This was an hereditary Persian sect
 - Responsible for appointing kings and acting as royal counsellors
- But Daniel wasn't a Mede or Persian!

Daniel Chapter 6

- No doubt the other Magi and appointees were expecting a regime change now that Medo-Persia were in charge
 - Daniel had served under a Babylonian king
- The fact the Daniel is appointed as head over the others speaks volumes of his standing in Babylon at this time
 - It also corroborates the record of Josephus re Daniel meeting Cyrus at the gate of Babylon and presenting him with a copy of the scroll of Isaiah

Daniel Chapter 6

- It's against that background that we find a conspiracy to frame Daniel in this chapter
- Foolishly Darius signs a decree that no-one should petition any power except him for 30 days or be thrown to the lions
- The Law of the Meads & Persians cannot be altered (cf: *Chest & Arms of Silver* 2:32/39)
- The most remarkable thing is Daniel's reaction:

10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, **as he did aforetime.**

Daniel 6:10

- Daniel did not wait for the crisis to decide what he was going to do!
- The decision had been made before the choice was presented!
- This was Daniel's way of life

Daniel Chapter 6

- As a result, Darius was 'sore displeased' with himself!
- But unable to change the law, Daniel is thrown to the lions
- Daniel's impact on Darius is seen in Darius' confession:

¹⁶ Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, **he will deliver thee.**

Daniel 6:16

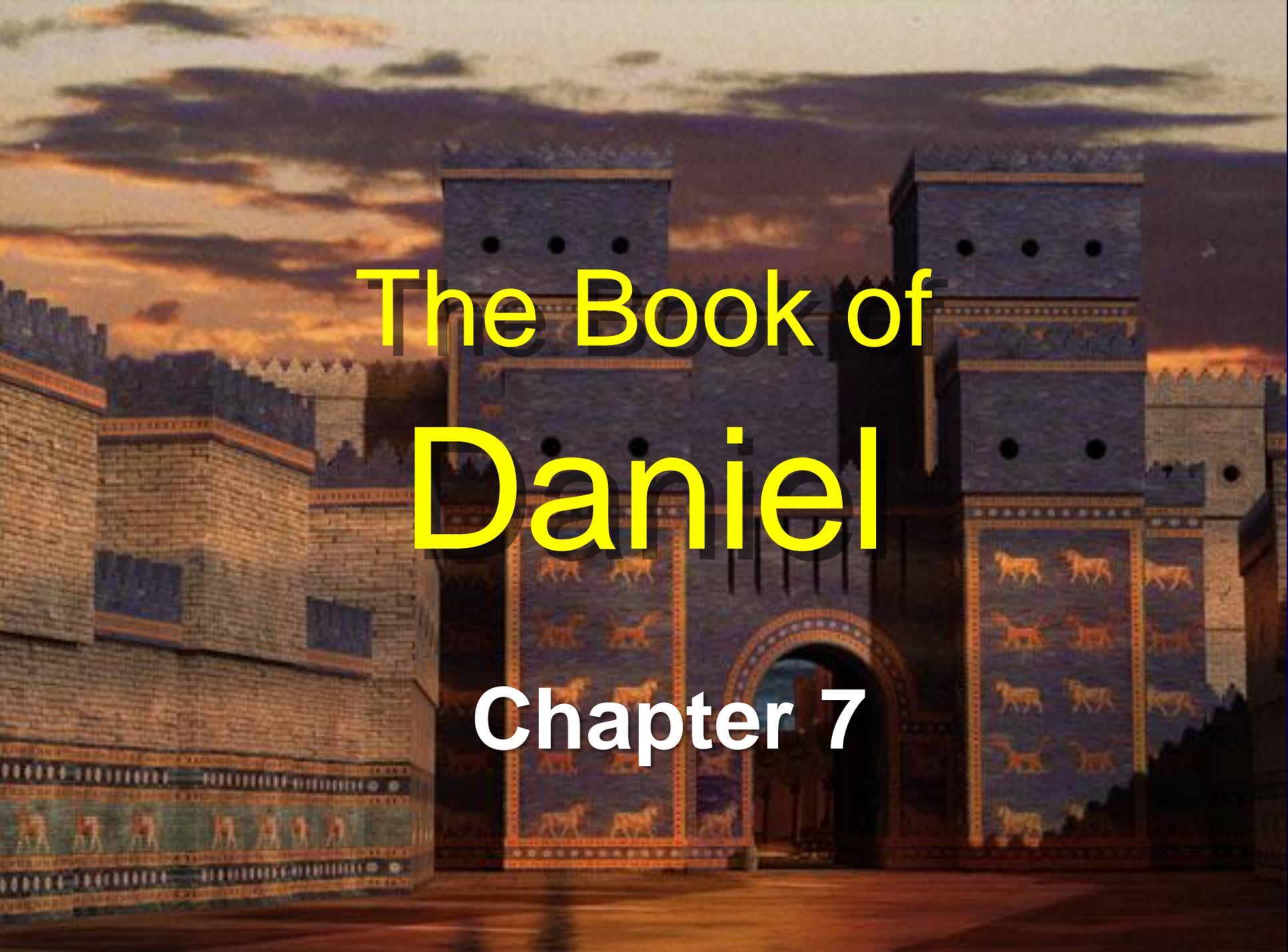
- Daniel is subsequently delivered and his aggressors meet the fate they had planned for Daniel
 - Including their families!
 - Sin will cost you everything! See Matt 18:25

34 Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.

35 The king's favour is toward a wise servant: but his wrath is against him that causeth shame.

Prov 14:34-15:1





The Book of Daniel

Chapter 7

Daniel Chapter 7

- With the historical section of the book now complete, this chapter sees us move back in time to the first year of Belshazzar
 - which was in about 552 B.C.
- Chronologically this chapter fits about 11 years after chapter 4 and about 12 years before chapter 5.

Chronological Order

Chapter

1	Babylonian Captivity	606 B.C.
2	Nebuchadnezzar's Dream	604 B.C.
3	Nebuchadnezzar's Image	588 B.C.
4	Nebuchadnezzar's Pride	570-563 B.C.
7	The vision of the 4 beasts	552 B.C.
8	Ram and He-goat vision	550 B.C.
5	Babylon falls to Persians	539 B.C.
6	The Lions' Den	539 B.C.
9	Vision of seventy weeks	537 B.C.
10 -12	Closing visions	536 B.C.

