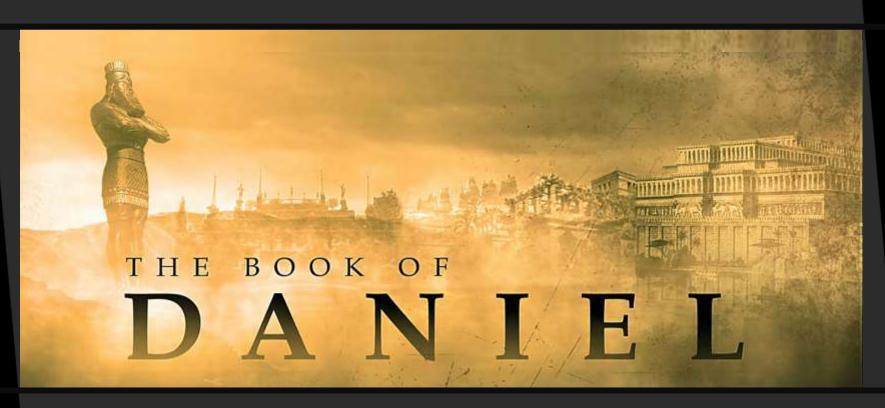
calvary chaper portsmouth





...a verse by verse study

The Book of Daniel

- Introduction to this study
- Overview of the Book of Daniel
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- Historical Background
- Answering the Critics

- Daniel contains some of the best-loved stories in the Bible
 - Daniel in the Lions den
 - The story of Sharach, Meshach & Aded-Nego & the fiery furnace
- Sadly, for many, these are just quaint stories
- Yet there is compelling evidence for the historical integrity of this record
- It is a book of history
- But it is also a book of prophecy
 - Ch 11: 135 Fulfilled Prophecies in just 34 verses!

- Daniel and his friends' parents feared God and gave their boys God-honouring names.
 - Daniel's name means 'God is my judge'
 - Hananiah means 'Beloved of the Lord'
 - Mishel means 'Who is as God'
 - Azariah means 'The Lord is my help'
- In fulfilment of the prophetic warning God had given through Isaiah, these young men were torn away from their families and homeland and taken to 'the university of Babylon'

Isaiah's Prophecy to Hezekiah c.700 B.C.

- At that time Merodachbaladan, the son of Baladan, king of Babylon, sent letters and a present to Hezekiah: for he had heard that he had been sick, and was recovered.
- And Hezekiah was glad of them, and shewed them the house of his precious things, the silver, and the gold, and the spices, and the precious ointment, and all the house of his armour, and all that was found in his treasures: there was nothing in his house, nor in all his dominion, that Hezekiah shewed them not.

Isaiah 39:1-7

Isaiah's Prophecy to Hezekiah c.700 B.C.

- Then came Isaiah the prophet unto king Hezekiah, and said unto him, What said these men? and from whence came they unto thee? And Hezekiah said, They are come from a far country unto me, even from Babylon.
- 4 Then said he, What have they seen in thine house? And Hezekiah answered, All that is in mine house have they seen: there is nothing among my treasures that I have not shewed them.
- 5 Then said Isaiah to Hezekiah, Hear the word of the Lord of hosts

Isaiah's Prophecy to Hezekiah c.700 B.C.

- 6 Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store until this day, shall be carried to Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the Lord.
- And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

Isaiah 39:1-7

Fulfilment of Isaiah's Prophecy 100yrs later

- 10 At that time the servants of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came up against Jerusalem, and the city was besieged.
- 11 And Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came against the city, and his servants did besiege it.
- 12 And Jehoiachin the king of Judah went out to the king of Babylon, he, and his mother, and his servants, and his princes, and his officers: and the king of Babylon took him in the eighth year of his reign.

Fulfilment of Isaiah's Prophecy 100yrs later

- 13 And he carried out thence all the treasures of the house of the LORD, and the treasures of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold which Solomon king of Israel had made in the temple of the LORD, as the LORD had said.
- 14 And he carried away all Jerusalem, and all the princes, and all the mighty men of valour, even ten thousand captives, and all the craftsmen and smiths: none remained, save the poorest sort of the people of the land.

