

# Book of Daniel Bible Study

## 10/2/05 Lesson

- > Introduce yourself and Christian background
- > ASK/DISCUSS why to study this Book *now*?..
- > There are two major prophecy books in the Bible
  - Daniel in the Old Testament
  - Revelation in the New Testament

### > Please turn to Daniel Chapter 12:1~4:

<sup>DA 12:1</sup> "...At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people--everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered. <sup>2</sup> Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt. <sup>3</sup> Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever. <sup>4</sup> But you, Daniel, close up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. Many will go here and there to increase knowledge."

- > Daniel is a sealed Book until the time of the end.
- > Up until the 19th century, many Bible commentaries Daniel focused on history, linguistics and matters that don't deal with the end times much
- > Since the 20th century, commentaries now focus on
  - The revealing and machinations of the coming Anti-christ
  - Events surrounding reborn Israel
  - The 70 Weeks of Daniel and where we are in this today
- > Today, there are many commentaries specifically on just the Book of Daniel – this Book is opening up!

> ASK/DISCUSS: What is meant by the last part of Daniel 12:4?

<sup>12:4</sup> But you, Daniel, close up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end.

*Many will go here and there to increase knowledge."*

> Let's see if we can get closer to the actual meaning and translation. The Amplified Bible put it this way:

12:4 But you, O Daniel, shut up the words and seal the Book until the time of the end.

[Then] many shall run to and fro *and search anxiously [through the Book], and knowledge [of God's purposes as revealed by His prophets] shall be increased and become great.*

> The words “to and fro” relate to the Hebrew word “shuwt” (Strong's Number 07751) or “shoot-teet” which literally describes tracing across lines of print on a page. What could this mean here, then (DISCUSS the “running to and fro” through the Bible as the End Times and its evidence comes into view)?

> The Dark Ages saw the Bible “chained to the pulpit”.

> Superstition, speculation and private interpretation were the order of that day.

Then about 450 years ago, two great occurrences created the critical mass to help begin the bringing of the “Words of Life” to all peoples around the world:

> 1. In the mid-15th century Johann Gutenberg invented a mechanical way of making books – the printing press. This was the enabled mass production of the Bible

> 2. The Reformation in 1517, when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany. This began the last great revival of true Christianity in world history and gave re-birth to the concept of the literal truth of the Bible - The 4 Pillars of the Reformation:

- Christ Alone!
- The Bible Alone!
- Faith Alone!
- Grace Alone!

> ... How's that for setting the stage for Daniel 12:4 – the End Times opening of that great Book of Prophecy!

> Let's start digging into the Book of Daniel first by finding out the setting of the Book.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) There are only three people groups mentioned in the entire Bible and everyone throughout history falls into one of these “buckets” Who are these groups and which one do you fall into?

> Answer: Jews; Gentiles; Christians

> Genesis Chapter 1 through Acts chapter 1 is about the Gentiles and the Jews.

> Acts Chapter 2 through Revelation focuses on the above and Christians (the church)

> Read Romans 1:16

RO 1:16 I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

> Read Romans 10:10~13...

<sup>10</sup> For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. <sup>11</sup> As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." <sup>12</sup> For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him (*and, what do those that call upon Him become? – Christians!*), <sup>13</sup> for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

> (ASK/DISCUSS) If the Bible references exactly three people groups or strands of the human family, would it be predictable that God would detail a history or timeline for each them?

> Book about the history of the Jews: Ezekiel

> Book about the history of the Christians (the church): Revelation

> Book about the history of the Gentiles: Daniel

> There is a technical specification and a Spiritual application in Scripture – while the entire Bible is applicable to everyone of us...

> Read 2Timothy 3:16~17:

<sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup> so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

There is still a “technical” value to it, meaning some parts are specifically to or about the Jews, Gentiles or Christians (*Leviticus is a great example of technical (laws; systems of sacrifices and worship; the temple; priests, etc., The Spiritual application is that we can learn about the Holiness of God).*

- > Daniel was written about 600 years before Jesus was born
- > It's a timeline for the Gentile world
- > Starts from the Babylonian captivity (605BC) and is about the gentiles from that point and into eternity future)
- > Turn to Daniel 2:1~21:

DA 2:1 In the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his mind was troubled and he could not sleep. <sup>2</sup> So the king summoned the magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers to tell him what he had dreamed. When they came in and stood before the king, <sup>3</sup> he said to them, "I have had a dream that troubles me and I want to know what it means. "

DA 2:4 Then the astrologers answered the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will interpret it."

DA 2:5 The king replied to the astrologers, "This is what I have firmly decided: If you do not tell me what my dream was and interpret it, I will have you cut into pieces and your houses turned into piles of rubble. <sup>6</sup> But if you tell me the dream and explain it, you will receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor. So tell me the dream and interpret it for me."

- > Skipping to verse 10...

DA 2:10 The astrologers answered the king, "There is not a man on earth who can do what the king asks! No king, however great and mighty, has ever asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or astrologer. <sup>11</sup> What the king asks is too difficult. No one can reveal it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among men."

DA 2:12 This made the king so angry and furious that he ordered the execution of all the wise men of Babylon. <sup>13</sup> So the decree was issued to put the wise men to death, and men were sent to look for Daniel and his friends to put them to death.

DA 2:14 When Arioch (ah-ree-ock), the commander of the king's guard, had gone out to put to death the wise men of Babylon, Daniel spoke to him with wisdom and tact. <sup>15</sup> He asked the king's officer, "Why did the king issue such a harsh decree?" Arioch then explained the matter to Daniel. <sup>16</sup> At this, Daniel went in to the king and asked for time, so that he might interpret the dream for him.

> Skipping to verse 19...

<sup>19</sup> During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven <sup>20</sup> and said:

"Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever;  
wisdom and power are his.

DA 2:21 He changes times and seasons;  
**he sets up kings and deposes them.**  
He gives wisdom to the wise  
and knowledge to the discerning.

> Move down to verses 25~27:

DA 2:25 Arioch took Daniel to the king at once and said, "I have found a man among the exiles from Judah who can tell the king what his dream means."

DA 2:26 The king asked Daniel (also called Belteshazzar), "Are you able to tell me what I saw in my dream and interpret it?"

DA 2:27 Daniel replied, "No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, <sup>28</sup> but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries. **He has shown King Nebuchadnezzar what will happen in days to come.** Your dream and the visions that passed through your mind as you lay on your bed are these:

DA 2:29 "As you were lying there, O king, your mind turned to things to come, and the revealer of mysteries showed you what is going to happen. <sup>30</sup> As for me, this mystery has been revealed to me, not because I have greater wisdom than other living men, but so that you, O king, may know the interpretation and that you may understand what went through your mind.

DA 2:31 "You looked, O king, and there before you stood a large statue--an enormous, dazzling statue, awesome in appearance. <sup>32</sup> The head of the statue was made of pure gold, its chest and arms of silver, its belly and thighs of bronze, <sup>33</sup> its legs of iron, its feet partly of iron and partly of baked clay. <sup>34</sup> While you were watching, a rock was cut out, but not by human hands. It struck the statue on its feet of iron and clay and smashed them. <sup>35</sup> Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver and the gold were broken to pieces at the same time and became like chaff on a threshing floor in the summer. The wind swept them away without leaving a trace. But the rock that struck the statue became a huge mountain and filled the whole earth.

DA 2:36 "This was the dream, and now we will interpret it to the king. <sup>37</sup> You, O king, are the king of kings. The God of heaven has given you dominion and power and might and glory; <sup>38</sup> in your hands he has placed mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds of

the air. Wherever they live, he has made you ruler over them all. You are that head of gold.

DA 2:39 "After you, another kingdom will rise, inferior to yours. Next, a third kingdom, one of bronze, will rule over the whole earth. <sup>40</sup> Finally, there will be a fourth kingdom, strong as iron--for iron breaks and smashes everything--and as iron breaks things to pieces, so it will crush and break all the others. <sup>41</sup> Just as you saw that the feet and toes were partly of baked clay and partly of iron, so this will be a divided kingdom; yet it will have some of the strength of iron in it, even as you saw iron mixed with clay. <sup>42</sup> As the toes were partly iron and partly clay, so this kingdom will be partly strong and partly brittle. <sup>43</sup> And just as you saw the iron mixed with baked clay, so the people will be a mixture and will not remain united, any more than iron mixes with clay.

DA 2:44 "In the time of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed, nor will it be left to another people. It will crush all those kingdoms and bring them to an end, but it will itself endure forever. <sup>45</sup> This is the meaning of the vision of the rock cut out of a mountain, but not by human hands--a rock that broke the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver and the gold to pieces.

"The great God has shown the king what will take place in the future. The dream is true and the interpretation is trustworthy."

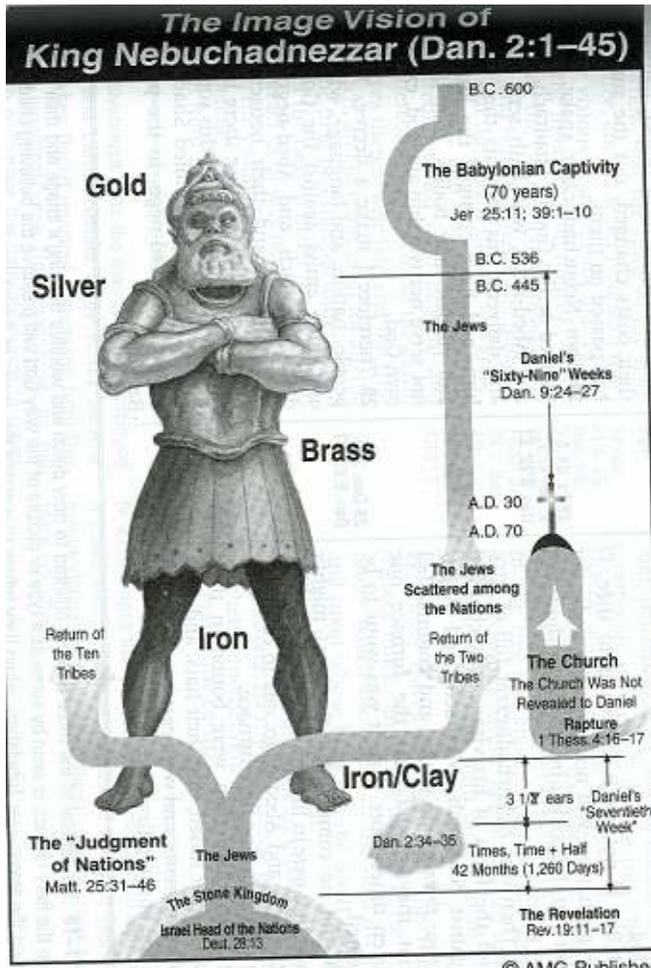
> (ASK/DISCUSS) Do you remember what this is about?

> It is the infamous vision of the statue of Gentile world governments from King Nebuchadnezzar's time all the way through until the time we're waiting for – The taking over of the Gentile-ruled world and the smashing of Gentile history – The day of Jesus Christ!

> Next week we'll talk more about the "surroundings" of book of Daniel and then we'll get into this image and what it's all about!

## 10/16/05 Lesson

1. BEFORE CLASS - Draw Nebbie's statue:



2. (Write on the whiteboard the chronological order of the chapters:

1,2,3,4,7,8,5,6,9,10,11,12

3. Chapter 5 is about the fall of the Babylonian empire

4. Chapter 6 is Daniel (in the Lion's den under the Medo-Persian empire).

> The image deals with the four major components of human government between Babylon under Nebbie and the Antichrist under the “revived Roman Empire” – *The Times of the Gentiles*

> These are:

- Head of Gold=Babylon
- Arms of Silver=Media-Persia
- Sides of Brass=Greece
- Legs of iron & Feet of Clay=Rome

> Daniel is tightly integrated with the Book of Revelation:

- Daniel came to the fore at the beginning of the Babylonian Empire
- John (in Revelation) prophesies in the final end of the Roman Empire

> Sort of like a set of bookends – From Nebbie in Daniel to the Antichrist who is the “head of the Nations” (just like Rome) at that time of Revelation, who is defeated.

> Please turn to Revelation 11:14~18...

REV 11:14 ...The second woe has passed; the third woe is coming soon.

REV 11:15 The seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, which said:

"The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever."

REV 11:16 And the twenty-four elders, who were seated on their thrones before God, fell on their faces and worshiped God, <sup>17</sup> saying:

"We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, the One who is and who was, because you have taken your great power and have *begun to reign*."

REV 11:18 *The nations were angry;  
and your wrath has come.*  
The time has come for judging the dead,  
and for rewarding your servants the prophets  
and your saints and those who reverence your name,  
both small and great--  
and for destroying those who destroy the earth."

## **10/23/05 Lesson**

> Now it's time to start digging into the details of the great Book of Daniel.

> Let's look at the opening verse of the Book:

> Read Daniel 1:1~2...

DA 1:1 *In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim (Je-hoy-ah-kim) king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. <sup>2</sup> And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with **some** of the articles from the temple of God. These he carried off to the temple of his god in Babylonia and put in the treasure house of his god.*

> Let's see why God delivered Jehoiakim and the Temple articles into Nebbie's hands:

> Read 2 Kings 24:1~2

2KI 24:1 *During Jehoiakim's reign, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon invaded the land, and Jehoiakim became his vassal (servant) for three years. But then he changed his mind and rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar. <sup>2</sup> The LORD sent Babylonian, Aramean, Moabite and Ammonite raiders against him. **He sent them to destroy Judah, in accordance with the word of the LORD proclaimed by his servants the prophets.***

> This started back in the days of Isaiah when the prideful boasting of King Hezekiah (715~686BC) prompted him to a bad decision...

> Read Isaiah 39:1~7...

ISA 39:1 At that time Merodach (Mer-oh-dak)-Baladan son of Baladan king of *Babylon* sent Hezekiah letters and a gift, because he had heard of his illness and recovery. <sup>2</sup> Hezekiah received the envoys gladly and showed them what was in his storehouses--the silver, the gold, the spices, the fine oil, his entire armory and everything found among his treasures. There was nothing in his palace or in all his kingdom that Hezekiah did not show them.

ISA 39:3 Then Isaiah the prophet went to King Hezekiah and asked, "What did those men say, and where did they come from?"

"From a distant land," Hezekiah replied. "They came to me from Babylon."

ISA 39:4 The prophet asked, "What did they see in your palace?"

"They saw everything in my palace," Hezekiah said. "There is nothing among my treasures that I did not show them."

ISA 39:5 Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the LORD Almighty: <sup>6</sup> **The time will surely come when everything in your palace, and all that your fathers have stored up until this day, will be carried off to Babylon.** Nothing will be left, says the LORD. <sup>7</sup> And some of your descendants, your own flesh and blood who will be born to you, will be taken away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the *king of Babylon*."