I In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

Daniel 7:1

- Daniel sees in his vision 4 great beasts coming up out of the sea in succession
 - **The sea is an idiom of the world**
- The beasts are representative of nations yet to come (from Daniel's perspective)
- All of these beasts are 'gentiles'

The Times of the Gentiles

*Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles,
until the Times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.*

Luke 21:24

The "Times of the Gentiles"

Daniel 2

Gold

Silver

Brass

Iron

Iron + Clay



Babylon

606 BC – 539 BC

Persia

539 BC – 332 BC

Greece

332 BC – 68 BC

Rome I

68 BC – ?

"Rome II"

Daniel 7

Winged Lion

Bear on side

Leopard

Terrible
Beast

10 Horns...



The 10 Horns

- The ten horns represent 10 kings who will rise to power as part of the last world empire of this age v24 (Rev 17:12)
- A 'little horn' will arise from among them and subdue three v24
- This little horn will be empowered by the Devil and will re-establish 'Babylon'
 - One world government & One world religious system

The Saints?

- *“I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them” v21*
- Some use this verse to suggest the Church will therefore endure the Tribulation
- However, the ‘horn’ “prevails over the saints”
 - Something that Jesus said not even the gates of hell would do against the Church! (Matt 16:18).
- Daniel would have understood this to be Israel, who throughout the OT are called ‘saints’. See Deut 33:2-3 / 2 Chron 6:41 / Ps 132:16 / etc).

The Victor

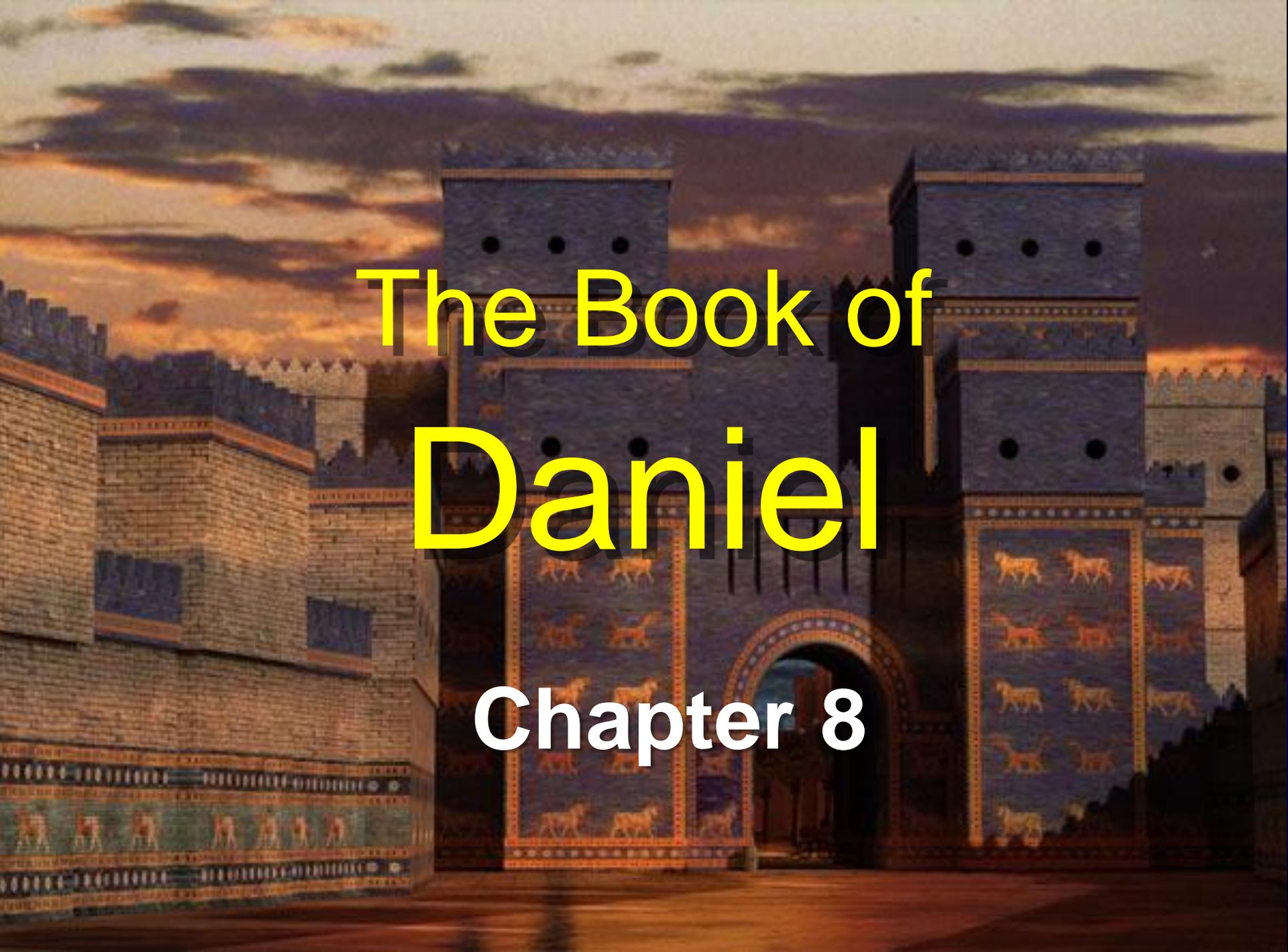
⁹ I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

¹⁰ A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

The Victor

¹³ I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

¹⁴ And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.



The Book of Daniel

Chapter 8

I In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.

Daniel 8:1

- It has been about two years since Daniel's first vision in chapter 7.
- The year is around 550 B.C. and Daniel is about 69 years old...