- Daniel was just a teenager when he was deported to Babylon in 606 B.C.
- Josephus records that he met Cyrus at the gates of Babylon in 539 B.C., and we know that he served under king Darius the Mede (who reigned in the province of Babylon under Cyrus).
- He ministered under 4 kings and lived to see the Jews return to their land at the end of their captivity.

- His ministry lasted over 70 years
- Therefore, we see that Daniel's ministry stretched into his late 80's, and saw him serve as 'prime minister' under two successive world empires
 - a feet unparalleled in history.
- But as Daniel records at the end of Ch 1, it
 was God alone who had lifted him up. His is
 the power, glory might and dominion, He
 alone rules in the kingdoms of men.

- Daniel is called 'beloved' (Dan 9:23 / 10:11 / 10:19), the same title is given to John in the NT.
- Both Daniel and John were given revelations of the climax of world events.
 - It appears that God reserves His most intimate secrets for those who are His beloved.
- The church is also called His beloved (Rom 9:25) – i.e. these secrets are for us – what a privilege!

Daniel's Career

- Destined to
 - Rise to prime prominence in Babylonian Empire
 - Rise to prime prominence in the subsequent Persian Empire
 - Personally receive the most astonishing
 prophecies in the entire Bible
 - Authenticated by Jesus Himself
 Matt 24:15
 - -Classed with Noah and Job Eze 14:14

Godly Example

Remember them which have the rule over you, who have spoken unto you the word of God whose faith follow, considering the end of their conversation

Hebrews 13:7

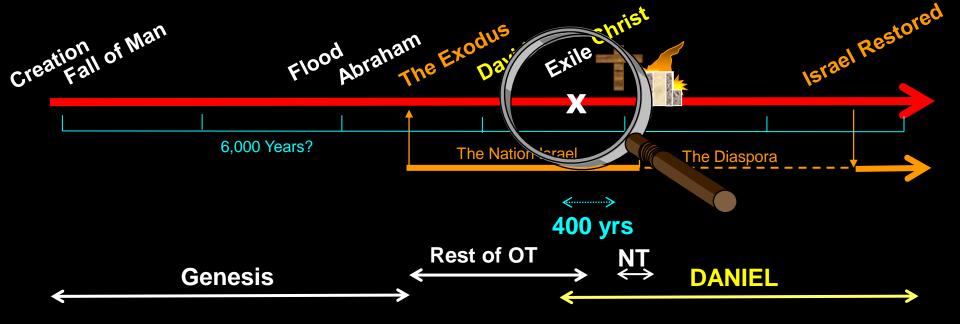
Daniel's Career

- A man went up to a Christian once and asked: 'You're a Christian aren't you?' The Christian replied 'That's for you to tell me'
- It should be obvious to all around us!
 - Too many Christians act as secret agents, never wanting to blow their cover!
- Daniel hadn't been in Babylon for five minutes before they could tell what the most important thing in his life really was.

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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.

Re-Establishment of Israel

- 14 [Peter] hath declared how God at the first did visit the Gentiles, to take out of them a people for his name.
- ¹⁵ And to this agree the words of the prophets; as it is written.
- After this I will return, and will build again the tabernacle of David, which is fallen down; and I will build again the ruins thereof, and I will set it up

Acts 15:14-16

Organization

- Historical Chapters 1 6
 - 1 Deported as a teernager
 - -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

Hebrew

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

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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.

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Themes 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?"

Pre-eminence

- Pre-eminence because the book shows time and again that it is God who rules in the kingdoms of men (Dan 4:17 / 4:25 / 4:32).
- It is He who orders the steps of a good man (Psalm 37:23), indeed, "Man's goings are of the LORD; how can a man then understand his own way?" (Prov 20:24).
- This was the basis of Daniel's life, a confident assurance that whatever happened on the outside, however desperate things seemed to be, God was still on the throne, (Heb 13:8).

Purpose #1

- Firstly, because this book underlines the fact that God has a purpose for all that happens in our lives, as Daniel and his friends show:
 - Who would have thought that these teenagers who were dragged away in shackles would be the ones to bring the most powerful of nations to its knees?
- Paul reminds us: "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose" (Rom 8:28).