> Important to note here is that now that Judea has been *thoroughly* "sacked" and line of the kings of Israel have been cutoff – **the times if Israeli history stops and "The Times of the Gentiles" begins at the reign of Nebbie!**

> Is the "clock" on Israel still stopped? Are we still in the "times of the Gentiles" now?

> Let's see: Read Luke 21:20~24...

> (The context here is that Jesus was talking to the Disciples about conditions at the time of the end)

LK 21:20 "When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. <sup>21</sup> Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. <sup>22</sup> For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. <sup>23</sup> How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. <sup>24</sup> They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. **Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.**

> Daniel 1:1 was not meant to do complete justice to the absolute severity of the crushing of Judah and the horrible captivity.

> But, 2 Kings details the crushing completeness of God's judgment on the Jews (The northern ten tribes were already taken into captivity into Assyria back in 722BC).

> Read 2 Kings 23:36~25:18...

<sup>2KI 23:36</sup> Jehoiakim was twenty-five years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem eleven years. (His mother's name was Zebidah daughter of Pedaiah; she was from Rumah.) <sup>37</sup> And he did evil in the eyes of the LORD, just as his fathers had done.

<sup>2KI 24:1</sup> During Jehoiakim's reign, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon invaded the land, and Jehoiakim became his vassal for three years. But then he (Jehoiakim) changed his mind and rebelled against Nebuchadnezzar. <sup>2</sup> The LORD sent Babylonian, Aramean, Moabite and Ammonite raiders against him. He sent them to destroy Judah, in accordance with the word of the LORD proclaimed by his servants the prophets. <sup>3</sup> Surely these things happened to Judah according to the LORD's command, in order to remove them from his presence because of the sins of Manasseh and all he had done, <sup>4</sup> including the shedding of innocent blood. For he had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, and the LORD was not willing to forgive.

<sup>2KI 24:5</sup> *As for the other events of Jehoiakim's reign, and all he did, are they not written in the book of the annals of the kings of Judah?* <sup>6</sup> Jehoiakim rested with his fathers. And Jehoiachin his son succeeded him as king.

> Skipping to verse 8 – The punishment moves into Jehoiakim's son's reign...

<sup>2KI 24:8</sup> Jehoiachin was eighteen years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem three months. His mother's name was Nehushta (Ne-hush-ta) daughter of

Elnathan (El-nathan); she was from Jerusalem. <sup>9</sup> He did evil in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father had done.

<sup>2KI 24:10</sup> At that time the officers of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon advanced on Jerusalem and laid siege to it, <sup>11</sup> and Nebuchadnezzar himself came up to the city while his officers were besieging it. <sup>12</sup> Jehoiachin king of Judah, his mother, his attendants, his nobles and his officials all surrendered to him.

In the eighth year of the reign of the king of Babylon, (*Daniel 2 is set in the third year of the reign of the king of Babylon*) he took Jehoiachin prisoner. <sup>13</sup> As the LORD had declared, Nebuchadnezzar removed **all** the treasures from the temple of the LORD and from the royal palace, and took away **all** the gold articles that Solomon king of Israel had made for the temple of the LORD. <sup>14</sup> He carried into exile **all** Jerusalem: **all** the officers and fighting men, and **all** the craftsmen and artisans--*a total of ten thousand*. **Only the poorest people of the land were left.**

<sup>2KI 24:15</sup> Nebuchadnezzar took Jehoiachin captive to Babylon. He also took from Jerusalem to Babylon the king's mother, his wives, his officials and the leading men of the land. <sup>16</sup> The king of Babylon also deported to Babylon the entire force of seven thousand fighting men, strong and fit for war, and a thousand craftsmen and artisans. <sup>17</sup> He made Mattaniah (mat-tan-i-ah), Jehoiachin's uncle, king in his place and changed his name to Zedekiah.

> Skipping to verse 19...

<sup>19</sup> He did evil in the eyes of the LORD, just as Jehoiakim had done. <sup>20</sup> *It was because of the LORD's anger that all this happened to Jerusalem and Judah, and in the end he thrust them from his presence.*

Now Zedekiah rebelled against the king of Babylon.

<sup>2KI 25:1</sup> So in the ninth year of Zedekiah's reign, on the tenth day of the tenth month, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon marched against Jerusalem with his whole army

> Skipping to 2 Kings 25:5...

<sup>5</sup> but the Babylonian army pursued the king and overtook him in the plains of Jericho. All his soldiers were separated from him and scattered, <sup>6</sup> and he was captured. He was taken to the king of Babylon at Riblah, where sentence was pronounced on him. <sup>7</sup> They killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes. Then they put out his eyes, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon.

<sup>2KI 25:8</sup> On the seventh day of the fifth month, in the nineteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, Nebuzaradan commander of the imperial guard, an official of the king of Babylon, came to Jerusalem. <sup>9</sup> He set fire to the temple of the LORD, the royal palace and all the houses of Jerusalem. Every important building he burned down. <sup>10</sup> The whole Babylonian army, under the commander of the imperial guard, broke down the walls around Jerusalem. <sup>11</sup> Nebuzaradan the commander of the guard carried into exile the

people who remained in the city, along with the rest of the populace and those who had gone over to the king of Babylon. <sup>12</sup> **But the commander left behind some of the poorest people of the land to work the vineyards and fields.**

<sup>2KI 25:13</sup> The Babylonians broke up the bronze pillars, the movable stands and the bronze Sea that were at the temple of the LORD and they carried the bronze to Babylon. <sup>14</sup> They also took away the pots, shovels, wick trimmers, dishes and all the bronze articles used in the temple service. <sup>15</sup> The commander of the imperial guard took away the censers and sprinkling bowls--all that were made of pure gold or silver.

<sup>2KI 25:16</sup> The bronze from the two pillars, the Sea and the movable stands, which Solomon had made for the temple of the LORD, was more than could be weighed. <sup>17</sup> Each pillar was twenty-seven feet high. The bronze capital on top of one pillar was four and a half feet high and was decorated with a network and pomegranates of bronze all around. The other pillar, with its network, was similar.

<sup>2KI 25:18</sup> The commander of the guard took as prisoners Seraiah the chief priest, Zephaniah the priest next in rank and the three doorkeepers. <sup>19</sup> Of those still in the city, he took the officer in charge of the fighting men and five royal advisers. He also took the secretary who was chief officer in charge of conscripting the people of the land and sixty of his men who were found in the city. <sup>20</sup> Nebuzaradan the commander took them all and brought them to the king of Babylon at Riblah. <sup>21</sup> There at Riblah, in the land of Hamath, the king had them executed.

**So Judah went into captivity, away from her land.**

> Psalm 137 is a heart-wrenching cry about their captivity...

PS 137:1 By the rivers of Babylon we sat and wept  
when we remembered Zion.

PS 137:2 There on the poplars  
we hung our harps,

PS 137:3 for there our captors asked us for songs,  
our tormentors demanded songs of joy;  
they said, "Sing us one of the songs of Zion!"

PS 137:4 How can we sing the songs of the LORD  
while in a foreign land?

PS 137:5 If I forget you, O Jerusalem,  
may my right hand forget its skill.

PS 137:6 May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth  
if I do not remember you,  
if I do not consider Jerusalem

my highest joy.

PS 137:7 Remember, O LORD, what the Edomites did  
on the day Jerusalem fell.  
"Tear it down," they cried,  
"tear it down to its foundations!"

PS 137:8 O Daughter of Babylon, doomed to destruction,  
happy is he who repays you  
for what you have done to us--

PS 137:9 he who seizes your infants  
and dashes them against the rocks.

## **10/30/05 Lesson**

***First: Review Zedekiah and Josephus' exposition of the Babylon prophesy about him.***

2Kings 25:7...<sup>7</sup> They killed the sons of Zedekiah before his eyes. Then they put out his eyes, bound him with bronze shackles and took him to Babylon.

Begin Lesson...

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Why made God so very angry that He poured out such wrath upon Judah?

> Read Leviticus 25:1~4...

LEV 25:1 The LORD said to Moses on Mount Sinai,<sup>2</sup> "Speak to the Israelites and say to them: `When you enter the land I am going to give you, the land itself must observe a Sabbath to the LORD.<sup>3</sup> For six years sow your fields, and for six years prune your vineyards and gather their crops.<sup>4</sup> But in the seventh year the land is to have a Sabbath of rest, a Sabbath to the LORD. Do not sow your fields or prune your vineyards...

> Read Leviticus 25:18~22...

LEV 25:18 " `Follow my decrees and be careful to obey my laws, and you will live safely in the land.<sup>19</sup> Then the land will yield its fruit, and you will eat your fill and live there in safety.<sup>20</sup> You may ask, "What will we eat in the seventh year if we do not plant or

harvest our crops?" <sup>21</sup> I will send you such a blessing in the sixth year that the land will yield enough for three years. <sup>22</sup> While you plant during the eighth year, you will eat from the old crop and will continue to eat from it until the harvest of the ninth year comes in.

> The Sabbath is meant as a commanded restorative time – for Israel, the people and Israel, the land!

> The land cannot make a choice for itself, so God kicked out the people to provide the Sabbath rest for the land and to punish disobedience.

> Read Leviticus 26:14~16...

LEV 26:14 " `But if you will not listen to me and carry out all these commands, <sup>15</sup> and if you reject my decrees and abhor my laws and fail to carry out all my commands and so violate my covenant, <sup>16</sup> then I will do this to you: ...

> Skip to verse 26:18...

LEV 26:18 " `If after all this you will not listen to me, I will punish you for your sins seven times over...

> Skip to verse 26:21...

LEV 26:21 " `If you remain hostile toward me and refuse to listen to me, I will multiply your afflictions seven times over, as your sins deserve...

> Skip to verse 26:27...

LEV 26:27 " `If in spite of this you still do not listen to me but continue to be hostile toward me, <sup>28</sup> then in my anger I will be hostile toward you, and *I, myself* will punish you for your sins seven times over. <sup>29</sup> You will eat the flesh of your sons and the flesh of your daughters. <sup>30</sup> I will destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars and pile your dead bodies on the lifeless forms of your idols, and I will abhor you. <sup>31</sup> I will turn your cities into ruins and lay waste your sanctuaries, and I will take no delight in the pleasing aroma of your offerings. <sup>32</sup> I will lay waste the land, so that your enemies who live there will be appalled. <sup>33</sup> I will scatter you among the nations and will draw out my sword and pursue you. Your land will be laid waste, and your cities will lie in ruins. <sup>34</sup> **Then the land will enjoy its Sabbath years all the time that it lies desolate and you are in the country of your enemies; then the land will rest and enjoy its Sabbaths.** <sup>35</sup> **All the**

**time that it lies desolate, the land will have the rest it did not have during the Sabbaths you lived in it.**

- > (ASK) How many years did the land have it's Sabbath rest?
- > ANSWER: 70 years (the total land-Sabbath years missed times seven)
- > Make a point of the *technical* vs. *spiritual* aspect
- > There is still a “technical” value to it, meaning some parts are specifically to or about the Jews, Gentiles or Christians (*Leviticus is a great example of technical (laws; systems of sacrifices and worship; the temple; priests, etc., The Spiritual application is that we can learn about the Holiness of God).*)
- > Let's finish our “tour of Babylon” this week...
- > Just as in many other things in Scripture, there are “technical” and “spiritual” components to Babylon.
- > (ASK/DISCUSS) Where did “Babylon” start?
- > (ASK/DISCUSS) What was the tower of Babel *really* about?
- > Babylon represents *everything* that is in opposition to God.
- > DISCUSS THE THREAD OF BABYLON TODAY
  - Nimrod
  - Humanism
  - New Age Movement
  - Sadam Hussein and his desire to rebuild Babylon
  - the war in Iraq and the rebuilding of Babylon *today*
- > What's the end of this Babylon?

> Let's take a quick tour of "things Babylon" in the book of Revelation:

> Read Revelation 17:3~7...

REV 17:3 Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a desert. There I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was covered with blasphemous names and had seven heads and ten horns. <sup>4</sup> The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries. <sup>5</sup> This title was written on her forehead:

MYSTERY  
BABYLON THE GREAT  
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES  
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

REV 17:6 I saw that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of those who bore testimony to Jesus. When I saw her, I was greatly astonished. <sup>7</sup> Then the angel said to me: "Why are you astonished? I will explain to you the mystery of the woman and of the beast she rides..."

> Moving down to verse 18...

<sup>18</sup> The woman you saw is the **great city that rules over the kings of the earth.**"

> Read Revelation 18:1~21...

REV 18:1 After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. <sup>2</sup> With a mighty voice he shouted:

"Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!  
She has become a home for demons  
and a haunt for every evil spirit,  
a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird.

REV 18:3 For all the nations have drunk  
the maddening wine of her adulteries.  
The kings of the earth committed adultery with her,  
and the merchants of the earth grew rich from her excessive luxuries."

REV 18:4 Then I heard another voice from heaven say:

"Come out of her, my people,

so that you will not share in her sins,  
so that you will not receive any of her plagues;

REV 18:5 for her sins are piled up to heaven (*sound like a familiar tower?*),  
and God has remembered her crimes.

REV 18:6 Give back to her as she has given;  
pay her back double for what she has done.  
Mix her a double portion *from her own cup*.

REV 18:7 Give her as much torture and grief  
as the glory and luxury she gave herself.  
In her heart she boasts,  
'I sit as queen; I am not a widow,  
and I will never mourn.'

> Skip to verse 9...

REV 18:9 "When the kings of the earth who committed adultery with her and shared her luxury see the smoke of her burning, they will weep and mourn over her. <sup>10</sup> Terrified at her torment, they will stand far off and cry:

" 'Woe! Woe, O great city,  
O Babylon, city of power!  
In one hour your doom has come!"

REV 18:11 "The merchants of the earth will weep and mourn over her because no one buys their cargoes any more-- <sup>12</sup> cargoes of gold, silver, precious stones and pearls; fine linen, purple, silk and scarlet cloth; every sort of citron wood, and articles of every kind made of ivory, costly wood, bronze, iron and marble; <sup>13</sup> cargoes of cinnamon and spice, of incense, myrrh and frankincense, of wine and olive oil, of fine flour and wheat; cattle and sheep; horses and carriages; *and bodies and souls of men*.

REV 18:14 "They will say, 'The fruit you longed for is gone from you. All your riches and splendor have vanished, never to be recovered.' <sup>15</sup> The merchants who sold these things and gained their wealth from her will stand far off, terrified at her torment. They will weep and mourn <sup>16</sup> and cry out:

" 'Woe! Woe, O great *city*,  
dressed in fine linen, purple and scarlet,  
and glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls!"

REV 18:17 In one hour such great wealth has been brought to ruin!"

"Every sea captain, and all who travel by ship, the sailors, and all who earn their living from the sea, will stand far off. <sup>18</sup> When they see the smoke of her burning, they will

exclaim, 'Was there ever a city like this great city?' <sup>19</sup> They will throw dust on their heads, and with weeping and mourning cry out:

" `Woe! Woe, O great city,  
where all who had ships on the sea  
became rich through her wealth!  
In one hour she has been brought to ruin!