The Vision at Shushan



Daniel's 2nd Vision

- Daniel sees two horns, but one higher than the other v3
 - Representing the Medo-Persian empire v20
- Then Daniel sees a male goat moving at great speed, with a 'notable horn' v5
 - This is the 'King of Greece' – Alexander v21
- The ram is then destroyed by the goat
 - History records Alexander's conquests

Alexander the Great

- At the age of 20 he assumed the mantle of his father, Philip of Macedon
- 6 years later he had conquered the mighty Persian Empire
- At the age of 30 his empire stretched from the Mediterranean to the Hindu Kush
- At the age of 32 he died.
- Legacy: a new Achilles & new world order
 - Visionary conqueror, Ruthless tyrant
 - Brilliant Military strategist & court politician

8 Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

9 And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

Daniel 8:8-9

- After Alexander died, his kingdom was divided between his four generals
- The descendant of one of them would cause significant harm to Israel

Alexander's Successors

- Cassander Macedonia & Greece
- Lysimachus Thrace, Bithynia, most of Asia Minor
- Ptolemy Egypt, Cyrene, Arabia Petraea **LXX 270 BC**
- Seleucus Syria and lands to the East all the way to India
(Antiochus Epiphanes appears as the “Little Horn”)

The Empire Divided

Daniel 11



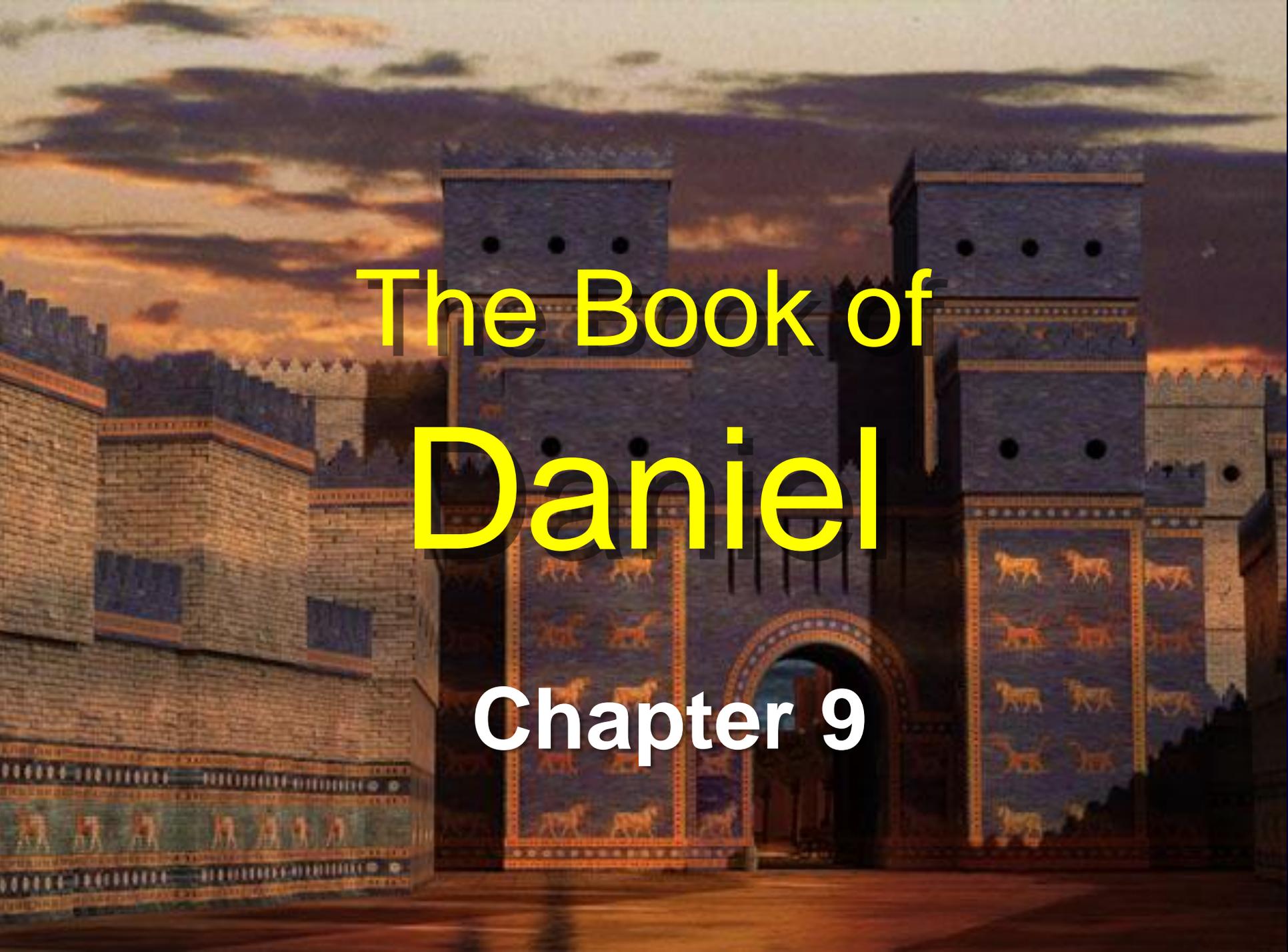
Cassandra

Lysimachus

Seleucus

Ptolemy

400 "Silent Years"?
(Detailed in advance in Daniel 11)



The Book of Daniel

Chapter 9

Jesus' Confidential Briefing

- Four Disciples ask about His Return
 - Peter
 - James
 - John
 - Andrew
- Private Briefing in 3 Gospels
 - Matthew 24, 25
 - Mark 13
 - Luke 21

Jesus Points them to
Daniel 9 as the key to
End-time Prophecy

The Key Event

When ye therefore shall see
the Abomination of Desolation,
spoken of by Daniel the prophet,
stand in the holy place,
(whoso readeth, let him understand:)
Then let them which be in Judea flee into the
mountains . . .

Matthew 24:15, 16

Chapter 9 Overview

Introduction	1 – 3
Daniel's prayer for the people	4 – 15
Daniel's prayer for Jerusalem	16 – 19
Gabriel's interruption	20 – 23
The '70 Weeks'	24 – 27

¹ In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;

² In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

³ And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplication, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

Chronology of Chapter 9

- Most assume that this occurs before the release of the Jews...
- ...and that Daniel is praying for their release
- However, the 1st yr of Darius would have been 539 B.C...
- ...the year Cyrus signed the decree for the Jews to go home
- Thus Daniel is praying this AFTER the return from exile, but while Jerusalem is still in ruins

¹ In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;

² In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

³ And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplication, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

Daniel's Prayer

- Daniel sets his heart to pray
- He quotes 2 Chronicles 6:37

36 If they sin against thee, (for there is no man which sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them over before their enemies, and they carry them away captives unto a land far off or near;

37 Yet if they bethink themselves in the land whither they are carried captive, and turn and pray unto thee in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have done amiss, and have dealt wickedly;

5 We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments:

Daniel; 9:5

- Daniel first confesses the sins of his people...
- Then turns the focus to the city of Jerusalem, still laying in runis
- He understands that 70yrs are decreed against the city, but pleads with the LORD for mercy

The 70 Weeks

Daniel is interrupted by Gabriel, who reveals not just the immediate future concerning his people and their city..

But the entire future of the Jewish nation in 4 verses!

Scope 9:24

The '69 Weeks' 9:25

(An Interval) 9:26

The '70th Week' 9:27

“Weeks” = ?