Purpose #2

- Secondly, purpose because "Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself" (Dan 1:8).
- In this context the 'purpose' referred to is a determined conscious decision that is made in the heart (Matt 6:21). Daniel's treasure was to do the will of God regardless of what others thought or said

Purity

- "Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself" (Daniel 1:8)
- Because Daniel had decided before the event, there was a beauty & simplicity about Daniel
 Just as there was with Joseph.
- Daniel never gave in; and twice in the book of Ezekiel God points to Daniel as an example of what a righteous man should be like. (Ezekiel 14:14 /20).
- Daniel held loosely to this world, but tightly to God

Prophecy

- Prophecy is one of the undeniable proofs God has given to show His Word is true (2 Peter 1:19).
- Jesus pointed to a Daniel's prophecy as the key to understanding the end-times, yet it is astonishing that so many Christians are ignorant regarding the prophecies in the Bible.
- Job said: "Why, seeing times are not hidden from the Almighty, do they that know him not see his days?" (Job 24:1).

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Daniel

- 12 chapters,
- 357 verses;
- 11,606 words;
- 16 questions;
- 218 verses of history;
- 79 verses of fulfilled and 60 verses of unfulfilled prophecy;
- 7 commands;
- 4 promises;
- 6 messages from God.

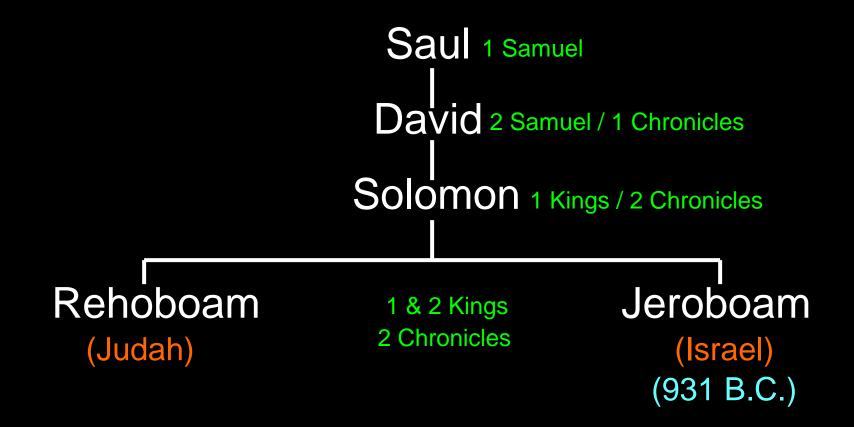
Daniel

- It is recorded by Josephus that in 332 B.C. Jeduthan, a Jewish high priest, met Alexander the Great at the gates of Jerusalem and presented to him a copy of the book of Daniel.
- Upon showing Alexander the prophecies about himself in the book, Alexander was so impressed that he spared the city!

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The History of Israel & Judah