REV 18:20 Rejoice over her, O heaven!  
Rejoice, saints and apostles and prophets!  
God has judged her for the way she treated you.' "

REV 18:21 Then a mighty angel picked up a boulder the size of a large millstone and threw it into the sea, and said:

"With such violence  
the great city of Babylon will be thrown down,  
**never to be found again.**

> There is MUCH more in chapter 18 that we won't cover, but it goes on and on about the full judgment, humiliation and demise of Babylon – the system (technical aspect) and religion (spiritual aspect).

> Let's pick up with Daniel. We left off at why the Jews were being punished – not giving the land her Sabbath rest periods.

> Over a period of 490 years (from the time Joshua captured and divided the land among them to the time of the captivity in Babylon), they failed to allow the land her Sabbaths.

> Over the 490 year period, Israel was to keep every seventh year as a Sabbath for the land.

> They failed to keep a total of 70 Sabbatical years (490/7=70)

> As foretold in 2Chronicles 36:20~21...

<sup>2CH 36:20</sup> He carried into exile to Babylon the remnant, who escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia (*Arms of Silver=Media-Persia*) came to power. <sup>21</sup> The land enjoyed its sabbath rests; all the time of its desolation it rested, until the seventy years were completed in fulfillment of the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah.

> It was at the end of the 70 years of captivity in Babylon that Beltshazzar (grandson of Nebbie) saw “the handwriting on the wall” in Hebrew “MENE, MENE, TEKEL PERES”, meaning: “weighed” ... ”numbered” ... ”divided”

> This was the official end of the Babylon empire (head of Gold) and the beginning of the rule of the Media-Persia empire (arms of silver)

This can all be found in Daniel chapter 5

> Remember the chronological order of the chapters?

1,2,3,4,7,8,5,6,9,10,11,12

Chapter 5 is about the fall of the Babylonian empire

Chapter 6 is Daniel in the Lion’s den (under the Medo-Persian empire).

> Now you know why!

> Let’s resume with Daniel...

> Read Daniel 1:1~7...

<sup>DA 1:1</sup> In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. <sup>2</sup> And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the articles from the temple of God. These he carried off to the temple of his god in Babylonia and put in the treasure house of his god.

## 11/13/05 Lesson

### Draw statue image on board

#### *First: Review Babylon: Nimrod to Lot*

> Read Daniel 1:3~7...

<sup>DA 1:3</sup> Then the king ordered Ashpenaz (Ash-pe-naz), chief of his court officials, to bring in some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility-- <sup>4</sup> young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. <sup>5</sup> The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

<sup>DA 1:6</sup> Among these were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. <sup>7</sup> The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Why were these three singled out for this high level of service in Nebbie's kingdom?

> Back in Jerusalem, they were of royal lineage and set apart and highly schooled and trained for special service

> This included great training and extreme knowledge of the Bible – so extreme that it would make our knowledge pale in comparison

> Even though they were young, they had mastery of Hebrew, and probably other languages such as Syriac (the Chaldean's language)

> Daniel 1:17 says...

<sup>DA 1:17</sup> To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds

> Let's talk about their names...

> "Daniel" means "God is my judge"

- > “Hananiah” means “The Lord has been gracious”
- > “Mishael” means “Who is like God”
- > “Azariah” means “The Lord is my help”
- > (ASK/DISCUSS) What do all these names have in common?
- > Daniel became Belteshazzar meaning “The King’s Attendant or Leader”
- > The prefix ‘Bel’ means the god Bel (one of their gods)
- > The other three were also named after other of their deities.
- > Nebbie had this to say about these three Hebrews:
- > Read Daniel 1:19~21

<sup>19</sup> The king talked with them, *and he found none equal* to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service. <sup>20</sup> *In every matter of wisdom and understanding* about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

<sup>DA 1:21</sup> And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

- > (ASK) Have you heard of the “Yeshiva”?
- > The Yeshiva is an *intense* Hebrew school that goes way back into the history of the Israelites that used special methods to teach:
  - The Scriptures
  - Detailed Israelite history, culture and worship
  - About the God who chose them for His eternal Service

> (ASK/DISCUSS) What's the difference between knowledge and wisdom?

> Read Daniel 1:5~15...

DA 1:5 The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

> Skip to verse 8...

DA 1:8 But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. <sup>9</sup> Now *God had caused* the official to show favor and sympathy to Daniel, <sup>10</sup> but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you."

DA 1:11 Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, <sup>12</sup> "Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. <sup>13</sup> Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see." <sup>14</sup> So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.

DA 1:15 At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. <sup>16</sup> So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Why did the three refuse to eat the King's rations?

- Not Kosher
- Firm decision not to even be tempted with "sin"
- Character of resolve – even under pressure

> ... How about us? Do we feel this way?

> Chapter 1 shows us that God chose these three and prepared them for "such a time as that" and then greatly used them in that time for these major prophecies.

> (ASK) How long did God use Daniel for His purposes in the land of Babylon?

> <sup>DA 1:21</sup> And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus... Which is 537 B.C., *at least* year after the handwriting on the wall and the empire of Babylon fell from Belshazzar into Cyrus' hands.

> We also see an object lesson for us:

- Being set apart and prepared by God
- set your heart to *deeply* learn God's word and ways
- Resolve to be obedience when you don't (*or even do!*) know where you are being lead
- Live a pure and distinguished life as you follow (the Bible says nothing bad about Daniel – the only character in the Bible to have this honor)

> (ASK/PONDER) Is any faction in this world you are dealing with trying to entice you with the lure of its delicacies and trying to condition you by having you “consume their good and desirable things?”

> The 12 chapters are divided basically into two parts:

- The first six deal with Daniel and his “adventures”
- The last six deal with the far future:
  - End of time
  - The Tribulation
  - The rise of the Antichrist
  - Second Coming of Christ

> Daniel lays out “the times of the Gentiles” which must be known in order to understand New Testament prophecy.

> Now, let's move along into one of the most important chapters of Daniel, chapter 2.

> This is the most important chapter in this Book as it defines “The Times of the Gentiles”

> It speaks directly of the “seed of the woman” (God’s line of people) and the “seed of the serpent” (Satan’s line of people)

> This is clearly God vs. Satan (i.e. “Jerusalem vs. Babylon”)

> Read Genesis 3:15 KJV...

<sup>15</sup>And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.

> Read Genesis 3:15 Amplified...

<sup>15</sup>And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between **your offspring** and **her Offspring**; He will bruise and tread your head underfoot, and you will lie in wait and bruise His heel.

> BTW, is Genesis 3:16 prophetic of the “woman”, God’s people?

> Read Genesis 3:16...

<sup>GE 3:16</sup> To the woman he said,  
"I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing;  
with pain you will give birth to children.  
Your desire will be for your husband,  
and he will rule over you."

> What does Revelation say about the “Woman”?

> Read Revelation 12:4~6...

<sup>4</sup> His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. <sup>5</sup> She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne.

> Moving down to verse 17...

<sup>17</sup> Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring--those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

> Let's review the beginning of chapter 2...

> Read Daniel 2:1~14...

<sup>DA 2:1</sup> In the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had dreams; his mind was troubled and he could not sleep. <sup>2</sup> So the king summoned the magicians, enchanters, sorcerers and astrologers to tell him what he had dreamed. When they came in and stood before the king, <sup>3</sup> he said to them, "I have had a dream that troubles me and I want to know what it means. "

<sup>DA 2:4</sup> Then the astrologers answered the king in Aramaic, "O king, live forever! Tell your servants the dream, and we will interpret it."

> Note here that the language was specifically mentioned to be Aramaic. It was actually "Royal Aramaic" which was the Syrian language.

> Beginning in the 20th century, some scholars have used (and still use) this to argue that the book was written much later, therefore being a fabrication of some later author.

> Now back to Chapter 2, verse 5...

<sup>DA 2:5</sup> The king replied to the astrologers, "This is what I have firmly decided: If you do not tell me what my dream was and interpret it, I will have you cut into pieces and your houses turned into piles of rubble. <sup>6</sup> But if you tell me the dream and explain it, you will receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor. So tell me the dream and interpret it for me."

> Skipping to verse 10...

<sup>DA 2:10</sup> The astrologers answered the king, "There is not a man on earth who can do what the king asks!

> Skipping to verse 12...

<sup>DA 2:12</sup> This made the king so angry and furious that he ordered the execution of all the wise men of Babylon. <sup>13</sup> So the decree was issued to put the wise men to death, and men were sent to look for Daniel and his friends to put them to death.

### 11/20/05 Lesson

**\*\*WRITE ANIMAL EQUIVALENT TERMS NEXT TO STATUE PICTURE ON THE BOARD\*\***

**\*\* What about the Yeshiva?...**

The **Yeshiva** is an institution for Torah study and the study of Talmud primarily within Orthodox Judaism attended by males. Females usually attend Bais Yaakov schools.

**Bais Yaakov** or **Beit Yaakov** or **Beth Jacob** (literally "House of Jacob" in Hebrew) is a loosely-organized group of Orthodox Jewish day schools throughout the world for young Jewish females from religious families.

**\*\* Read document about Aramaic**

> We'll pick-up from last week at Daniel's prayer of thanks to God for revealing Nebbie's dream:

> Read Daniel 2:16...

<sup>16</sup> At this, Daniel went in to the king and **asked for time**, so that he might interpret the dream for him.

> Skipping to verse 19. Important to note is that Daniel is praising God for giving him the interpretation of the dream.

> He does this in a very special way – enumerating the sevenfold attributes of God, which are...

Attribute	The Father	The Son (Jesus Christ)	The Holy Spirit
Omnipresent	1 Kings 8:27	Matthew 28:20	Psalm 139:7
Omniscience	Psalm 147:5	John 16:30	1 Corinthians 2:10
Omnipotent	Psalm 135:6	Matthew 28:18	Romans 15:19
Holy	Revelation 15:4	Acts 3:14	Romans 1:4
Eternal	Psalm 90:2	Micah 5:2; John 1:2; Revelation 1:8,17	Hebrews 9:14

> Read Daniel 2:19~22

<sup>19</sup> During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven <sup>20</sup> and said:

"Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever;

1. wisdom and power are his.
2. He changes times and seasons;  
he
3. sets up kings and deposes them.
4. He gives wisdom to the wise  
and
5. knowledge to the discerning.
6. He reveals deep and hidden things;  
he
7. knows what lies in darkness,  
and light dwells with him.

> ASK/DISCUSS Why is this important? *It shows us how God deals with us AND how we then can best deal with Him!*

> Now, let's focus on the head of Gold (which is Nebbie's Babylonian kingdom).

> Daniel clearly said to Nebbie in 2:37~38:

<sup>37</sup> **You, O king, are the king of kings.** The God of heaven has given *you* dominion and power and might and glory; <sup>38</sup> in your hands he has placed mankind and the beasts of the field and the birds of the air. Wherever they live, he has made you ruler over them all.

**You are that head of gold.**

> With Daniel, as his closest advisor saying this, it looks like the head of Gold went to Nebbie's head!

> Read chapter 3:1~7...

<sup>DA 3:1</sup> King Nebuchadnezzar made an image of *gold*, ninety feet high and nine feet wide, and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon. <sup>2</sup> He then summoned the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials to come to the dedication of the image he had set up. <sup>3</sup> So the satraps, prefects, governors, advisers, treasurers, judges, magistrates and all the other provincial officials assembled for the dedication of the image that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up, and they stood before it.

DA 3:4 Then the herald loudly proclaimed, "This is what you are commanded to do, O peoples, nations and men of every language: <sup>5</sup> As soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. <sup>6</sup> *Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace.*" DA 3:7 Therefore, as soon as they heard the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp and all kinds of music, all the peoples, nations and men of every language fell down and worshiped the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

> The Babylonians used a lot of bricks to build nearly everything, so they were good at building the furnaces that were needed to make those bricks

> Let's take a look at Revelation 13:14~15...

> <sup>14</sup> Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth. He ordered them (the inhabitants of the earth) to set up an image in honor of the beast who was wounded by the sword and yet lived. <sup>15</sup> He was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that it could speak and cause all who refused to worship the image to be killed.

> Read Matthew 24:15

MT 24:15 "So when you see, standing in the holy place, (the third Temple) (what is it that's "standing"?) A statute, maybe?) 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel--let the reader understand--

> Back to Daniel, chapter 3:8~

DA 3:8 At this time some astrologers came forward and denounced the Jews. <sup>9</sup> They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, "O king, live forever! <sup>10</sup> You have issued a decree, O king, that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes and all kinds of music must fall down and worship the image of gold, <sup>11</sup> and that whoever does not fall down and worship will be thrown into a blazing furnace. <sup>12</sup> But there are some Jews whom you have set over the affairs of the province of Babylon--Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego--who pay no attention to you, O king. They neither serve your gods nor worship the image of gold you have set up." (*We don't know where Daniel was*)

DA 3:13 Furious with rage, Nebuchadnezzar summoned Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. So these men were brought before the king, <sup>14</sup> and Nebuchadnezzar said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods or worship the image of gold I have set up? <sup>15</sup> Now when you hear the sound of the horn,

flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipes and all kinds of music, if you are ready to fall down and worship the image I made, very good. But if you do not worship it, you will be thrown immediately into a blazing furnace. Then what god will be able to rescue you from my hand?"

DA 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. <sup>17</sup> If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us from your hand, O king. <sup>18</sup> *But even if he does not*, we want you to know, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up."

DA 3:19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was furious with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and *his attitude toward them changed (Nebbie loved these guys, but vanity and pride will consume everything)*. He ordered the furnace heated seven times hotter than usual <sup>20</sup> and commanded some of the strongest soldiers in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego and throw them into the blazing furnace.

> (DISCUSS) Why might it have been specially noted that the furnace was seven times hotter than usual?

> The King James translations puts it this way...

Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace **one seven times** more than it was wont to be heated

> The seven years of the Tribulation is a possibility since the Hebrew phrase for seven times could also be "one seven of years"

> The Hebrew is: "chad (khad) shib'ah" or "a single seven", where shib'ah means the *ordinal* number seven – not just merely an expression.

<sup>21</sup> So these men, wearing their robes, trousers, turbans and other clothes, were bound and thrown into the blazing furnace. <sup>22</sup> The king's command was *so urgent* and the furnace so hot that the flames of the fire killed the soldiers who took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, <sup>23</sup> and these three men, firmly tied, fell into the blazing furnace.

DA 3:24 Then King Nebuchadnezzar leaped to his feet in amazement and asked his advisers, "Weren't there three men that we tied up and threw into the fire?" They replied, "Certainly, O king."

DA 3:25 He said, "Look! I see four men walking around in the fire, unbound and unharmed, and the fourth looks like a **son of the gods**."

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Who could this “son of the gods” be?

