

1. Opening Prayer

2. Intro: The Book of Daniel



**Who's the author?**

Classical View: written by **Daniel** (6<sup>th</sup> Century. B.C) to the captive Israelites

Critical View: written by **an unknown Jew** (2<sup>nd</sup> Century B.C) to the captive Israelites  
because of some historical facts such as

- 1) difference between Dan. 1:1 and Jer. 25:1
- 2) Belshazar's father: Nabonidus

**What kind of book is it?** History + Prophecy + Apocalypse

History and Prophecy: Ch. 1 -6 in the court.

Prophecy and Apocalypse: Ch. 7-12 in visions.

**Written in two languages:** Hebrew and Aramaic

Hebrew: Chs. 1-2:4a and 8-12

Aramaic: Chs. 2:4b – 7

**Structure by Language**

**A. Captive Jews in Hebrew Language (Ch. 1)**

B. Four Kingdoms that would govern Israel (Ch. 2)

C. God will save the faithful (Ch. 3)

D. God lowered the king (Ch. 4)

D` God lowered the king (Ch. 5)

C` God will save the faithful (Ch. 6)

B` Four Kingdoms that would govern Israel (Ch. 7)

**A` Daniel's vision in Hebrew Language (Ch. 8-12)**

What's the purpose of this book?

What's the main point of this book?

### 3. Read Ch. 4

### 4. Discussion Questions

- a. In verse 3, what did the king realize?
- b. The king summoned the wise men to know about his dream. It seems similar to and different from the story in Ch. 2. What is similar and different?
- c. The king saw a big tree in his dream. How shall we understand the tree?
- d. Do you know any big tree mentioned in the Bible?
- e. There is a holy watcher in verse 13. What do you think a watcher would usually do? Then, what would be the holy watcher's job?
- f. Why do you think the watcher said, "leave the stump and its roots in the ground"? And how shall we understand surrounding the stump with a band of iron and bronze?
- g. In the bible, there is another person good at dream interpretation, Joseph. Can you find out similarities and differences between Joseph and Daniel?
- h. Why do you think Daniel was terrified after hearing the dream?
- i. This chapter begins with the 1<sup>st</sup> person narration, but from verse 19 with the 3<sup>rd</sup> person, and from verse 34 with the 1<sup>st</sup> person again. Why?
- j. How shall we imagine living with the wild animals and eating like oxen?
- k. In verse 27, what kind of sin was Daniel talking about? Did he know any sin of the king?
- l. Regarding this story, what is being humble before God?

### 5. Closing Prayer