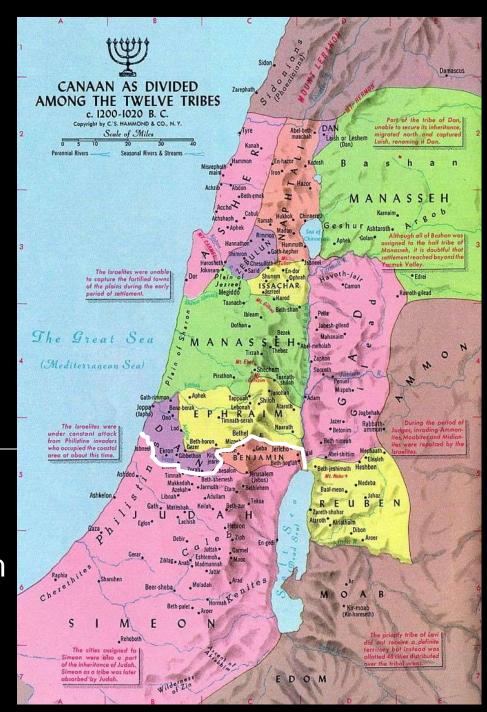


Israel

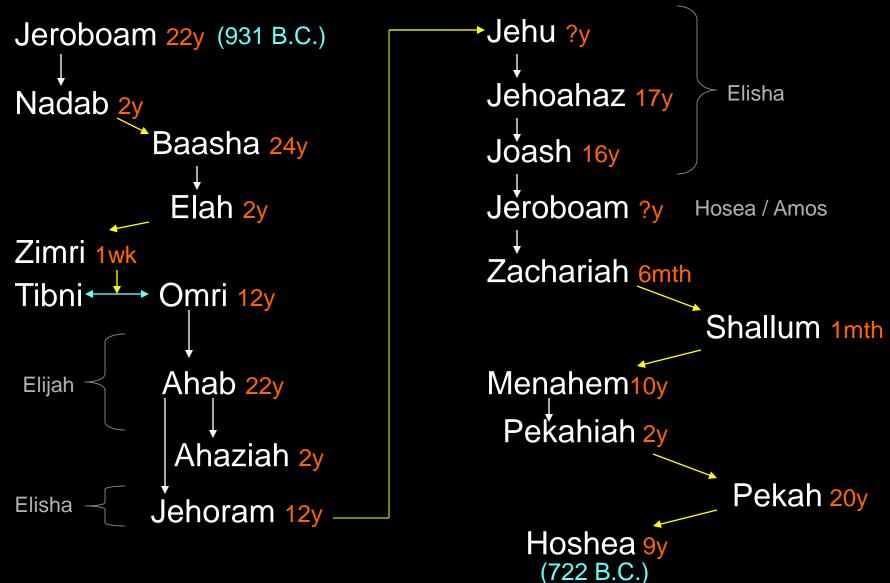
The Northern Kingdom (Ten Tribes)

Judah

The Southern Kingdom (Two Tribes)