Days: Sabbath on the 7th Day
Gen 2:2; Ex 20:11
1 week of days = 7 days

Weeks: Feast of Weeks
Lev 23:15,16
1 week of weeks = 7 weeks

Months: Nisan to Tishri
Ex 12:2; Lev 23:24
1 week of months = 7 months

Years: Sabbatical Years for the Land
Lev 25:1-22; 26:33-35 Dt 15; Ex 23:10,11;
1 week of years = 7 years

70 weeks of years = 490 years

The Scope of the Prophecy

²⁴ **Seventy weeks** are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

Daniel 9:24-27

The Scope of the Prophecy

²⁴ Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

Daniel 9:24-27

The Scope of the Prophecy

²⁴ Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, **to finish the transgression,** and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

Daniel 9:24-27

The Scope of the Prophecy

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Daniel 9:24-27

The Scope of the Prophecy

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Daniel 9:24-27

The Scope of the Prophecy

24 Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

Daniel 9:24-27

The 69 Weeks

²⁵ Know therefore and understand, that **from** the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem **unto** the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times.

Daniel 9:24-27

The 69 Weeks

Terminus ad quo

**Commandment to
restore Jerusalem**

Terminus ad quem

**The Messiah
the King**

69 x 7 = 483 years?



The diagram illustrates a timeline. On the left, a yellow box contains the text 'Commandment to restore Jerusalem'. A white arrow points down from this box to a red horizontal arrow that points to the right. Above this red arrow is the text '69 x 7 = 483 years?'. On the right, another yellow box contains the text 'The Messiah the King'. A white arrow points down from this box to the end of the red horizontal arrow.

The 69 Weeks

²⁵ Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, **even in troublous times.**

Daniel 9:24-27

The 69 Weeks

Terminus ad quo

Terminus ad quem

**Commandment to
restore Jerusalem**

**The Messiah
the King**

173,880 days

**Decree of
Artaxerxes
Longimanus
Mar 14, 445 BC**

**The Triumphant
Entry
April 6, 32 AD**



²⁶ And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, **but not for himself:** and the people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary; and the end thereof shall be with a flood, and unto the end of the war desolations are determined.

²⁷ And he shall confirm the covenant with many for **one week;** and in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease, and for the overspreading of abominations he shall make it desolate, even until the consummation, and that determined shall be poured upon the desolate.

What About The Church?

**1st Nisan
445 BC**

**Decree of
Artaxerxes**

**10th Nisan
32AD**

**Jesus rides into
Jerusalem!
Luke 19:29-44**

**Antichrist
confirms 7
year
covenant
with Israel**

Rev 6

← 7 + 62 = 69 'Weeks' (of years) →

Final 'Week'

**← 483 Years
173,880 days →**

**Church
Age**

← 7 yrs →

“Seventy Times Seven”

1) Abraham to the Exodus

Promise	Gen 12:4	75 years	
		<u>+430</u>	505
Ishmael,	Gen 16:16; 21:5		<u>-15</u>

490 years

2) Exodus to the Temple

Begun:	1 Ki. 6 - 8	594	
Completed:	1 Ki 6:38	<u>+7</u>	601
Servitudes:	Judges 3 - 13		<u>-111</u>

490 years

3) The Temple to the Edict of Artaxerxes

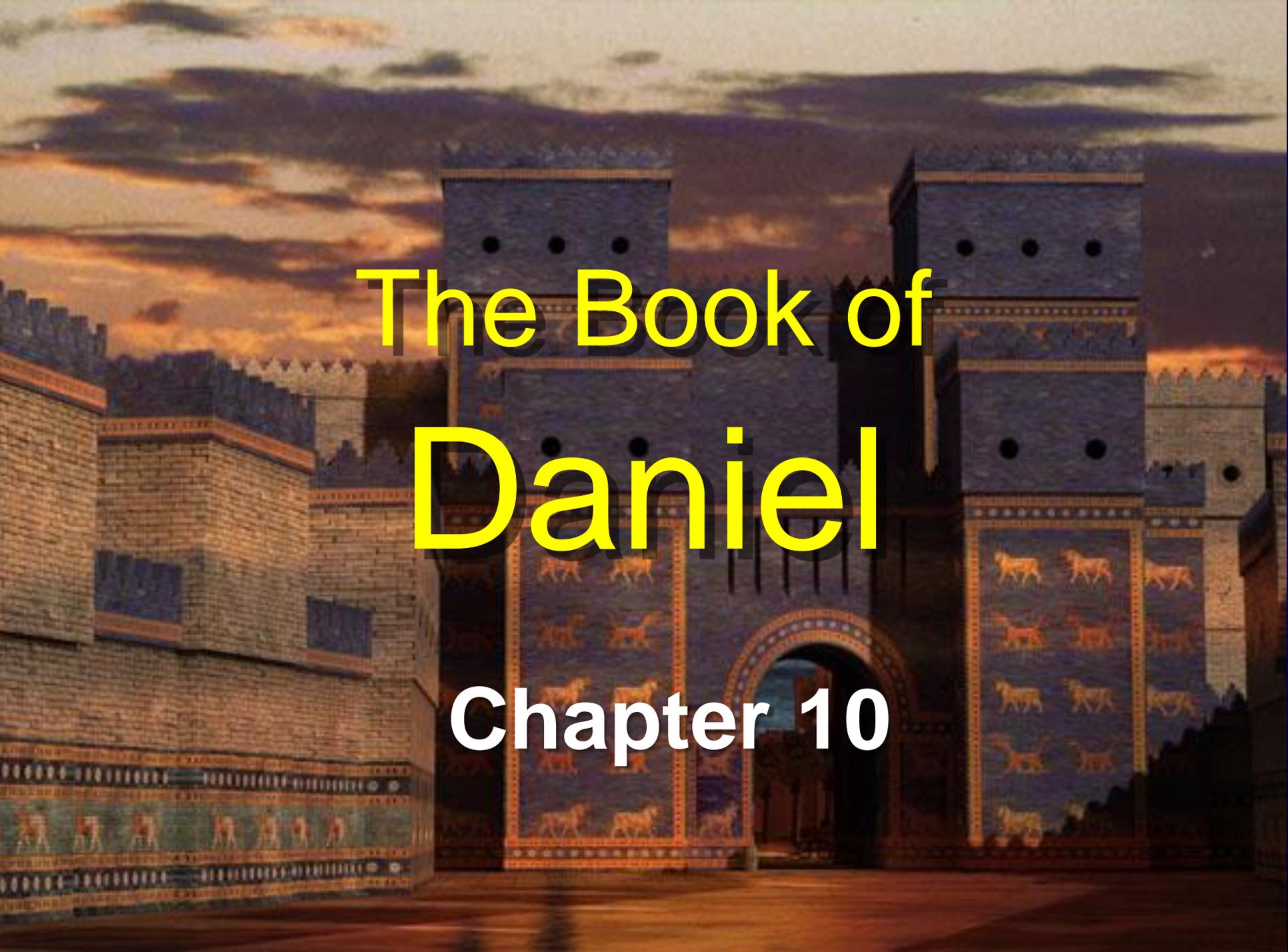
	1 Ki 8:1-66	1005 B.C.	
	Neh. 2:1	445 B.C.	560
Babylonian Captivity			<u>-70</u>