> Israel will have to go through the “fiery furnace” of the Tribulation, but The Messiah will be right there through it with them – and they will come through unharmed!

> (DISCUSS) God will go **with** us through the fiery trials of life even though, as Daniel 3:17~18 says ... *“the God we serve is able to save us from it, and he will rescue us ...”*<sup>18</sup> *But even if he does not...* **He WILL go THROUGH with us!**

> (DISCUSS) Why was it mentioned that those three strong soldiers who the three into the furnace were consumed themselves? Because many “average” people will be consumed in the fiery furnace of the Tribulation.

Back to Daniel 3:26...

DA 3:26 Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, "Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!"

So Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego came out of the fire,<sup>27</sup> and the satraps, prefects, governors and royal advisers crowded around them. They saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them.

DA 3:28 Then Nebuchadnezzar said, "Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! **They trusted in him and defied the king's command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.**"<sup>29</sup> Therefore I decree that the people of any nation or language who say anything against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego be **cut into pieces** and their **houses be turned into piles of rubble**, for no other god *can save* in this way."

> (ASK/DISCUSS) What's wrong with this picture?! Was Nebbie bi-polar or manic-depressive maybe?

DA 3:30 Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the province of Babylon.

> (ASK) How many statues have we seen now that we've been through chapters two and three? ANSWER: Two

> Let's stop and compare the two statues:

- Daniel 2 has the statue that details *governments*
- Daniel 3 has a statue that is to be worshipped *religion* (this statue was 60 cubits, or 110 feet tall)

> Read Revelation 13:1~8...

...And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. He had ten horns and seven heads, with ten **crowns** on his horns, and on each head a blasphemous (false religions?) name. <sup>2</sup> The beast I saw resembled a *leopard*, but had feet like those of a *bear* and a mouth like that of a *lion*. The dragon gave the beast his power and his *throne* and *great authority*. <sup>3</sup> *One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal wound had been healed. The whole world was astonished and followed the beast.* <sup>4</sup> Men worshipped the dragon because he had *given authority to the beast*, and they also worshipped the beast and asked, "Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?"

REV 13:5 The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise his authority for forty-two months. <sup>6</sup> He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. <sup>7</sup> He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. *And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation.* <sup>8</sup> All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast--all *whose names have not been written in the book of life* belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.

> We clearly are shown, again that Babylon is both a *system* and a *religion* – the sum total of which, right down from Nimrod's day is MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT

> Read Revelation 17:3~5...

REV 17:3 Then the angel carried me away in the Spirit into a desert. There I saw a *woman* sitting on a scarlet **beast** that was covered with **blasphemous names** and had **seven heads and ten horns**.<sup>4</sup> The woman was dressed in purple and scarlet, and was glittering with gold, precious stones and pearls. She held a golden cup in her hand, filled with abominable things and the filth of her adulteries.<sup>5</sup> This title was written on her forehead:

MYSTERY  
BABYLON THE GREAT  
THE MOTHER OF PROSTITUTES  
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

> Next week, we'll start getting into the detail of the statue in Nebbie's great dream.(Use 'Details of the Empires of the Statue.doc'; 'Nebuchadrezzer Portrayal in the Book of Daniel.doc')

### **12/04/05 Lesson**

> Let's move on to chapter 4 and talk about the insanity of Nebbie.

> It's like the insanity of the world – confused

> Nebbie, as we've seen, seems to be manic-depressive with great personality swings, from great depression to anger to extreme joyfulness and benevolence.

> Read Daniel 4:1~31...

DA 4:1 King Nebuchadnezzar,

To the peoples, nations and men of every language, who live in all the world:

May you prosper greatly!

DA 4:2 It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me.

DA 4:3 How great are his signs,  
how mighty his wonders!

His kingdom is an eternal kingdom;  
his dominion endures from generation to generation.

> Nebbie acknowledges that Daniel operated in the power of the One True God

> Also, remember back in Daniel 3:25 he acknowledges that in the furnace was a fourth man who looked “like a son of the gods”.

> Note that the KJV states this as “the Son of God”  
“Bar Elahh” (*el-aw*) in Aramaic, or roughly “*Elohim*” in Hebrew

> (DISCUSS) This fourth person was probably Jesus Himself in His resurrected body!

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Was Nebbie truly converted to the one true God? (Compare this with people and politicians today, using religion and Jesus and various gods to pander to the populace)

> Continuing with verse 4...

DA 4:4 I, Nebuchadnezzar, was at home in my palace, contented and prosperous. <sup>5</sup> I had a dream that made me afraid. As I was lying in my bed, the images and visions that passed through my mind terrified me. <sup>6</sup> So I commanded that all the wise men of Babylon be brought before me to interpret the dream for me. <sup>7</sup> When the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners came, I told them the dream, but they could not interpret it for me. <sup>8</sup> Finally, Daniel came into my presence and I told him the dream. (He is called Belteshazzar, after the name of my god, and the spirit of the holy gods is in him.)

DA 4:9 I said, "Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you, and no mystery is too difficult for you. Here is my dream; *interpret it* for me.

> Here's yet another dream! But, this dream is different.

> In the first dream God give Nebbie, he is shown the four major world (gentile) governments which are to befall the earth down through history, to be smashed and wiped out by the Rock cut out of a mountain – and not of human hands – Jesus!

> In this dram we'll find not only Nebbie's condition, but more importantly, a prophecy about the End of Days.

> Continue with verse 10...

<sup>10</sup> These are the visions I saw while lying in my bed: I looked, and there before me stood a tree in the middle of the land. Its height was enormous. <sup>11</sup> The tree grew large and strong and its top touched the sky; it was visible to the ends of the earth. <sup>12</sup> Its leaves were beautiful, its fruit abundant, and on it was food for all. Under it the beasts of the field found shelter, and the birds of the air lived in its branches; from it every creature was fed.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Where else in Scripture does God use the metaphor of trees?

> HINTS: The Tree of Life; The Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil; In many other places in Scripture are trees the symbol of something

> Trees are typically a symbol of a *dominion*.

> Ever hear about allegory of Jotham's Tree? After Gideon died, looked for a "tree to rule over them"...

> Read Judges 9:7~9:15...

JDG 9:7 ...When Jotham was told about this, he climbed up on the top of Mount Gerizim and shouted to them, "Listen to me, citizens of Shechem, so that God may listen to you. <sup>8</sup> One day the trees went out to anoint a king for themselves. They said to the olive tree, 'Be our king.'

JDG 9:9 "But the olive tree answered, 'Should I give up my oil, by which both gods and men are honored, to hold sway over the trees?'

JDG 9:10 "Next, the trees said to the fig tree, 'Come and be our king.'

JDG 9:11 "But the fig tree replied, 'Should I give up my fruit, so good and sweet, to hold sway over the trees?'

JDG 9:12 "Then the trees said to the vine, 'Come and be our king.'

JDG 9:13 "But the vine answered, 'Should I give up my wine, which cheers both gods and men, to hold sway over the trees?'

JDG 9:14 "Finally all the trees said to the thornbush, 'Come and be our king.'

JDG 9:15 "The thornbush said to the trees, 'If you really want to anoint me king over you, come and take refuge in my shade; but if not, then let fire come out of the thornbush and consume the cedars of Lebanon!'

### > Read Revelation 18:1~2...

REV 18:1 After this I saw another angel coming down from heaven. He had great authority, and the earth was illuminated by his splendor. <sup>2</sup> With a mighty voice he shouted:

"Fallen! Fallen is Babylon the Great!  
She has become a home for demons  
and a haunt for every evil spirit,  
a haunt for every unclean and detestable bird.

### > Revelation 18:1~2 (Amplified)...

THEN I saw another angel descending from heaven, possessing great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his radiance and splendor. And he shouted with a mighty voice, She is fallen! Mighty Babylon is fallen! She has become a resort and **dwelling place** for demons, a **dungeon** haunted by *every loathsome spirit*, an **abode** for every filthy and detestable *bird*.

### > Continuing in verse 13...

DA 4:13 "In the visions I saw while lying in my bed, I looked, and there before me was a messenger (KJV says "**watcher**"), a holy one (this is from the Hebrew "iyr-een - pronounced 'ear-een' which means the class of angel called Cherubim or guardians), coming down from heaven).

> (DISCUSS) We stop often in our journey because there's *so very much* that we miss when God uses His word to not only reveal His plans and purposes, but He reveals Himself, His character and many details about His other creations and things about His environment.

> Let's talk about these watchers or Cherubim class of angel...

> (ASK) What kind of angel guarded the Tree of Life after the fall of Adam and Eve?

> ANSWER: Genesis 3:24...

<sup>24</sup> After he drove the man out, he placed on the east side of the Garden of Eden **cherubim** and a flaming sword flashing back and forth to guard the way to the tree of life.

> We find Cherubim in Ezekiel chapters 1...

EZE 1:4 I looked, and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north--an immense cloud with flashing lightning and surrounded by brilliant light. The center of the fire looked like glowing metal, <sup>5</sup> and in the fire was what looked like four living creatures. In appearance their form was that of a man, <sup>6</sup> but each of them had four faces and four wings. <sup>7</sup> Their legs were straight; their feet were like those of a calf and gleamed like burnished bronze. <sup>8</sup> Under their wings on their four sides they had the hands of a man. All four of them had faces and wings, <sup>9</sup> and their wings touched one another. Each one went straight ahead; they did not turn as they moved.

EZE 1:10 Their faces looked like this: **Each of the four had the face of a man, and on the right side each had the face of a lion, and on the left the face of an ox; each also had the face of an eagle.** <sup>11</sup> **Such were their faces.** Their wings were spread out upward; each had two wings, one touching the wing of another creature on either side, and two wings covering its body. <sup>12</sup> Each one went straight ahead. Wherever the spirit would go, they would go, without turning as they went. <sup>13</sup> The appearance of the living creatures was like burning coals of fire or like torches. Fire moved back and forth among the creatures; it was bright, and lightning flashed out of it. <sup>14</sup> The creatures sped back and forth like flashes of lightning.

> Read Revelation 4:6~8...

> Now John see these cherubim – just as Ezekiel saw them as they appear around the throne of God...

<sup>6</sup> Also before the throne there was what looked like a sea of glass, clear as crystal. In the center, around the throne, were four living creatures, and they were covered with eyes, in front and in back. <sup>7</sup> The first living creature was like a lion, the second was like an ox, the third had a face like a man, the fourth was like a flying eagle. <sup>8</sup> Each of the four living

creatures had six wings and was covered with eyes all around, even under his wings. Day and night they never stop saying:

"Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord God Almighty,  
who was, and is, and is to come."

Lion = Watches over wild animal kingdom

Calf= Watches over the domestic animal kingdom

Eagle= Watches over the birds and fowls of the air

Man=Watcher over humanity

> (ASK/DISCUSS) What about the reptilian animal kingdom?  
DISCUSS Satan appearing as a serpent; DRAGONS, SNAKES  
and their use TODAY!)

### **12/11/05 Lesson**

> Back to Daniel 4:14...

<sup>14</sup> He called in a loud voice: 'Cut down the tree and trim off its branches; strip off its leaves and scatter its fruit. Let the animals flee from under it and the birds from its branches. <sup>15</sup> But let the **stump** and its **roots**, bound with **iron and bronze**, remain in the ground, in the grass of the field.

> Note specifically that there are iron and bronze bands but that there are no gold or silver bands.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) What does a tree symbolize? ANSWER:  
dominion

> There is also the matter of worship – Remember the  
BABYLONIAN MYSTERY RELIGION that started with Nimrod,  
Semiramis and Tammuz?

> The mother god and child religion which became:

For the Romans and Greeks – Aphrodite and Adonis

Diana of the Ephesians (the goddess of fertility)...etc.

> The idea is that Rome and Greece took on the religious aspect of Babylon and Persia went a different way.

> They did not worship via the “mother and son” or other gods of the Babylonians; they somehow worshipped *in type* the way things truly are.

> Persia actually had religion that attributed the world and universe to a creator (*READ THE PERSIAN RELIGION DOCUMENT*)

> This is why it seems that the Persians are left out when the Babylonian system/Mystery Religion is bound in iron and bronze but not silver.

> Since Christmas will soon be upon us, let’s look at a legacy of the very different Persian religion that God put to good use...

(ASK/DISCUSS) What is the story of the Magi and according to the Bible, what key event did they herald?

> Read Matthew 2:1~16...

<sup>MT 2:1</sup> After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the **east** came to Jerusalem <sup>2</sup> and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

<sup>MT 2:3</sup> When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied...

> Skipping to verse 7...

MT 2:7 Then Herod called the Magi *secretly* and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

MT 2:9 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. <sup>11</sup> On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. <sup>12</sup> And having been **warned in a dream** not to go back to Herod, they returned to *their country* by another route.

MT 2:13 When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

MT 2:14 So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, <sup>15</sup> where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son."

MT 2:16 When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.

> *(READ THE MAGI DOCUMENT)*

> Ever wonder about this star that these “wise men” knew to look for as a sign of the King’s birth?

> Read Genesis 1:14~19...

GE 1:14 And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as **signs** to mark seasons and days and years, <sup>15</sup> and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. <sup>16</sup> God made two great lights--the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup> God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, <sup>18</sup> to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup> And there was evening, and there was morning--the fourth day.

> The KJV put Genesis 1:14 this way...

And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day <sup>E4</sup> from the night; and let them be for signs, *and* for seasons, *and* for days, *and* years.

> The point is that Daniel, as told in his book was along for the ride in the transition of Babylonian empire, which ended with “the handwriting on the wall”, into the Persian empire, starting with King Cyrus <sup>(ref. Dan. 1:21)</sup>

> Continuing in Daniel 4, verse 15...

" `Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven, and let him live with the animals among the plants of the earth. <sup>16</sup> Let his mind be changed from that of a man and let him be given the mind of an animal, till seven times pass by for him.

<sup>DA 4:17</sup> " `The decision is announced by messengers, the holy ones declare the verdict, so that the living may know that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes and sets over them the lowliest of men.'

<sup>DA 4:18</sup> "This is the dream that I, King Nebuchadnezzar, had. Now, Belteshazzar, tell me what it means, for none of the wise men in my kingdom can interpret it for me. But you can, because the spirit of the holy gods is in you."

<sup>DA 4:19</sup> Then Daniel (also called Belteshazzar) was greatly perplexed *for a time*, and his thoughts terrified him. So the king said, "Belteshazzar, do not let the dream or its meaning alarm you."

Belteshazzar answered, "My lord, if only the dream applied to your enemies and its meaning to your adversaries! <sup>20</sup> The tree you saw, which grew large and strong, with its top touching the sky, visible to the whole earth, <sup>21</sup> with beautiful leaves and abundant fruit, providing food for all, giving shelter to the beasts of the field, and having nesting places in its branches for the birds of the air-- <sup>22</sup> **you, O king, are that tree!** You have become great and strong; your greatness has grown until it reaches the sky, and your dominion extends to distant parts of the earth.