The History of the Kings of Israel



The History of the Kings Judah

Rehoboam 17y

Abijam 3y

Asa 41y

Jehoshaphat 25y

Jehoram 8y

Ahaziah 1y

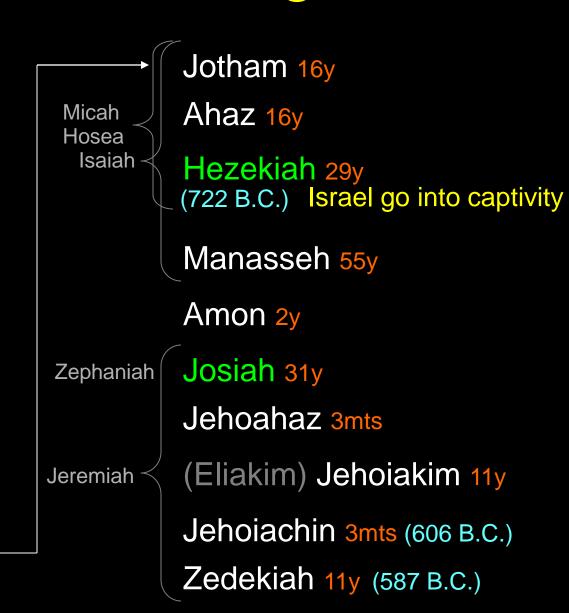
Q. Athaliah 6y

Jehoash 40y

Amaziah 29y

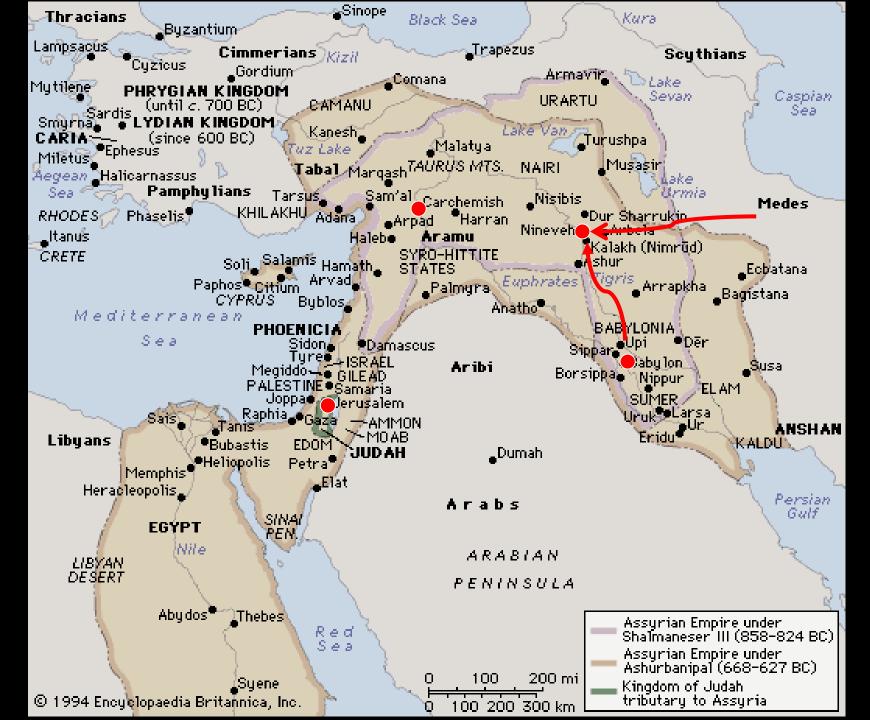
Amos

^{Isaiah} (Uzziah) Azariah 52y Hosea



Chronology

- 612 BC: Nineveh falls
 - to an alliance of Babylon and Media



Chronology

- 612 BC: Nineveh falls
 - to an alliance of Babylon and Media
- 609 BC: Pharaoh Necho leads army against Assyria
 - Josiah fights Necho and gets killed

2 Chron 35:20-24



After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Necho king of Egypt came up to fight against Carchemish by Euphrates: and Josiah went out against him.

2 Chronicles 35:20

- Why?
- Necho was NOT coming to fight against Josiah!
- In fact, he was fighting Judah's enemy!

But he sent ambassadors to him, saying, What have I to do with thee, thou king of Judah? / come not against thee this day, but against the house wherewith I have war: for God commanded me to make haste: forbear thee from *meddling with* God, who is with me, that he destroy thee not.

2 Chronicles 35:21

Nevertheless Josiah would not turn his face from him, but disguised himself, that he might fight with him, and hearkened not unto the words of Necho from the mouth of God, and came to fight in the valley of Megiddo.

And the archers shot at king Josiah; and the king said to his servants, Have me away; for I am sore wounded

The Final Kings of Judah

Josiah

Died in battle against Pharaoh Necho

Jehoahaz

Reigned 3 months

Taken to Egypt by Pharaoh Necho

Jehoiakim

Reigned 11 years

Chronology

- 612 BC: Nineveh falls
 - to an alliance of Babylon and Media
- 609 BC: Pharaoh Necho leads army against Assyria
 - Josiah fights Necho and gets killed

2 Chron 35:20-24

- 606 BC: Battle of Carchemesh
 - Nebuchadnezzar vs Pharaoh Necho
 - W bank of EuphratesJer 46:1-6



The Final Kings of Judah

Josiah

Died in battle against Pharaoh Necho

Jehoahaz
Taken to Egypt by Pharaoh Necho

Daniel '

Jehoiakim

2 Chron 36:4 Appointed by Pharaoh Necho	
2 Chron 36:5 Reigned 11 years	
1 Nebuchadnezzar conquered in 3 rd year	

The Final Kings of Judah

Josiah

Died in battle against Pharaoh Necho

Jehoahaz

Reigned 3 months

Taken to Egypt by Pharaoh Necho

<u>Jehoiakim</u>

Reigned 11 years

3rd yr (606 B.C.)

Nebuchadnezzar

1st Siege

Jehoiachin

(Jeconiah)