490 years

4) Artaxerxes to the Second Coming

Artaxerxes to the 1st Advent (69 x 7)			483
[Church interval]			<u>- ? -</u>
"The Seventieth Week"			<u>+ 7</u>

490 years



The Book of Daniel

Chapter 10

Daniel's 3rd Vision

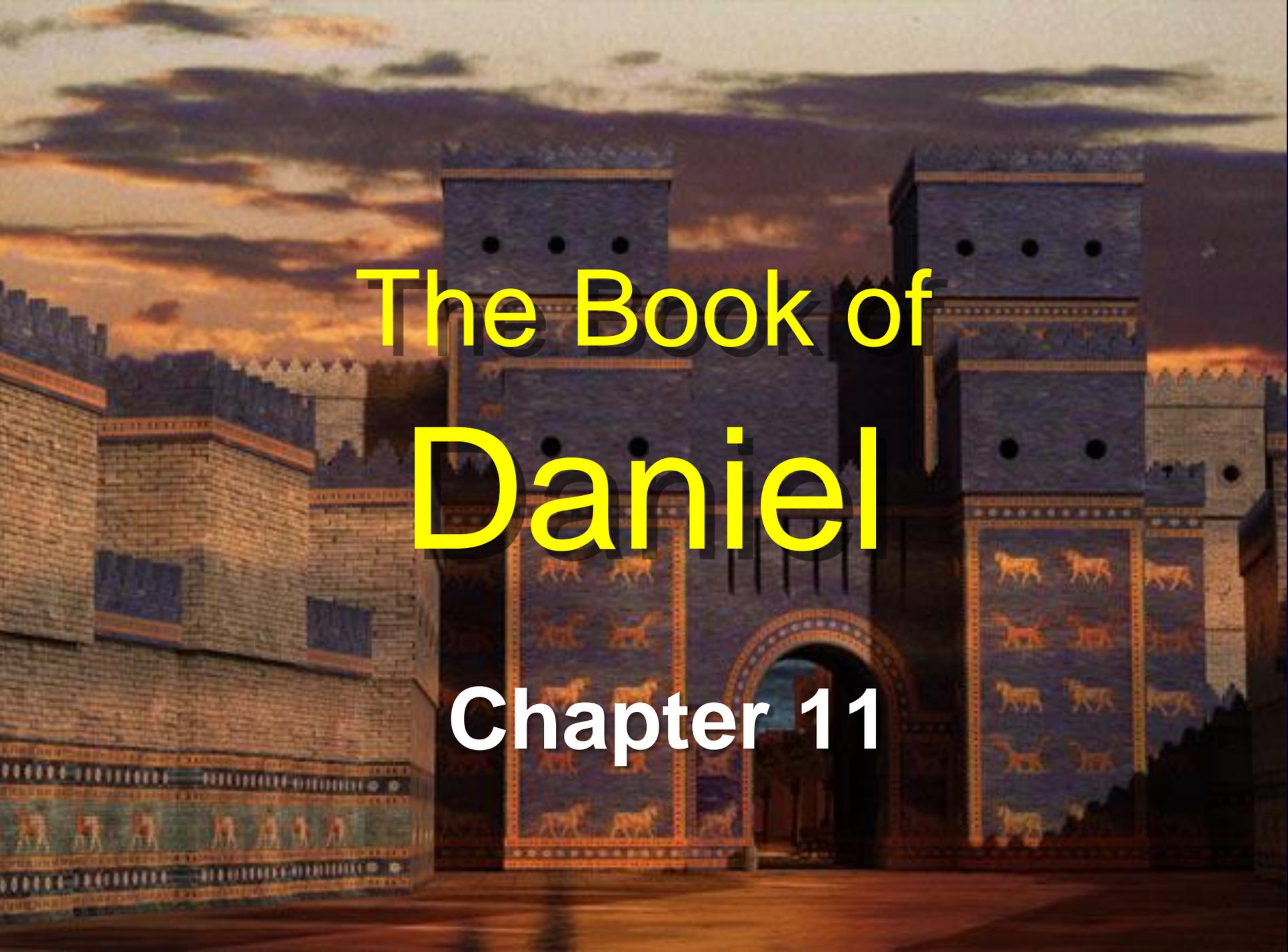
- The vision occurs in the 3rd yr of Cyrus
 - Around 536 B.C.
- Ch 10 gives us the intro to the vision
- Ch 11-12 actually record the vision
- These last 3 chapters of the book of Daniel span human history from the time of Daniel to the time when Jesus will return to establish his kingdom and reign on the throne of David.
- Note: the focus is Israel!

¹⁴ Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.

Daniel 10:14

Background to the Vision

- Daniel had set his heart to understand this vision
- Gabriel was despatched by God to reveal the vision to Daniel
- Ch 10 records a war in the heavenlies between a Satanic power called 'The Prince of Persia' and the Archangel Michael
 - Michael appears to have the role of 'protector of Israel'
 - Gabriel has the role of Messianic announcer



The Book of Daniel

Chapter 11

The More Sure Word...

- Between v2 & v35, there are a staggering 135 fulfilled prophecies!
 - Bible critics hate this chapter!
- It offers irrefutable proof that the Bible is the Word of God
 - No man could accurately predict, with such detailed precision, the rise and fall of world empires, the political manipulating and deception of successive kingdoms, and the battles that would be fought.
- All recorded 100's of years before the events!

¹ Also I in the first year of Darius the Mede, even I, stood to confirm and to strengthen him.

² And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the realm of Grecia.