<sup>DA 4:23</sup> "You, O king, saw a messenger (*'watcher' or 'cherub'*), a holy one, coming down from heaven and saying, `Cut down the tree and destroy it, but leave the stump, bound with iron and bronze, in the grass of the field, while its roots remain in the ground. Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven; let him live like the wild animals, until seven times pass by for him.'

<sup>DA 4:24</sup> "This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree the Most High has issued against my lord the king: <sup>25</sup> You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like cattle and be drenched with the dew of heaven.

**Seven times** will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes.<sup>26</sup> The command to leave the stump of the tree with its roots means that your kingdom will be restored to you when you acknowledge that Heaven rules.<sup>27</sup> Therefore, O king, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue."

DA 4:28 All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar.<sup>29</sup> *Twelve months later*, as the king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon,<sup>30</sup> he said, "Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?"

DA 4:31 The words were still on his lips when a voice came from heaven, "This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you.<sup>32</sup> You will be driven away from people and will live with the wild animals; you will eat grass like cattle. Seven times will pass by for you until you acknowledge that the Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and gives them to anyone he wishes."

DA 4:33 Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like cattle. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird.

DA 4:34 At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever.

His dominion is an eternal dominion;  
his kingdom endures from generation to generation.

DA 4:35 All the peoples of the earth  
are regarded as nothing.  
He does as he pleases  
with the powers of heaven  
and the peoples of the earth.  
No one can hold back his hand  
or say to him: "What have you done?"

DA 4:36 At the same time that my sanity was restored, my honor and splendor were returned to me for the glory of my kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored to my throne and became even greater than before.<sup>37</sup> Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything **he** does is right and all **his** ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Does Nebbie’s insanity map into the world today? How? Is it prophetic of our world in the End Times?

> Read Psalm 2:1~4...

PS 2:1 Why do the nations conspire  
and the peoples plot in vain?

PS 2:2 The kings of the earth take their stand  
and the rulers gather together  
against the LORD  
and against his Anointed One.

PS 2:3 "Let us break their chains," they say,  
"and throw off their fetters."

PS 2:4 The One enthroned in heaven laughs;  
the Lord scoffs at them.

> The Amplified Bible puts Psalm 2:4 this way...

He Who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord has them **in derision** [and in supreme contempt He mocks them].

> The creeping insanity continues into the Time of the End as governments try to bring about a one world “tree” of dominion and religion:

> Read 2Timothy 3:1..

2TI 3:1 But mark this: There will be terrible times in the last days.

> The KJV puts it this way...

2TI 3:1 This know also, that in the last days *perilous* times shall come.

> The word “perilous” comes from the Greek word (cal-e-pas) which means “ragingly insane”

- > The same Greek term is used for the demoniac man out of whom Jesus cast the demons
- > “Man without God is nothing but a beast (compounded by Satan – the ultimate “beast”!)....
- > The end of the fourth chapter is a line of demarcation as things turn again in chapter five as Babylon exits and Media/Persia begins.

### **1/01/06 Lesson**

**\*\*\* PUT CHAPTER CHRONOLOGY ON BOARD:  
1,2,3,4,7,8,5,6,9,10,11,12 \*\*\***

- > Closing chapter 4 Comment: Daniel chapter 4 is a type of the “insanity” the world must go through, up to and including the Tribulation, before the restoration of “sanity” completed in the return of Jesus Christ.
- > Chapter 5 – The story of Belshazzar and the end of Babylonian “Head of Gold” empire.
- > Remember that chapter 5 does not follow chapter 4 chronologically (review chapter timeline on board).
- > It is now about 538BC and Belshazzar, now the king of Babylon did not directly ascend to the throne from Nebbie.
- > Between Nebbie and Belshazzar were these kings:
  - (*Nebbie dies in 562BC*)
  - Evilmerodach (Nebbie’s son)
  - Neriglissoros
  - Laborosoarchodus (Neriglissoros’ son – more wicked)

- Nabonidus (in 555BC – Belshazzar was co-regent until he took the throne in 538BC)
- > There was some confusion as to Belshazzar and his position of Nebbie's grandson.
- > Many historians think of him as the son of Evilmerodach who was Nebbie's son, (based on Daniel 5:7 <sup>DA 5:7</sup> The king called out for the enchanters, astrologers and diviners to be brought and said to these wise men of Babylon, "Whoever reads this writing and tells me what it means will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around his neck, and he will be made **the third highest ruler** in the kingdom.") but he had so many names that no one is actually sure.
- > Nebbie died in 562BC and Nabonidus along with Belshazzar ends up becomes king in 538BC. This leaves a gap of 24 years between Nebbie and Belshazzar and the fall of the Babylonian empire
- > this is why the chapters must be read in the order given:
- > Daniel chapter 7 begins with: In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon... (555BC)
- > Daniel chapter 8 begins with: In the third year of King Belshazzar's reign...(553BC)
- > Daniel chapter 5 begins only with: King Belshazzar gave a great banquet for a thousand of his nobles... and specifies no timeframe, but it is 538BC.
- > Read Daniel chapter 5:1~31...
- > It's now 68 years since the beginning of the captivity. Soon Babylon will be overthrown and Darius the Mede comes to power and sets the Jews free.

> Nabonidus (the primary king – Belshazzar was co-regent) was out on military conquest as Belshazzar was now sort of like the teenager at home while his parents are away.

> <sup>DA 5:1</sup> King Belshazzar gave a great banquet for a thousand of his nobles and drank wine with them. <sup>2</sup> While Belshazzar was drinking his wine, he gave orders to bring in the gold and silver goblets that Nebuchadnezzar his father had taken from the temple in Jerusalem, so that the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines might drink from them. <sup>3</sup> So they brought in the **gold goblets that had been taken from the temple of God** in Jerusalem, and the king and his nobles, his wives and his concubines **drank from them.** <sup>4</sup> As they drank the wine, they **praised the gods of gold and silver, of bronze, iron, wood and stone.**

> (DISCUSS/ASK) Using the Babylonian “party” with the Holy vessels of the temple, can we draw any parallels and define a little more about God’s Holy Character?

> This is the culminating seen of the total decadence of Babylon!

> Remember what happened by the summary in 2Chronicles:

> Read 2Chronicles 36:17~18...

> Here, Ezra reviews the story...

<sup>17</sup> He brought up against them the king of the Babylonians, who killed their young men with the sword in the sanctuary, and spared neither young man nor young woman, old man or aged. God handed all of them over to Nebuchadnezzar. <sup>18</sup> He carried to Babylon **all the articles from the temple of God, both large and small, and the treasures of the LORD's temple and the treasures of the king and his officials.**

> Continuing in Daniel chapter 5 verse 5(a)...

<sup>DA 5:5</sup> Suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the plaster of the wall, near the lampstand in the royal palace...

> The Amplified Bible put it this way...

Immediately and suddenly there appeared the fingers of a man's hand and wrote on the plaster of the wall opposite the candlestick [**so exposed *especially* to the *light***] in the king's palace, and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

> The New King James Version puts it this way:

In the same hour the fingers of a man's hand appeared and wrote opposite ***the lampstand***, on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace; and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Could there be an *intended* significance concerning the *specific* mention of a “light” or “lampstand”?

> Talk about the ornate Menorah and what it symbolizes – and that it too was taken as probably the main prize of the sacking of the Temple

> Read Exodus 25:31~40...

EX 25:31 "Make a lampstand of pure gold and hammer it out, base and shaft; its flowerlike cups, buds and blossoms shall be of one piece with it. <sup>32</sup> Six branches are to extend from the sides of the lampstand--three on one side and three on the other. <sup>33</sup> Three cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms are to be on one branch, three on the next branch, and the same for all six branches extending from the lampstand. <sup>34</sup> And on the lampstand there are to be four cups shaped like almond flowers with buds and blossoms. <sup>35</sup> One bud shall be under the first pair of branches extending from the lampstand, a second bud under the second pair, and a third bud under the third pair--six branches in all. <sup>36</sup> The buds and branches shall all be of one piece with the lampstand, hammered out of pure gold.

EX 25:37 "Then make its seven lamps and set them up on it so that they light the space in front of it. <sup>38</sup> Its wick trimmers and trays are to be of pure gold. <sup>39</sup> A talent of pure gold is to be used for the lampstand and all these accessories. <sup>40</sup> See that you make them according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.

## > Continuing with verse 5(b)...

The king watched the hand as it wrote. <sup>6</sup> His face turned pale and he was so frightened that his knees knocked together and his legs gave way. <sup>DA 5:7</sup> The king called out for the enchanters, astrologers and diviners to be brought and said to these wise men of Babylon, "Whoever reads this writing and tells me what it means will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around his neck, and he will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom."

<sup>DA 5:8</sup> Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the writing or tell the king what it meant. <sup>9</sup> So King Belshazzar became even more terrified and his face grew more pale. His nobles were baffled.

<sup>DA 5:10</sup> The queen, hearing the voices of the king and his nobles, came into the banquet hall. "O king, live forever!" she said. "Don't be alarmed! Don't look so pale!" <sup>11</sup> There is a man in your kingdom who has the spirit of the holy gods in him. In the time of your father he was found to have insight and intelligence and wisdom like that of the gods. King Nebuchadnezzar your father--your father the king, I say--appointed him chief of the magicians, enchanters, astrologers and diviners. <sup>12</sup> This man Daniel, whom the king called Belteshazzar, was found to have a keen mind and knowledge and understanding, and also the ability to interpret dreams, explain riddles and solve difficult problems. Call for Daniel, and he will tell you what the writing means."

<sup>DA 5:13</sup> So Daniel was brought before the king, and the king said to him, "Are you Daniel, one of the exiles my father the king brought from Judah?" <sup>14</sup> I have heard that the spirit of the gods is in you and that you have insight, intelligence and outstanding wisdom. <sup>15</sup> The wise men and enchanters were brought before me to read this writing and tell me what it means, but they could not explain it. <sup>16</sup> Now I have heard that you are able to give interpretations and to solve difficult problems. If you can read this writing and tell me what it means, you will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck, and you will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom."

<sup>DA 5:17</sup> Then Daniel answered the king, "You may keep your gifts for yourself and give your rewards to someone else. Nevertheless, I will read the writing for the king and tell him what it means.

<sup>DA 5:18</sup> "O king, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar sovereignty and greatness and glory and splendor. <sup>19</sup> Because of the high position he gave him, all the peoples and nations and men of every language dreaded and feared him. Those the king wanted to put to death, he put to death; those he wanted to spare, he spared; those he wanted to promote, he promoted; and those he wanted to humble, he humbled. <sup>20</sup> But when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was deposed from his royal throne and stripped of his glory. <sup>21</sup> He was driven away from people and given the mind of an animal; he lived with the wild donkeys and ate grass like cattle; and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he acknowledged that the Most High God is sovereign over the kingdoms of men and sets over them anyone he wishes.

DA 5:22 "But you his son, O Belshazzar, have not humbled yourself, though you knew all this. <sup>23</sup> Instead, you have set yourself up against the Lord of heaven. You had the goblets from his temple brought to you, and you and your nobles, your wives and your concubines drank wine from them. You praised the gods of silver and gold, of bronze, iron, wood and stone, which cannot see or hear or understand. But you did not honor the God who holds in his hand your life and all your ways. <sup>24</sup> Therefore he sent the hand that wrote the inscription.

DA 5:25 "This is the inscription that was written:

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Why was this writing not able to be interpreted by anyone in the palace?

> It was written in Aramaic, so the language was not the problem.

> The problem is that it was a metaphor. Here's an example for us to parse...

> Example: "TREE TREE FRUIT CONSCIENCE BANNED"

*TREE*: Tree of Life

*TREE*: Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil

*FRUIT*: Fruit of the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil of which you were not to eat, but of which you did eat

*CONSCIENCE*: Your eyes were opened and you will acknowledge your guilt and sin

*BANNED*: You will be thrust outside and locked out of paradise

> What is the interpretation that God give Daniel?

> Read Chapter 5:25~28...

DA 5:25 "This is the inscription that was written:

MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN

> The Amplified Bible puts 5:25 this way...

And this is the inscription that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN--  
**numbered, numbered, weighed, divisions**

> Continuing with verse 26...

DA 5:26 "This is what these words mean:

*Mene*: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

DA 5:27 *Tekel*: You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.

DA 5:28 *Peres*: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

> (READ JOSEPHUS' ACCOUNT FROM THE BOOK)

> Continuing in chapter 5, verse 29...

DA 5:29 Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was clothed in purple, a gold chain was placed around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom.

DA 5:30 **That very night** Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain,<sup>31</sup> and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom, at the age of sixty-two.

> The year was 538BC, but God was preparing the siege for quite a while before that, starting around 560BC at the beginning of the reign of Cyrus.

> Describe Babylon's walls and their girth (four chariots wide at the top and well guarded by them)

> (ASK/DISCUSS) How did Cyrus enter Babylon?

## 1/08/06 Lesson

*DO:...*

***Discuss Ariel Sharon's condition and what this might mean!***

> Let's review the "handwriting on the wall" account and challenge our understanding of it...

Josephus wrote about the incident: "Mene, that if it be expounded in the Greek language, may signify a number. Because God has numbered so long a time for your life and your government. there remains yet but a small portion. Tekel means a weight and God has weighed in the balance and finds it going down already. Peres (upharsin), this also in the Greek tongue denotes a fragment. God will therefore break your kingdom and divide it among the Medes and the Persians.

The handwriting as *weights* on a balance scale...

> Mina=larger weight  
Mina=larger weight  
Shekel=small weight  
Uparsin (you-par-sin)=1/2 Mina

*Or...*

The handwriting as *numbers*...

> Mina=1000  
Mina=1000  
Shekel=20  
Upharsin=500

> This equals 2520

> Let's review Daniel chapter 5 verse 26~28 again...

DA 5:26 "This is what these words mean:

*Mene*: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end.

DA 5:27 *Tekel*: You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting.

DA 5:28 *Peres*: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

> There are 360 days in the prophetic year

(Ref. for 360-day Prophetic Year  
[http://www.netrover.com/~numbers/lesson\\_2b.bible-codes.html](http://www.netrover.com/~numbers/lesson_2b.bible-codes.html))

>  $2520 / 360 = 7$  years

> (ASK) How long was the Babylonian captivity?

> (DISCUSS) The siege against Babylon

> Read Daniel 5:30~31...

DA 5:30 **That very night** Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain,<sup>31</sup> and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom, at the age of sixty-two.

> The year was 538BC, but God was preparing the siege for quite a while before that, starting around 560BC at the beginning of the reign of Cyrus (22 years in the making).

> God prepared the "worm" to enter Babylon at just the right time:  
(READ IN THE ANNALS OF THE WORLD – Tag #1 "*Cyrus Prepared as a Worm to Eat Out the Spreading Tree*")

> (DISCUSS) Babylon's walls and their girth (four chariots wide at the top and well guarded by them)

> Describe the Babylonian city walls (Read pages from the Annals of the World – Tag #2 “*Babylon’s Walls*”)

> Describe the siege (Read the Babylonian siege account from the Annals of the World Book – Tag #3 “*Fall of Babylon*”)

> (DISCUSS) We will enter chapter 6 next week.