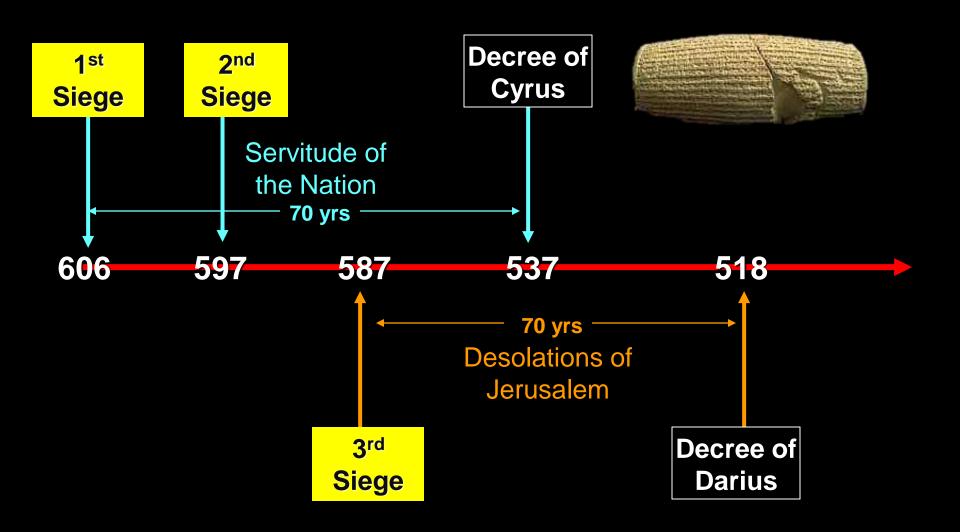
Blood Curse: Jer 22:30

Reigned 3 months
Taken to Babylon

Zedekiah

Appointed by Nebuchadnezzar
Reigned 11 years
Finally taken captive in final siege
587 B.C.

The Captivity



606 First Siege	596
605 Nebuchadnezzar made king	595
604	594
603	593
602	592
601	591
600	590
599	589
598	588
597 Second Siege	Final Siege 587

606 First Siege	3 rd Yr of Jehoiakim	596
605 Nebuchadnezzar m	nade king 4th	595
604	5th	594
603	6th	593
602	7th	592
601	8th	591
600	9th	590
599	10th	589
598	11th	588
597 Second Siege		Final Siege 587

[&]quot;Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem" 2 Chron 36:5

606 First Siege	First Siege 3 rd Yr of Jehoiakim		2nd	596
605 Nebuchadnezzar made king		4th	3rd	595
604		5th	4th	594
603		6th	5th	593
602		7th	6th	592
601		8th	7th	591
600		9th	8th	590
599		10th	9th	589
598		11th	10th	588
597 Second Siege	Zedekiah king	1st	11th	Final Siege 587

[&]quot;Zedekiah was twenty and one years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem." 2 Kings 24:18

606 First Siege	3 rd Yr of Jehoia	akim	2nd	596	10th
1st 605 Nebuchadnezzarı	made king	4th	3rd	595	11th
2nd 604		5th	4th	594	12th
3rd 603		6th	5th	593	13th
4th 602		7th	6th	592	14th
5th 601		8th	7th	591	15th
6th 600		9th	8th	590	16th
7th 599		10th	9th	589	17th
8th 598		11th	10th	588	18th
9th 597 Second Siege	Zedekiah king	1st	11th	Final Siege 587	19th

"Now in the fifth month, in the tenth day of the month, which was the nineteenth year of Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon, came Nebuzar-adan, captain of the guard, which served the king of Babylon, into Jerusalem, And burned the house of the LORD, and the king's house; and all the houses of Jerusalem, and all the houses of the great men, burned he with fire"

Jer 52:12-13

Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months and ten days in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD.

2 Chronicles 36:9

⁸ Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he began to reign, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. And his mother's name was Nehushta, the daughter of Elnathan of Jerusalem.

2 Kings 24:8

"Jehoiachin, was eighteen years old when he ascended the throne (the eight years of the Chronicles are a slip of the pen)"

Keil & Delitzsch

[Jehoiachin was eighteen years old] He is called Jeconiah, 1 Chron 3:16, and Coniah, Jer 22:24. In 2 Chron 36.9, he is said to be only eight years of age, but this must be a mistake; for we find that, having reigned only three months, he was carried captive to Babylon, and there he had wives; and it is very improbable that a child between eight and nine years of age could have wives; and of such a tender age, it can scarcely be said that, as a king, he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord. The place in Chronicles must be corrupted"

- Adam Clarke

Eighteen years old when he began to reign. At the age of eight his father took him into partnership in the government (2 Chron 36:9). He began to reign alone at eighteen.

- Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown

Proposed resolution:

Co-Regency?