Daniel 11:1-2

- Who stood to strengthen Darius?
- Gabriel is still the one speaking from ch10

Kings of Persian Empire

Darius (Gubaru) (539-?)
Ruled Babylon

Cyrus (559-530) (537 B.C. Jews Return Home)

1 →

Cambyses II (Artaxerxes – Ezra 4:7-24)
(530-521) (Work on Temple stopped)

2 →

Smerdis
(8 months 521-520)

3 →

Darius The Great (Hystaspes)
(520 486) (Ezra 4:24)

4 →

Xerxes (Esther)
(486-465)

Artaxerxes
Longimanus
(465-424)

The Empire Divided

Daniel 11



Cassandria

Lysimachus

Seleucus

Ptolemy

400 "Silent Years"?
(Detailed in advance in Daniel 11)

Ptolemies vs. Seleucids

“Kings of the South”

“Kings of the North”

Daniel Chapter 11

5	Ptolemy I Soter (323-285 BC)	5	Seleucus I Nicator (312-281) Antiochus I Soter (281-262)
6	Ptolemy II Philadelphus (285-246)	6	Antiochus II Theos (262-246)
7-8	Ptolemy III Euergetes (246-221)	7-9	Seleucus II Callinicus (246-227)
		10	Seleucus III Soter (227-223)
11-12	Ptolemy IV Philopater (221-204)	10-19	Antiochus III the Great (223-187)
17	Ptolemy V Epiphanes (204-181)	20	Seleucus IV Philopater (187-176)
25	Ptolemy VI Philometer (181-145)	21-35	Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-163)

Antiochus IV

- Antiochus was a part of the Seleucid Empire that had come to power following the death of Alexander the Great.
- Antiochus IV was the 8th king of the Syrian dynasty, reigning from 175 – 164 B.C.
- He ascended to the throne after the death of his father and imprisonment (by Rome) of his elder brother, Seleucus Philopator.
- Yet Antiochus was not the rightful heir, for Seleucus had a son.

Antiochus IV

- However, by flattery and bribery Antiochus succeeded in becoming king
- He invaded Egypt and defeated Ptolemy VI, but on his way back he stopped of at Jerusalem.
 - Jerusalem was situated right in between the Seleucid and Ptolemaic empires, and acted as a 'buffer zone' in between the two rival kingdoms.

Antiochus IV

- Not surprisingly, the Jews were not very enamoured by this and tried to resist.
- In response, Antiochus plundered and desecrated the temple and even went as far as sacrificing a pig on the alter.
- He tried to do everything he possibly could to offend the Jews
- Ref: the following record from 1 Maccabees:

Antiochus IV

- *“And the king sent letters by messengers to Jerusalem and the cities of Judah: he directed them:*
 - *to follow customs strange to the land,*
 - *to forbid burnt offerings and sacrifices and drink offerings in the sanctuary,*
 - *to profane Sabbaths and feasts,*
 - *to defile the sanctuary and the priests,*
 - *to build alters in sacred precincts and shrines for idols,*
 - *to sacrifice swine and unclean animals, and*
 - *to leave their sons uncircumcised*

Antiochus IV

- *They were to make themselves abominable by everything unclean and profane, so that they [the Jews] should forget the law and change the ordinances. And whoever does not obey the command of the king shall die”*
- Antiochus put an idol in the temple and stopped the daily sacrifices.
 - Note: This is a model (dress rehearsal) of what Antichrist will do (according to Jesus Matt 24:15)
 - Remember Solomon’s words in Eccl 1:9?

The Maccabean Revolt

- In 167 B.C. a Jewish priest, by the name of Mattathias, was so incensed by the desecration of the temple and the erecting of an idol in the holy place that, not only did he refuse to worship this idol, but also started killing the Hellenistic Jews
 - Jews that had adopted the Greek culture
- As a result he and his five sons were forced to flee into the wilderness.
 - Reminiscent of Rev 12:14?

The Maccabean Revolt

- After Mattathias' death 1 year later, his son Judas Maccabeus ('hammer') formed an army and led a revolt against Antiochus IV 164 B.C.
- He was eventually successful in overthrowing the Seleucid control of Israel.
- When the Jews finally entered the temple they found only 1 days supply of the consecrated olive oil that was needed to maintain the light on the great seven-branched lampstand called the 'Menorah'.

The Menorah



The Maccabean Revolt

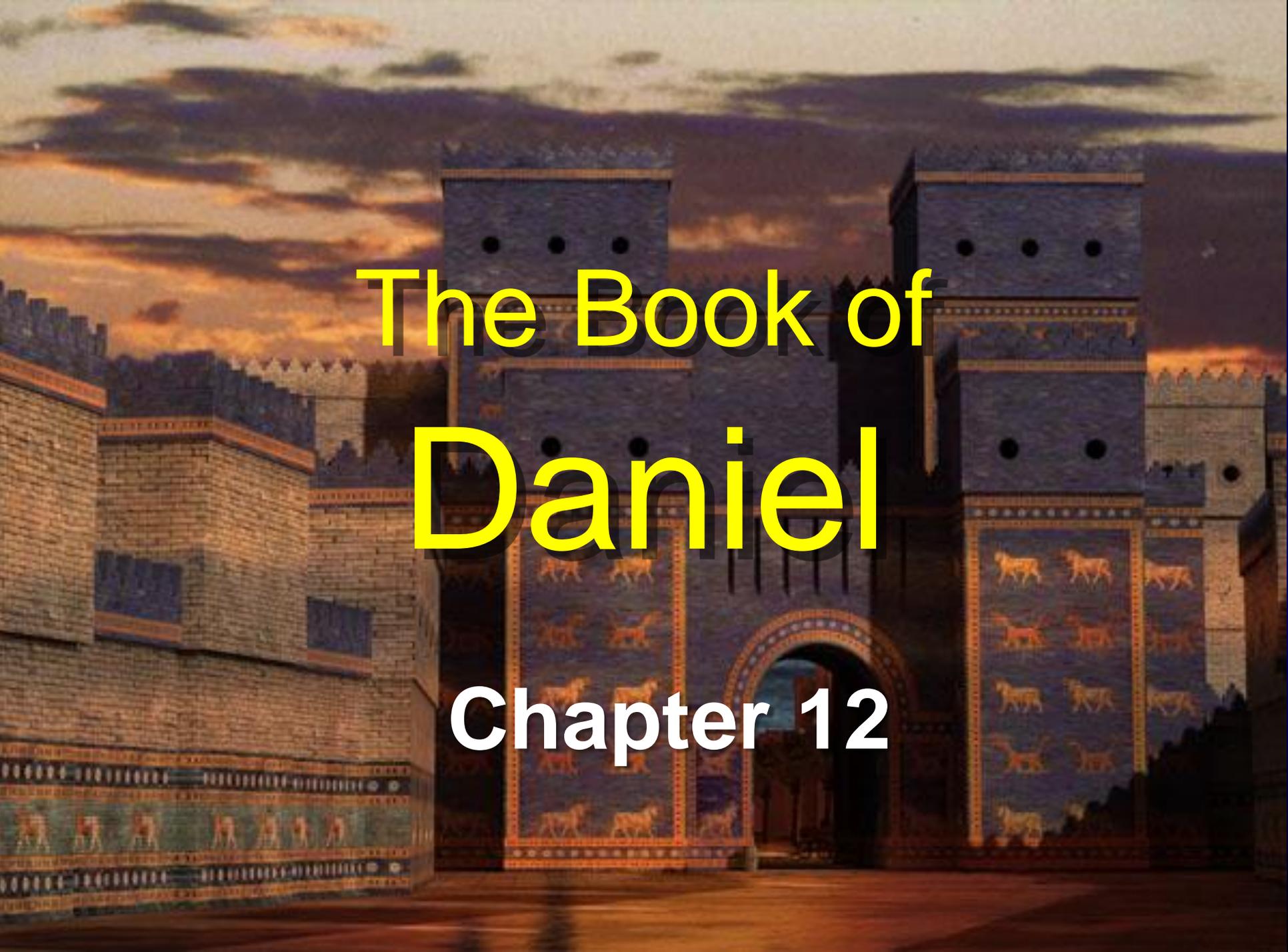
- According to the Law of Moses this was to be kept continually burning.
- The Jewish Talmud records that the priests poured the oil into the seven lamps and lit them to bring forth light.
- Miraculously, one days supply of oil burned for eight days -
- ...which was the length of time it took to press, prepare and consecrate new oil.