> (STOP HERE AND DISCUSS THE INTENSITY OF PROPHETIC STUDY STARTING IN CHAPTER 7, AND BEYOND, UNTIL THE END OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL.)

### **1/15/06 Lesson**

> CHAPTER SIX Begins...

> At the beginning, Darius sets up his “cabinet” of rulers in his newly-forming kingdom of what was the great Babylon.

> Read Daniel 6:1~2...

<sup>DA 6:1</sup> It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom,<sup>2</sup> with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss.

> Darius is a title: A Darius is a term for “monarch” This particular monarch’s name was “Du-bar-ru”.

> Belshazzar was of Median decent – his grandmother (Nebbie’s wife) was of Median decent (her name was Amee eye-tis), so this was an “internal struggle” of a sort.

> Darius didn't want to destroy the city, but simply establish a new reign.

> He killed all of the officials – but let Daniel live.

> Darius set up the kingdom on *behalf of the Persians*.

Read Daniel 6:3...

<sup>3</sup> Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.

> Here we have again, Daniel being specially selected to be to have high position or a position of ruler ship.

> Read Daniel 6:4~8...

<sup>4</sup> At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for *charges against Daniel in his conduct* of government affairs, **but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent.**

> **(MAKE A BIG POINT OF PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY TOWARD BEING HOLY, RIGHTEOUS AND GODLY).**

> (ASK/DISCUSS) What if you or I were in Daniel's position of power? Could those who seek to "do you in" find any ways about you which could assist them?

> I wonder if Daniel didn't have an advance copy of the New Testament with him that we weren't told about?!...

> Read Colossians 4:5~6...

<sup>5</sup> Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. <sup>6</sup> Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

> Read Ephesians 5:15~20...

<sup>EPH 5:15</sup> Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, <sup>16</sup> making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. <sup>17</sup> Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. <sup>18</sup> Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit. <sup>19</sup> Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, <sup>20</sup> always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

> Read I Peter 2:11~21...

<sup>IPE 2:11</sup> Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. <sup>12</sup> Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.

<sup>IPE 2:13</sup> Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every authority instituted among men: whether to the king, as the supreme authority, <sup>14</sup> or to governors, who are sent by him to punish those who do wrong and to commend those who do right. <sup>15</sup> For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men. <sup>16</sup> Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. <sup>17</sup> Show proper respect to everyone: Love the brotherhood of believers, fear God, honor the king.

<sup>IPE 2:18</sup> Slaves, submit yourselves to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and considerate, but also to those who are harsh. <sup>19</sup> For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. <sup>20</sup> But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. <sup>21</sup> To this you were called, *because Christ suffered for you*, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Did Daniel know Christ yet? Could he say that Christ suffered for him?

> Continuing in Daniel 6:5~9...

<sup>5</sup> Finally these men said, "We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God."

<sup>DA 6:6</sup> So the administrators and the satraps went as a group to the king and said: "O King Darius, live forever! <sup>7</sup> The royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that

anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lions' den. <sup>8</sup> Now, O king, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered--in accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed." <sup>9</sup> So King Darius put the decree in writing.

> (DISCUSS) Here we have yet again an anti-Semitic approach to squelching the voice of God. I have great desire to dwell on the importance and relevance of this “feature” or “theme” through history!

> (DISCUSS) You remember the story of Esther where King Xerxes had “put off” Queen Vashti because of a matter of disrespect and the decree issued against her which the king signed.

> Let’s read about the situation here...

> Read Esther 2:1~7 (before the Book of Job and after the Book Of Nehemiah)...

<sup>EST 2:1</sup> Later when the anger of King Xerxes (*toward Queen Vashti*) had subsided, he remembered Vashti and what she had done and what he had decreed about her. <sup>2</sup> Then the king's personal attendants proposed, "Let a search be made for beautiful young virgins for the king. <sup>3</sup> Let the king appoint commissioners in every province of his realm to bring all these beautiful girls into the harem at the citadel of Susa. Let them be placed under the care of Hegai, the king's eunuch, who is in charge of the women; and let beauty treatments be given to them. <sup>4</sup> Then let the girl who pleases the king be queen instead of Vashti." *This advice appealed to the king, and he followed it.*

<sup>EST 2:5</sup> Now there was in the citadel of Susa a Jew of the tribe of Benjamin, named Mordecai son of Jair (Jayer) , the son of Shimei (Shim-eye) , the son of Kish, <sup>6</sup> who had been carried into exile from Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, among those taken captive with Jehoiachin king of Judah. <sup>7</sup> Mordecai had a cousin named Hadassah, whom he had brought up because she had neither father nor mother. This girl, who was **also known as Esther**, was lovely in form and features, and Mordecai had taken her as his own daughter when her father and mother died.

> To summarize, King Xerxes is taken by Esther’s beauty and after putting her through a special “program” (remember Daniel’s

indoctrination into a “special Program”?), marries her and she becomes Queen Esther.

> But the king did not know that she was a Jew because Mordecai ordered her not to reveal this.

> Then there was the evil character, Haman, who, after some intrigue was credited with thwarting a plan of two officers to assassinate the king,(Mordecai actually found this out and reported it to Queen Esther) and given a seat of power.

> Haman didn't like Mordecai, but even more than that, the Jews as a people.

> Interesting to note is that Haman was a descendent of King Agag and the Amalekites – mortal enemies of the Jews

> In Isaiah 15, Saul was told destroy these people totally, but he disobeyed and spared King Agag and took the sheep and cattal as spoil. Hence they were able to spawn the likes of Haman.

> Let's pick-up the story in Esther 3:5~4:3...

<sup>EST 3:5</sup> When Haman saw that Mordecai would not kneel down or pay him honor, he was enraged. <sup>6</sup> Yet having learned who Mordecai's people were, he scorned the idea of killing only Mordecai. Instead Haman looked for a way to destroy all Mordecai's people, the Jews, throughout the whole kingdom of Xerxes.

~~—<sup>EST 3:7</sup> In the twelfth year of King Xerxes, in the first month, the month of Nisan, they cast the *pur* (that is, the lot) in the presence of Haman to select a day and month. And the lot fell on the twelfth month, the month of Adar.~~

<sup>EST 3:8</sup> Then Haman said to King Xerxes, "There is a certain people dispersed and scattered among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom whose customs are different from those of all other people and who do not obey the king's laws; it is not in the king's best interest to tolerate them. <sup>9</sup> If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued to destroy them, and I will put ten thousand talents of silver into the royal treasury for the men who carry out this business."

EST 3:10 So the king took his signet ring from his finger and gave it to Haman son of Hammedatha, the Agagite, the enemy of the Jews. <sup>11</sup> "Keep the money," the king said to Haman, "and do with the people as you please."

EST 3:12 Then on the thirteenth day of the first month the royal secretaries were summoned. They wrote out in the script of each province and in the language of each people all Haman's orders to the king's satraps, the governors of the various provinces and the nobles of the various peoples. These were written in the name of King Xerxes himself and sealed with his own ring. <sup>13</sup> Dispatches were sent by couriers to all the king's provinces with the order to destroy, kill and annihilate all the Jews--young and old, women and little children--on a single day, the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, the month of Adar, and to plunder their goods. <sup>14</sup> A copy of the text of the edict was to be issued as law in every province and made known to the people of every nationality so they would be ready for that day.

EST 3:15 Spurred on by the king's command, the couriers went out, and the edict was issued in the citadel of Susa. The king and Haman sat down to drink, but the city of Susa was bewildered.

EST 4:1 When Mordecai learned of all that had been done, he tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and ashes, and went out into the city, wailing loudly and bitterly. <sup>2</sup> But he went only as far as the king's gate, because no one clothed in sackcloth was allowed to enter it. <sup>3</sup> In every province to which the edict and order of the king came, there was great mourning among the Jews, with fasting, weeping and wailing. Many lay in sackcloth and ashes.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Where, in our recent studied, have we seen this kind of thing before?

> (ANSWER) Daniel chapter 3, where Shadrach, Mesach and Abednigo were thrown into the furnace for not bowing to the Nebbie's golden image.

## 1/22/06 Lesson

> REVIEW HAMAN’S RABID ANTI-SEMITISM IN HIS DESIRE NOT ONLY TO KILL MORDECAI, BUT ALL OF “HIS” PEOPLE.

> (ASK) What’s the Jewish holiday that celebrates the story of Haman and Esther?

> The holiday is Purim (discuss the Hamentaschen pastries which are shaped like Haman’s ears – ‘*osnei haman*’ in Hebrew).

> Purim is celebrated “the fourteenth of the month of Adar” because...

ESTHER 9:19 That is why rural Jews--those living in villages--observe the fourteenth of the month of Adar (*typically in March*) as a day of joy and feasting, a day for giving presents to each other.

> (REVIEW) What’s another more recent example of this anti-Semitism? How about Nazi Germany under Hitler?

> (REVIEW) Is it possible that this is a recurring theme that we’re seeing now?

> (ANSWER) Islam! Let’s look at a couple of “scriptures” from the Koran:

> Sura 5:51 ...

[5.51] O you who believe! do not take the Jews and the Christians for friends; they are friends of each other; and whoever amongst you takes them for a friend, then surely he is one of them; surely Allah does not guide the unjust people.

> Sura 5:82 ...

[5.82] Certainly you will find the most violent of people in enmity for those who believe (to be) the Jews and those who are polytheists, and you will certainly find the nearest in friendship to those who believe (to be) those who say: We are Christians; this is because there are priests and monks among them and because they do not behave proudly.

> Sura 9:30 Note correction to the meaning of the name “Uzair”.

[9.30] And the Jews say: Uzair (meaning, **Isaiah**) is the son of Allah; and the Christians say: The Messiah is the son of Allah; these are the words of their mouths; they imitate the saying of those who disbelieved before; may Allah destroy them; how they are turned away!

> How about in the not-too-distant future...

> Read Luke 21:7~17...

LK 21:7 "Teacher," they asked, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?"

LK 21:8 He replied: "Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not follow them. <sup>9</sup> When you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away."

LK 21:10 Then he said to them: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. <sup>11</sup> There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven.

LK 21:12 "But before all this, they will lay hands on you and persecute you. They will deliver you to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. <sup>13</sup> This will result in your being witnesses to them. <sup>14</sup> But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. <sup>15</sup> For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> All men will hate you because of me.

> Finally, let's turn forward to the Book of Revelation...

> Read Revelation 12:13~17:1...

REV 12:13 When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. <sup>14</sup> The woman was given the two wings of a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she

would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent's reach.<sup>15</sup> Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent.<sup>16</sup> But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth.<sup>17</sup> Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring--those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus.<sup>1</sup> And the dragon stood on the shore of the sea.

> It is important to note that every time anti-Semitism is tried, the response from God not only thwarts the plans, but is *very hot and complete* in the sum total of His response.

> Let's review where we left off, where Daniel is yet again in the process of being "framed"

> (REVIEW) Remember, Daniel is at the top of the officials in Darius' kingdom and is working in Godly submission to authority – just as we are told to do likewise.

> Review Daniel 6:5~9...

<sup>5</sup> Finally these men said, "We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel **unless it has something to do with the law of his God.**"

<sup>DA 6:6</sup> So the administrators and the satraps went as a group to the king and said: "O King Darius, live forever!<sup>7</sup> The royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that **anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lions' den.**<sup>8</sup> Now, O king, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered--in accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed."<sup>9</sup> So King Darius put the decree in writing.

> Let's pick-up in Daniel again, at chapter 6:10...

<sup>DA 6:10</sup> Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, *just as he had done before.*

> (NOTE) Note Daniels "mode" of prayer (knees, thanks, no repetitions or "helps" used)

<sup>11</sup> Then these men went *as a group* and “found” Daniel praying and asking God for help.

> It seems that it was well known that Daniel prayed to, and worshiped the True God. They knew when and where to find him.

> (ASK) How’s it with us? Is *this* well know about *you and me*?

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Is there anything new under the sun? Since the answer is “no”, could this incident and the incident that we read about when Daniel was caught in prayer during Nebbie’s time, be viewed as a warning to those in the Tribulation?

Read Revelation 13:15~18...

<sup>15</sup> He was given power to give breath to the image of the first beast, so that it could speak and cause *all who refused* to worship the image to be killed. <sup>16</sup> He also forced everyone, small and great, rich and poor, free and slave, to receive a mark on his right hand or on his forehead, <sup>17</sup> so that no one could buy or sell unless he had the mark, which is the name of the beast or the number of his name.

REV 13:18 This calls for wisdom. If anyone has insight, let him calculate the number of the beast, for it is man's number. His number is 666.

> After the sealing of the 144,000 Jews who are commissioned to powerfully witness the Gospel, and angel is sent to assist...

REV 14:6 Then I saw another angel flying in midair, and he had the *eternal gospel* to proclaim *to those who live on the earth*--to every nation, tribe, language and people. <sup>7</sup> He said in a **loud** voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come. *Worship him who made the heavens, the earth, the sea and the springs of water.*"

> Here’s the crux of the matter – Just like people were told *not* to worship God, those that come to know God *must* do so in the face of the command to not only cease from that, but to proactively worship Satan...

> (POINT) There will be many in that that day that will have access to The Word of God. Millions of Bibles will be left behind.

> (POINT) Those that read and study will have a way of understanding, *maybe for the first time in their entire lives*, the time they have entered, what to expect and how to cope as they receive Jesus in that terrible day.

<sup>12</sup> So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: "Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or man except to you, O king, would be thrown into the lions' den?"

The king answered, "The decree stands--in accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed."

DA 6:13 Then they said to the king, "Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the decree you put in writing. He still prays three times a day." <sup>14</sup> When the king heard this, he was greatly distressed; he was determined to rescue Daniel and made every effort until sundown to save him.

> King Darius was very distressed by having to do this to Daniel, whom it seemed he came to value so highly and respect...

> The KJV puts it in more detail...

Dan 6:14 (KJV) Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he **laboured** till the **going down of the sun** to deliver him.

> Back to Daniel 6:15 (NIV)...

DA 6:15 Then the men went as a group to the king and said to him, "Remember, O king, that according to the law of the Medes and Persians no decree or edict that the king issues can be changed."

DA 6:16 So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "**May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!**"

DA 6:17 A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. <sup>18</sup> Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.

> (NOTE) A parallel: Daniel was put into the lions den at about sunset; A stone was placed to cover the opening; A “seal” was used to prevent tamper.

> Compare to Matthew 27:57~28:1...