- What we do know:
- Jehoiachin was 18 yrs old when he became king of Judah
- He reigned 3mts 10days
- Then king Nebuchadnezzar came & took him captive to Babylon
- He was the first king of Judah to come to the throne as a vassal king

⁹ Jehoiachin was eight years old when he began to reign,

2 Chronicles 36:9

Heb: Den (bane) Lit: 'a son'

"Of literal and figurative relationship, including grandson, subject, nation, etc.,"

"Jehoiachin was 8 yrs a 'son'..."

"Jehoiachin was 8 yrs 'subject' ..."

The Final Kings of Judah

Josiah

Died in battle against Pharaoh Necho

Jehoahaz (3mts)
Taken to Egypt by Pharaoh Necho

Jehoiakim

2 Chron 36:4 Appointed by Pharaoh Necho

2 Chron 36:5 Reigned 11 years

Daniel 1:1 Nebuchadnezzar conquered in 3rd year

2 Kings 24:1 Served for 3 years

"Jehoiachin was 8 yrs 'subject' ..."

2 Kings 24:1 Rebelled for 5 years

Jehoiachin

3 606

609

608

607

6

/ 8

9

10

3mts 11d

- The only 'problem' that exists here is with our understanding
- This is not a contradiction
- There is no need to 'correct' the text

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Daniel in the Critic's Den

- No other book is as vindicated by history.
- 332 BC: Alexander's conquest of Jerusalem: Priest Jaddua showed him references to himself in Daniel; city was spared.

Josephus

- R. Kodewey, 1899-1917: excavations of Nebuchadnezzar's palace, et al, Banquet hall found, 173' x 56'.

 Rebuilt by Saddam Hussein
- Conclusion: Daniel had to be an eyewitness.

Historical Confirmation

Babylonian Clay Prism, now in Istanbul Museum:

- Ha-nu-nu, Chief of the Royal Merchants, a variation of Hananiah, or Shadrach
- Mushal-emarduk: (less marduk) Meshach
- Ardi-nabu, Secretary to the Crown Prince; an alternative form of Abed-Nego

Daniel in the Critic's Den

- Two books that thoroughly attest to the historicity of Daniel, and it's writing at the time indicated in the Bible:
- Studies In The Book of Daniel
 - by Professor Robert D Wilson
- The Authenticity of the Book of Daniel
 - by Bill Cooper

Daniel in the Critic's Den

"Perhaps the most sensible thing that has ever been said about the critics, was said by Sir Robert Anderson in 1909 who, as an accomplished policeman, knew a thing or two about how evidence works. He states that in any court of law which was trying the case of Daniel, the critic would be considered at best a specialist witness: "He can supply but a part, and that by no means the most important part, of the necessary evidence. And if a single well-ascertained fact be inconsistent with his theories, the fact must prevail." Unfortunately, the critics have always mistaken their role and presume to speak as judge and jury".

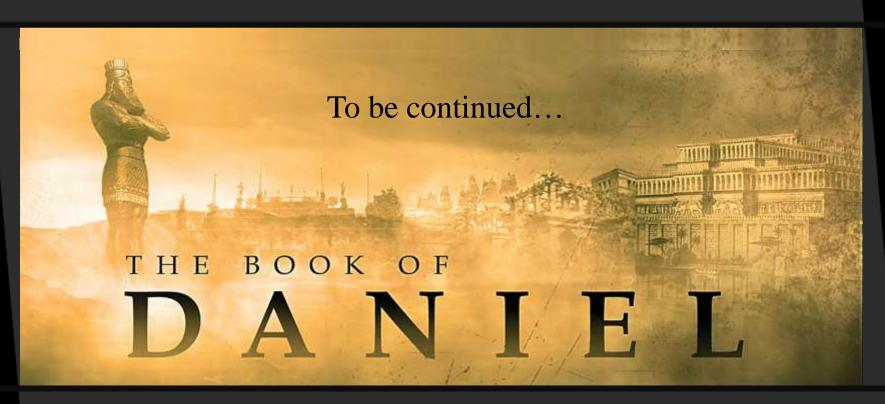
The Authenticity of the Book of Daniel Bill Cooper

Ultimate Authentication

- Divine accreditation:
 - Jesus quotes Daniel 3 times:
 - "Daniel the Prophet"
- Historical authentication
 - Quoted 3x in Ezekiel Ezek 14:14, 20; 28:3
 - Classed with Noah, Job, et al







...a verse by verse study