The Feast of Hanukkah

- To commemorate this event the Jews added the Feast of Hanukkah, to their annual feasts.
 - also called 'Festival of Lights' or 'Festival of Rededication'
 - Authenticated by Jesus in John 10:22
- After this event, the Maccabees then founded the 'Hasmonean royal dynasty' and established Jewish independence in the Land of Israel for about one hundred years, from 165 B.C. to 63 B.C.

The Foreshadowing of Antichrist

- Antiochus is the foreshadowing of Antichrist
 - He achieved great power by subduing others
 - Rise to power by offering false security
 - Intelligent & persuasive
 - Controlled by Satan (Satan's man of the hour)
 - Adversary of Israel & subjugate Israel
 - Caused Jews to flee to the wilderness
 - Desecrated the temple
 - Erected an image (abomination) in the Temple
 - His rule terminated by divine judgment



The Book of Daniel

Chapter 12

Continuation of the Vision...

- Gabriel reveals to Daniel that there is a time of trouble coming for Israel “*such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered*”
- This will be followed by a resurrection of the dead

II And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days.

I2 Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days.

Daniel 12:11-12

Continuation of the Vision...

- Gabriel reveals to Daniel that there is a time of trouble coming for Israel “*such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered*”
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Daniel's 70 Weeks

Daniel 9:24-27

**1st Nisan
445 BC**

Decree of Artaxerxes
Neh 2

**10th Nisan
32AD**

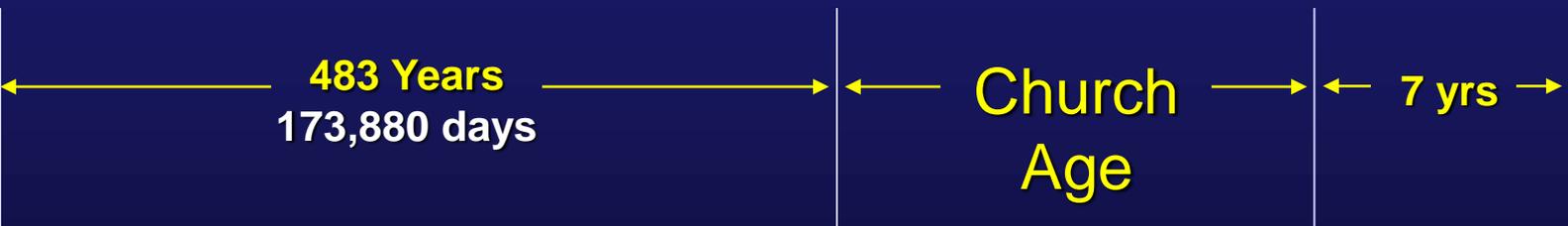
Jesus rides into Jerusalem!
Luke 19:29-44

Antichrist confirms 7 year covenant with Israel
Rev 6

7 + 62 = 69 'Weeks' (of years)



2007 ? Final 'Week'



483 Years
173,880 days

Church Age

7 yrs

Daniel's 70th Week

Daniel 9:27

(The Tribulation)