<sup>MT 27:57</sup> As evening approached, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who had himself become a disciple of Jesus. <sup>58</sup> Going to Pilate, he asked for Jesus' body, and Pilate ordered that it be given to him. <sup>59</sup> Joseph took the body, wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, <sup>60</sup> and placed it in his own new tomb that he had cut out of the rock. **He rolled a big stone in front of the entrance to the tomb and went away.**

<sup>61</sup> ~~Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were sitting there opposite the tomb.~~

~~—<sup>MT 27:62</sup> The next day, the one after Preparation Day, the chief priests and the Pharisees went to Pilate. <sup>63</sup> "Sir," they said, "we remember that while he was still alive that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.' <sup>64</sup> So give the order for the tomb to be made secure until the third day. Otherwise, his disciples may come and steal the body and tell the people that he has been raised from the dead. This last deception will be worse than the first."~~

<sup>MT 27:65</sup> "Take a guard," Pilate answered. "Go, **make the tomb as secure as you know how.**" <sup>66</sup> So they went and made the tomb secure **by putting a seal on the stone** and posting the guard.

> Back to Daniel 6:19...

DA 6:19 At the **first light of dawn**, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den.

> Compare to Matthew 28:1...

MT 28:1 After the Sabbath, **at dawn** on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

> Back to Daniel 6:20...

DA 6:20 When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an **anguished voice**, "Daniel, servant of **the living God**, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?"

> Compare to Matthew 28:5...

> MT 28:5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

> Back to Daniel 6:21~22...

DA 6:21 Daniel answered, "O king, live forever! <sup>22</sup> My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because **I was found innocent in his sight**. *Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, O king.*"

> Compare to Revelation 20:6...

REV 20:6 Blessed and holy are those who have part in the first resurrection. The second **death has no power over them**, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years.

> Back to Daniel 6:23

DA 6:23 The king was **overjoyed** and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

> Compare to Matthew 28:8...

MT 28:8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet **filled with joy**, and ran to tell his disciples.

> Back to Daniel 6:24...

DA 6:24 At the king's command, the men who had **falsely accused** Daniel were brought in and thrown into the lions' den, along with their wives and children. And before they reached the floor of the den, **the lions** overpowered them and crushed all their bones.

> Read the account in Josephus (pg. 185~186)...

> Compare to 1Coninthians 15:51~58 (there are many parallels , but this is what I picked as the most telling)...

<sup>51</sup> Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed-- <sup>52</sup> in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. <sup>53</sup> For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. <sup>54</sup> When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been **swallowed up** in victory."

"Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

1CO 15:56 The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. <sup>57</sup> But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

1CO 15:58 Therefore, my dear brothers, stand firm (*like Daniel*). Let nothing move you (*like Daniel*). Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord (*like Daniel*) , because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

> Back to Daniel 6:25~28...

DA 6:25 Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations and men of every language throughout the land (REMEMBER WHEN NEBBIE SAID THE SAME EXACT THING IN CHAPTER 4??!!):

"May you prosper greatly!

DA 6:26 **I** issue a **decree** that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel

"For he is the living God  
and he endures forever;  
his kingdom will not be destroyed,  
his dominion will never end.

DA 6:27 He rescues and he saves;  
he performs signs and wonders  
in the heavens and on the earth.  
He has rescued Daniel  
from the power of the lions."

DA 6:28 So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

## **2/19/06 Lesson**

> Today we start chapter 7 – The story of four beasts that rise up out of the “sea” of humanity

> (DISCUSS) The image on the whiteboard has been up there since we’ve started. Chapter 7 addresses and details each component of the statue.

> IT speaks to the four kingdoms, described as four beasts

> Read Daniel 7:1...

DA 7:1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying on his bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream.

> Note that this episode takes place “In the *first year of Belshazzar* king of Babylon”, which is about 555 BC.

> (NOTE) Chronological chapter map on whiteboard.

> We are immediately told of four beasts rising out of the “sea of nations”.

## Read Daniel 7:2~3...

DA 7:2 Daniel said: "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven **churning up the great sea**.<sup>3</sup> Four great beasts, *each different from the others*, came up out of the sea.

DA 7:4 "The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a man, and the heart of a man was given to it.

> (ASK) Which part of the statue on the whiteboard is represented by verse 4? *Answer: Head of Gold*

> (ASK) Which of the four empires is represented in verse 4? *Answer: Babylon*

DA 7:5 "And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your fill of flesh!'

> (ASK) Which part of the statue on the whiteboard is represented by verse 5? *Answer: Arms of Silver*

> (ASK) Which of the four empires is represented in verse 4? *Answer: Media-Persia*

DA 7:6 "After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

> (ASK) Which part of the statue on the whiteboard is represented by verse 6? *Answer: Sides of Brass*

> (ASK) Which of the four empires is represented in verse 6? *Answer: Greece*

DA 7:7 "After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast--terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns.

> (ASK) Which part of the statue on the whiteboard is represented by verse 7? *Answer: Legs of Iron*

> (ASK) Which of the four empires is represented in verse 7?  
*Answer: Rome*

DA 7:8 "While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

> (ASK) Which part of the statue on the whiteboard is represented by verse 8? *Answer: Feet of Iron and Clay*

> (ASK) Which of the four empires is represented in verse 8?  
*Answer: (Dan. 9:26 calls this The "people of the ruler who will come..." – The Revived Roman Empire*

> Continuing in Daniel 7:9...

DA 7:9 "As I looked,

"thrones were set in place,  
and the Ancient of Days took his seat.  
His clothing was as white as snow;  
the hair of his head was white like wool.  
His throne was flaming with fire,  
and its wheels were all ablaze.

DA 7:10 A river of fire was flowing,  
coming out from before him.  
Thousands upon thousands attended him;  
ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.  
The court was seated,  
and the books were opened.

DA 7:11 "Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words *the horn* was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. <sup>12</sup> (The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.)

DA 7:13 "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into

his presence. <sup>14</sup> He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an **everlasting dominion that will not pass away**, and *his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.*

DA 7:15 "I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit, and the visions that passed through my mind disturbed me. <sup>16</sup> I approached one of those standing there and asked him the true meaning of all this.

"So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things: <sup>17</sup> 'The four great beasts are **four kingdoms that will rise from the earth** (just as depicted in Nebbie's dream of the great statue). <sup>18</sup> But *the saints of the Most High* will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever--**yes, for ever and ever.**'

DA 7:19 "Then I wanted to know the true meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others and most terrifying, with its iron teeth and bronze claws--the beast that crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. <sup>20</sup> I also wanted to know about the ten horns on its head and about the other horn that came up, before which three of them fell--the horn that looked more imposing than the others and that had eyes and a mouth that spoke boastfully. <sup>21</sup> As I watched, this horn was waging war against the saints and defeating them, <sup>22</sup> until the Ancient of Days came and pronounced judgment in favor of *the saints of the Most High*, and the time came when they *possessed the kingdom.*

DA 7:23 "He gave me this explanation: 'The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth. **It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it.** <sup>24</sup> The ten horns are ten kings who will *come from* this kingdom. After them another king will arise, **different** from the earlier ones (*i.e. the first four*); he will subdue three kings. <sup>25</sup> He will speak against the Most High and oppress his saints and try to change the set times and the laws. The saints will be handed over to him for **a time, times and half a time** (*the latter 3.5 years, or the Great Tribulation period*).

> (ASK) Who are these "saints" that are spoken about here?

*Answer: The Jews and some say both the Jews and Christians – Some say just the Christians... YOU WILL JUDGE FOR YOURSELVES AFTER BEEN PRESENTED THE FACTS*

DA 7:26 " 'But the court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. <sup>27</sup> Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be handed over to the saints, the people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.'

DA 7:28 "This is the end of the matter. I, Daniel, was deeply troubled by my thoughts, and my face turned pale, but I kept the matter to myself."

> Now, let's start looking into the “nuts and bolts” of Daniel's important and telling dream detailed in chapter 7...

> Read Daniel 1:4...

DA 7:4 "The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a man, and the heart (*or mind*) of a man was given to it.

> The lion is the rampant beast – the major symbol of the Babylonian empire...

> *From Atlas Tours website:* “Babylon, the legendary city, is indeed, the most famous ancient city in the whole World. It was the capital of ten Mesopotamian dynasties starting with the dynasty of King Hammurabi (1792-1750 BC); the 6th king of the 1st dynasty; reaching prominence as the capital city of the great kingdom of Babylonia. The last dynasty at which Babylon achieved its zenith, is well known, particularly of its 2nd king, Nebuchadnezzar (605-563 BC), to whom most of Babylon's *existing* buildings belongs.”

> *Nowadays*, Babylon's ruins covers about 7,500 square acres, lying on the east bank of The Euphrates river, 56 miles south of Baghdad. The most important of the standing monuments of Babylon today are the Summer and Winter Palaces of King Nebuchadnezzar, the Ziggurat (tower) attached to it, the Street of Processions, the *Lion of Babylon*, and the famous Ishtar Gate.

**The Lion of Babylon**, a very large statue carved in basalt, reminds us again that the lion was the symbol of the goddess Ishtar. In the sculpture, the lion's back has marks indicating that it was meant for a precious saddle upon which the goddess Ishtar would stand.”

> From [www.bible-history.com](http://www.bible-history.com): The colorful striding lion of glazed brick with its mouth opened in a threatening roar, once decorated a side of the 'Processional Way'. The 'Processional Way' led out of the city through the massive and beautiful Ishtar Gate named for the Mesopotamian goddess of love and war, Ishtar, whose *symbol was the lion*. Each year, during the celebration of the great New Year Festival, the images of the city's deities were carried out through the Ishtar Gate and moves along the 'Processional Way' past some *120 lions* to a special festival house north of the city. The lion symbolizes power and the Babylonians believed that it was Ishtar that gave them their glory.

> BTW, to this day, the ruins show depictions of lions with eagles wings.

> DA 7:4 "The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a man, and the heart of a man was given to it.

> The lion's wings were removed (*actually violently torn off*) and then the lion was then lifted from the ground.

> It could not longer "fly", but it was helped up and instead of standing on its four feet, it was given two feet and heart – both attributes of a human being.

> The *primary* interpretation is that Nebbie started out as a beast, but at the end of his reign, was given sanity ("standing on two feet and given the heart of a man").

> (REVIEW) This process was mapped out in Daniel chapter 4, which is about the warning dream and Nebbie's subsequent humbling:

1. The alarming dream about the overspreading tree.
2. Daniel's interpretation of that dream – and warning to the proud king

3. The humiliation of the king in seven years of “dementia”
4. The king’s repentance *and acknowledgement* of God’s sovereignty.

- > Hippolytus (pastor of the church in Rome, one of the early church fathers who lived from 170AD and died as a martyr in 236AD - Ponder: *how close this is to the time of the apostles!*)
- > He was a contemporary of early church leader Iranius...
- > Iranius was a student of Polycarp...
- > Polycarp was as student of the Apostle John himself.
- > Iranius a pastor of a church in Rome...
- > Hippolytus said:
  - > “The lion represents the kingdom of Babylon, the wings represent Nebbie plucked off when he lost his mind. He was then made to stand upon his two feet, where he regained his sanity and the heart of a man was given to him when he gave God the glory.”
- > The eagle’s wings could also mean:
  - Babylon was swift in its ability to move into a land to totally subdue it
  - Along with Babylon being a Head of Gold, the wings could symbolize the nation’s government of being the most “noble” as it was the first to establish the “rule of law”, etc.
- > (ASK/DISCUSS) What else could these symbol of a **lion** be in prophecy? Prophecies don’t always mean just one thing..
- > Endtimes possiblilites/speculation (*only*):
  - The Lion is the symbol of Great Britain

- The eagles wings maybe America (spawned off of the back of the “lion” of Great Britain)

- The Tribe of Judah lifted up from the sea of nations and brought back “on the wings of eagles” into the Promised Land

> (POINT) Develop a “feel” for Bible prophecy. *Not* so much with toward the *end of interpreting it all* and finding all of its iterations...

> *But*, with the intent on understanding how it is so deeply intertwined and in the way its used by God in Scripture, as a descriptor of Scripture, and in mapping this “dispensation” of the secular timeline of the world..

> Continuing in Daniel 7:5...

<sup>DA 7:5</sup> "And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your fill of flesh!'

> The bear here is probably Medio-Persia. This would make sense even if only for the fact that we are seeing that the context of this dream is the chronological order of empires given to us in Nebbie’s dream of the statue.

> Second century theologians say this verse is about Medio-Persia

> Hippolytus, pastor of the church in Rome, one of the early church fathers who lived from 170AD, dying as a martyr in 236AD (Again, ponder: *how close this is to the time of the apostles!*)...

> ... said that the three ribs in the bear’s mouth indicate to the three nations of the Babylonians Medes and Persians.

> Continuing in Daniel 7:6...

<sup>DA 7:6</sup> "After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule.

> Up until now Daniel's dream has referenced a lion and bear and in verse six a leopard.

> These can be mapped into

Lion= Great Britain

Bear= Russia

Leopard= Germany

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Do you remember a "gentleman" named Nimrod? Who was he?

> The name Nimrod is derived from two Hebrew words: *nemar*, leopard and *radah*, subjugate. Thus, his name literally means "the subduer of the leopard".

> Nimrod used to tame leopards and then use them at his side to hunt. This technique was probably what made him such a great and legendary hunter – and thus a god-like figure to the people in the cities he built (I wonder if they knew his secret?)

> So, under the symbol of the leopard, Nimrod gained power over the people of his day.

> The symbol of the Leopard was handed down as a banner of pride, valor, hunting prowess of warriors and secular kings throughout history.

> (Example) Here's an example of the Leopard as symbol of power. this example has little to do with the nations and peoples

we are directly focused on in Scripture, so it serves to show how persistent and far-reaching Nimrod's legacy is...

> Following is what was written about the history of a bronze vessel from about the 17th century from African Nigeria depicting a leopard.

"This bronze leopard is actually a water vessel, used by the oba (or "king") when he washed his hands during ceremonies. Admired for its power, ferocity, agility, and intelligence, the leopard became a symbol of the oba. According to Benin (a certain African people) thought, the leopard could strike fear into the heart of the enemy; it also was recognized as a leader in the animal kingdom. Images of leopards appeared on many objects of royal paraphernalia, reinforcing the oba's majesty and power. Live leopards, captured and tamed, were kept at the royal palace. Placed on leashes, they even accompanied royal processions. **Leopard skins**, which were *emblems of rank* in Benin, could be worn only by the oba and those who obtained his permission. When a hunter killed a leopard he was expected to report to the nearest chief that it was a "leopard of the bush," not one "of the house." Like the royal art of Benin, the leopard essentially belonged to the king, signifying his superior status.

> It is also said that the leopard is the Grecian leopard, with its four wings and four heads depict the four generals of Alexander the Great.

> The two interpretations above are the more ancient of them.

> The more modern interpretation is this is Germany, as the leopard was an identifier of Hitler's Germany.

### 3/5/06 Lesson

> Let's pickup in Daniel chapter 7 and now examine this fourth and very different beast.

> Turn to Daniel chapter 7:7~8...