Church
Raptured

Israel / Antichrist
7 Year Covenant

Abomination of
Desolation put
in holy of holies

2nd Coming
End of Great
Tribulation

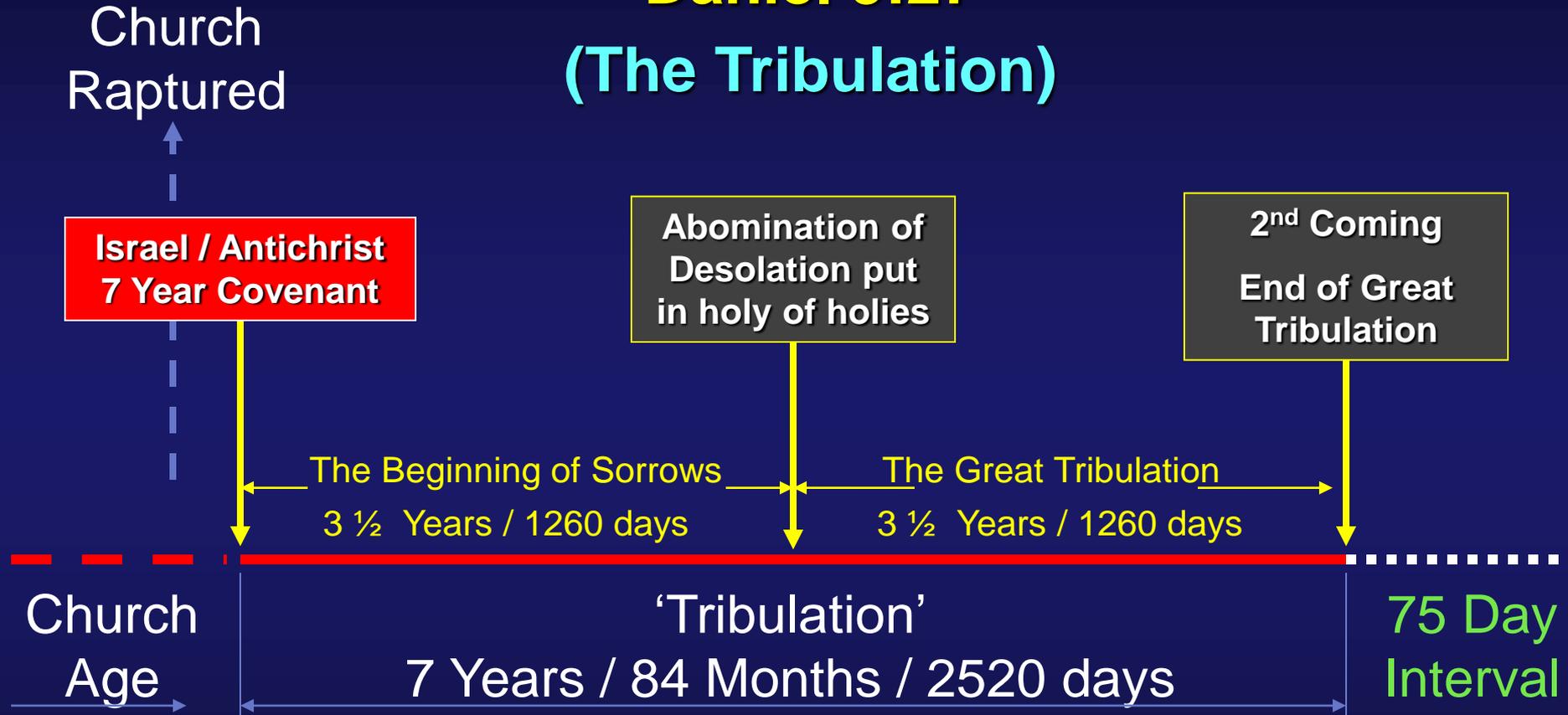
The Beginning of Sorrows
3 ½ Years / 1260 days

The Great Tribulation
3 ½ Years / 1260 days

Church
Age

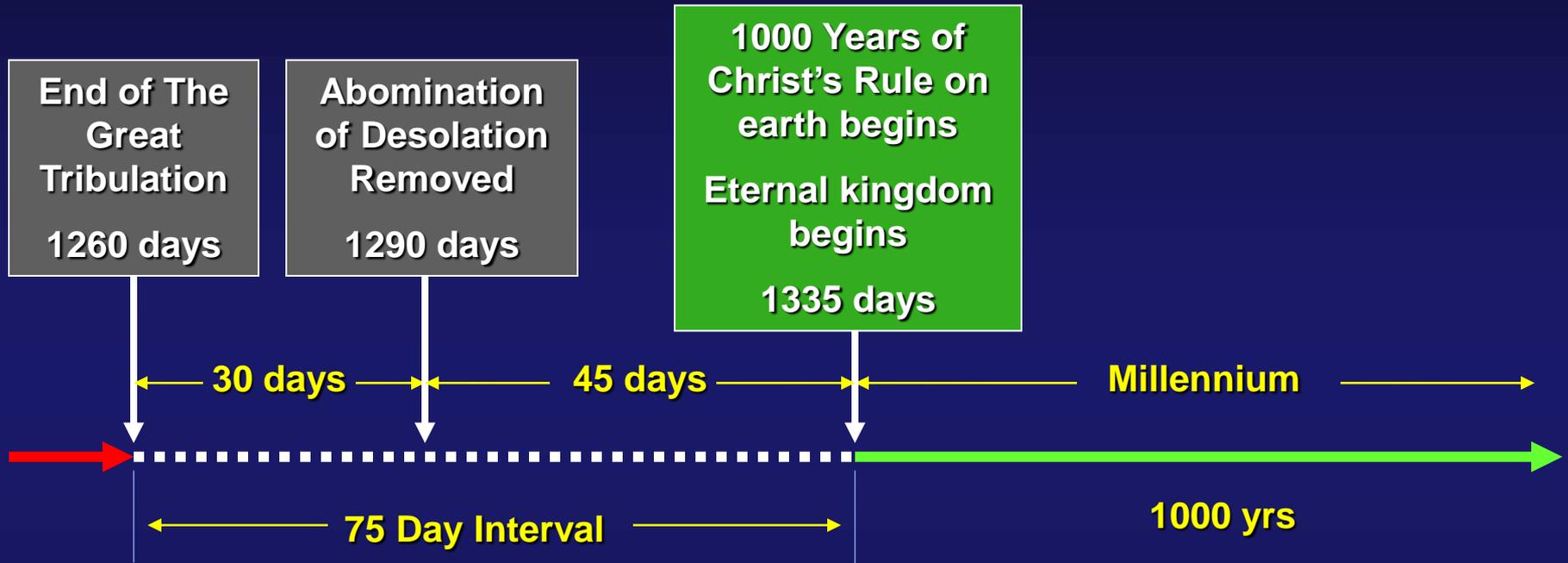
'Tribulation'
7 Years / 84 Months / 2520 days

75 Day
Interval



The 75 Day Interval

Daniel 12:11-12



- The removal of the Abomination of Desolation ([Dan 12:11](#))
- Antichrist is resurrected (firstfruits of the second resurrection) ([Isaiah 14](#))
- Antichrist & False Prophet cast alive into the Lake of Fire ([Rev 19:20](#))
- Satan bound for the Millennium ([Rev 20:1-3](#))
- The resurrection of the tribulation saints ([Rev 20:4-5](#))
- The setting of the thrones for saints (to rule with Christ) ([Rev 20:4](#) / [Dan 7:9](#))
- Judgement of Gentiles (pro-Semitic sheep & anti-Semitic goats) ([Joel 3:1-3](#)/[Mt 25](#))

Conclusion of the Vision...

- All these events will therefore occur after the 1260 days of the Great Tribulation, but before the start of the Millennium
 - which itself will begin after the 1335th day;
- Blessed indeed will be those who come to the 1335th day as they will then enter into Jesus' Millennial kingdom.
- We should be mindful of these things the next time we pray 'Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven'!



calvary
chapel
portsmouth

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