DA 7:7 "After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast--terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and *it had ten horns*..

> The Amplified Bible follows this text with the phrase "symbolizing ten kings" in brackets (The ten horns symbolize ten *kingdoms/rulers/nations*).

> (ASK/DISCUSS) The end-time interpretation of this would be what? (*Point out the ten toes of the image=the ten horns*)

> (ANSWER) The Revival of the old Roman Empire.

> Continuing in verse 8...

DA 7:8 "While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, *which came up (from) among them*; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes *like the eyes of a man* and a *mouth that spoke boastfully*.

> Out from among these ten horns (or kingdoms – or *ruler/nations*) will spring this little horn. (*POINT OUT THE TEN TOES AGAIN*)

> Turn to Daniel 9:26...

<sup>26</sup> After the sixty-two `sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. **The people** of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.

> (ASK) Who is this "anointed One" (notice the capitalization in the Scriptural text)? Answer: The Messiah – Jesus.

> (ASK) What is meant by "the Anointed One will be cut off"? Answer: Jesus will be put to death.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) What is meant when the passage states that “The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary”?

> Jesus was crucified in A.D. 33. In A.D. 70 (as Jesus predicted in Matthew 24:1~2...

MT 24:1 Jesus left the temple and was walking away when his disciples came up to him to call his attention to its buildings. <sup>2</sup> "Do you see all these things?" he asked. "I tell you the truth, not one stone here will be left on another; every one will be thrown down."

...*The Romans*, under the direction of Emperor Titus, stormed in and absolutely decimated the Jews, the city of Jerusalem and the Temple.

> (COMMENT) Let's see what that siege was like in A. D. 70...

> Read Josephus pages 358~359 (selected parts).

> The people of the ruler to come were absolutely horrible to the Jews in A.D. 70 – After just a little taste of the history Josephus recounts, imagine what the actual “ruler that shall come” will do when he finally does come onto the world seen?!

> Please turn to Matthew 24:15~22...

> Let's see what Jesus Himself said about the day when the “little horn” comes and “speaks great and blasphemous things”...

MT 24:15 "So when you see standing in the holy place `the abomination that causes desolation,' *spoken of through the prophet Daniel*--let the reader understand-- <sup>16</sup> then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. <sup>17</sup> Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. <sup>18</sup> Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak. <sup>19</sup> How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! <sup>20</sup> Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. <sup>21</sup> For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now--and never to be equaled again. <sup>22</sup> If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened.

> Our friend Hippolytus (pastor of the church in Rome, one of the early church fathers who lived from 170AD and died as a martyr in 236AD) said this:

“The fourth beast who is dreadful and terrible, had iron teeth, claws of brass, who then are meant by this but the Romans, who’s kingdom stands, as expressed by the iron.”

> The ten horns are “mapped into” the ten toes/nations in Nebbie’s vision of the statue.

> This is where the Antichrist will come to the fore at that time!

> We know that this is the End of Days period because it follows in verses Daniel 7:9~14...

> Here’s how the Amplified Bible puts it...

I kept looking until thrones were placed [for the assessors with the Judge], and the Ancient of Days [God, the eternal Father] took His seat, Whose garment was white as snow and the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne was like the fiery flame; its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire came forth from before Him; a thousand thousands ministered to Him and ten thousand times ten thousand rose up and stood before Him; the Judge was seated [the court was in session] and the books were opened. I looked then because of the sound of the great words which the horn was speaking. I watched until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. And as for the rest of the beasts, their power of dominion was taken away; yet their lives were prolonged [for the duration of their lives was fixed] for a season and a time. I saw in the night visions, and behold, on the clouds of the heavens came One like a Son of man, and He came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him. And there was given Him [the Messiah] dominion and glory and kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away, and His kingdom is one which shall not be destroyed.

> Please turn to Revelation 12:13~13:8...

> Let’s tie this together with a description that John gives us about this beast and it’s horns...

REV 12:13 When the dragon saw that he had been hurled to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child. <sup>14</sup> The woman was given the two wings of

a great eagle, so that she might fly to the place prepared for her in the desert, where she would be taken care of for a time, times and half a time, out of the serpent's reach. <sup>15</sup> Then from his mouth the serpent spewed water like a river, to overtake the woman and sweep her away with the torrent. <sup>16</sup> But the earth helped the woman by opening its mouth and swallowing the river that the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. <sup>17</sup> Then the dragon was enraged at the woman and went off to make war against the rest of her offspring--those who obey God's commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus. <sup>1</sup> And the dragon stood on the shore of the sea.

And I saw a beast coming out of the sea. He had ten horns and seven heads, with ten crowns on his horns, and on each head a blasphemous name. <sup>2</sup> The beast I saw resembled a leopard, but had feet like those of a bear and a mouth like that of a lion. The dragon gave the beast his power and his throne and great authority. <sup>3</sup> One of the heads of the beast seemed to have had a fatal wound, but the fatal wound had been healed. The whole world was astonished and followed the beast. <sup>4</sup> Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, "Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?"

REV 13:5 The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise his authority for forty-two months. <sup>6</sup> He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. <sup>7</sup> He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. <sup>8</sup> All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast--all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.

> So, let's finish up Daniel chapter 7. We should be able to make real sense of all of this – as God intended!

DA 7:15 "I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit, and the visions that passed through my mind disturbed me. <sup>16</sup> I approached one of those standing there and asked him the true meaning of all this.

"So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things: <sup>17</sup> 'The four great beasts are four kingdoms that will rise from the earth. <sup>18</sup> But the saints of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever--yes, for ever and ever.'

DA 7:19 "Then I wanted to know the true meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others and most terrifying, with its iron teeth and bronze claws--the beast that crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. <sup>20</sup> I also wanted to know about the ten horns on its head and about the other horn that came up, before which three of them fell--the horn that looked more imposing than the others and that had eyes and a mouth that spoke boastfully. <sup>21</sup> As I watched, this horn was waging war against the saints and defeating them, <sup>22</sup> until the Ancient of Days came and pronounced judgment in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came when they possessed the kingdom.

DA 7:23 "He gave me this explanation: 'The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth. It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it. <sup>24</sup> The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings. <sup>25</sup> He will speak against the Most High and oppress his saints and try to change the set times and the laws. The saints will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time.

DA 7:26 " 'But the court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. <sup>27</sup> Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be handed over to the saints, the people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.'

DA 7:28 "This is the end of the matter. I, Daniel, was deeply troubled by my thoughts, and my face turned pale, but I kept the matter to myself."

### **3/19/06 Lesson**

**\*\*\* PUT UP THE OUTLINE OF DANIEL ON THE WHILEBOARD \*\*\***

> We've completed chapter 7 and before we embark on chapter 8 let's make sure our compass is still set.

> Daniel is a Book about the "times of the Gentiles".

> In Luke 21:20~24 we are told...

LK 21:20 "When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. <sup>21</sup> Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. <sup>22</sup> For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. <sup>23</sup> How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. <sup>24</sup> They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be *trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.*

> We know that Daniel spoke of a number of times that Jerusalem had been (and will again for one last time be) "sacked".

- > (ASK) The Book was written in two languages. Which are these? A. - Hebrew and Aramaic (chapters 2~7 are in Aramaic)
- > Because it is written in a mixture of Hebrew and Aramaic, even in the early time of that book, before the printing press and various translations and wide distributions were even possible, it seems that God wanted to be sure that both Israelite and Gentile would be able to have a witness of the “times of the Gentiles”.
- > The Aramaic portion starts in chapter 2 and the language switches back to Hebrew beginning in chapter 8.
- > Aramaic was a one of the “every day” languages that continued though the time of Jesus Christ and was very widely used over a very vast area of Europe and the Middle East.
- > (ASK) Who can name the four major world empires God predicts through Daniel?

BABYLON

MEDIA/PERSIA

GREECE

ROME (including the revived Rome)

- > There are actually two world empires which predate Babylon. These are Assyria and Egypt.

- > (ASK/DISCUSS) Why were these not mentioned in Daniel?

A. – Because the focus of the Book of Daniel is the times of the Gentiles as this relates to the captivity, punishment, dispersing and final glorification of Israel as the Head of Nations when Jesus returns and sets up His Kingdom – this is very important to

remember if we are going to keep the Book of Daniel in proper context.

> Please turn to Daniel 8:1...

Just as the Head of Gold starts the timeline of Gentile domination, chapter 8 brings us back to a Jewish perspective, the scene shifts to non other that Alexander the Great.

> We are now at the cusp of Greece taking the reigns of world domination from Persia.

> Alexander the Great was a Gentile conquer who it seems was specifically used by God to set up events in the land of Israel.

> We are back to a very Israelite-specific point of view.

> <sup>DA 8:1</sup> In the third year of King Belshazzar's reign, I, Daniel, had a vision, after the one that had already appeared to me. <sup>2</sup> In my vision I saw myself in the citadel of Susa in the province of Elam; in the vision I was beside the Ulai Canal.

> Here, we return to the Hebrew language and back-up about fifteen years to the third year of Belshazzar's reign, where Daniel start to tell of a vision which he saves until such a time as this.

> Daniel is in the land of Persia, the region of Persepolis, where Daniel lived the rest of his life and where his tomb is located.

> Continuing in verse 3...

<sup>3</sup> I looked up, and there before me was a ram with two horns, standing beside the canal, and the horns were long. One of the horns was longer than the other but grew up later (or, came up last). <sup>4</sup> I watched the ram as he charged toward the west and the north and the south. No animal could stand against him (the kingdom of the Medes and Persians), and none could rescue from his power. He did as he pleased and became great.

- > The longer or greater horn would represent Cyrus and the smaller horn would represent Darius (a title of regency for the Medes) and Cyrus was a Persian.
- > We see here then, the Persian eclipsing the Medes in power.
- > Continuing in verse 5...
- > <sup>DA 8:5</sup> As I was thinking about this, suddenly a goat with a prominent horn between his eyes came from the west, crossing the whole earth without touching the ground. <sup>6</sup> He came toward the two-horned ram I had seen standing beside the canal and charged at him in great rage. <sup>7</sup> I saw him attack the ram furiously, striking the ram and shattering his two horns.
- > It seems we have here yet another metaphor of separation (i.e. good vs. evil; clean vs. unclean).

Please turn to Genesis 15:9~18...

<sup>GE 15:9</sup> So the LORD said to him, "Bring me a heifer, a goat and a ram, each three years old, along with a dove and a young pigeon."

<sup>GE 15:10</sup> Abram brought all these to him, cut them in two and arranged the halves opposite each other; the birds, however, he did not cut in half. <sup>11</sup> Then birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away.

<sup>GE 15:12</sup> As the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and a thick and dreadful darkness came over him. <sup>13</sup> Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. <sup>14</sup> But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. <sup>15</sup> You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age. <sup>16</sup> In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."

<sup>GE 15:17</sup> When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, a smoking firepot with a blazing torch appeared and passed between the pieces. <sup>18</sup> On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram and said, "To your descendants I give this land..."

> Read Matthew 25:31~33...

MT 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup> He will put the *sheep on his right* and the *goats on his left*."

> Back to Daniel chapter 8:7...

The ram was powerless to stand against him; the goat knocked him to the ground and trampled on him, and none could rescue the ram from his power. <sup>8</sup> The goat became very great, but at the height of his power his large horn was broken off, and in its place four prominent horns grew up toward the four winds of heaven.

> We already know that the ram represents the kings of Media/Persia, but what does the goat and its horns represent?

> Move down to Daniel 8:20~22...

> Here we see a classic example of the Bible interpreting itself.

<sup>20</sup> The **two-horned ram** (horns of unequal length) that you saw represents the **kings of Media and Persia**. <sup>21</sup> The shaggy **goat** is the **king of Greece**, and the **large horn** between his eyes is the **first king**. <sup>22</sup> The **four horns** that replaced the one that was *broken off* represent **four kingdoms** that will emerge from his nation *but will not have the same power*.

> The goat clearly denotes Greece and the first and great horn (or king) is Alexander the Great.

> The capital city of Greece in that day was Aegis. What does this mean?

> Aegis was known as "the city of the goat"

> In Greek mythology: the Aegis was a weapon of Zeus and Athena. It possessed the power to terrify and disperse the enemy or to protect friends. The aegis was usually described as a garment made of **goatskin** slung over the shoulder or as a piece of armor. The aegis of Athena was a breastplate covered with **goatskin** and bordered with *snakes*, bearing in the center the head of Medusa. Medusa was once a beautiful woman, but she offended Athena, who changed her hair into snakes and made her face so hideous that all who looked at her were turned to stone.

- > Alexander had a son he named Aegis (son of the goat)
- > Greek mythology also had the satyr god Pan (half man and half goat) who played a pipe made of reeds called a Syrinx, or Pan Pipe.
- > Pan had great masculinity, procreative power and varsity and strong will – just like Alexander the Great himself possessed.
- > By the way, the image of Pan became a very prominent image of Satan himself as history progressed.
- > \*\*\* READ JOSEPHUS' ACCOUNT OF ALEXANDER – PAGE 199 \*\*\*

### 3/26/06 Lesson

- > Lets review Daniel 8:19~22...

<sup>DA 8:19</sup> He said: "I am going to tell you what will happen *later in the time of wrath*, because the vision concerns the appointed time of the end.<sup>20</sup> The two-horned ram that you saw represents the kings of Media and Persia (Darius and Cyrus).<sup>21</sup> The shaggy goat is the king of Greece, and the *large horn* between his eyes is the *first* king (Alexander the Great).

.<sup>22</sup> The **four horns** that replaced the one that was *broken off* represent **four kingdoms** that will emerge from *his nation but will not have the same power*.

- > When Alexander died (the great horn was broken) on or about May 24th 323 B.C. and nine years after conquering Persia (June 10th 323 B.C. just one month shy of turning 33 years old) his kingdom was divided among his four top generals.
- > Alexander the Great lived only about 33 years, (from 356 to 323 B.C.), but during that time he became one of the most successful military commanders in human history.

> He conquered a vast region that had been occupied by the earlier empires – Egyptian, Assyrian, Babylonian and Persian.

> Alexander was the son of King Philip II of Macedon. In 336 B.C., at age 20, Alexander assumed command of the Greek army. After putting down a rebellion in Greece, he began an eastward military campaign that quickly made him the ruler of the earth from Greece to India, where, according to some accounts, he sat down and wept because he had "run out of world to conquer."

> Remember what Daniel said about Alexander in Daniel 8:5...

<sup>DA 8:5</sup> As I was thinking about this, suddenly a goat with a prominent horn between his eyes came **from the west**, crossing the **whole earth** without touching the ground.

> After he died suddenly at age 33, from an unknown illness, Alexander's kingdom was divided up by four of his generals - Syria went to Seleucus, Egypt to Ptolomy.

> The book of Daniel was written approximately *250 years before Alexander was born*, and yet it describes him in amazing detail, from his death at a young age, to his being succeeded by four of his generals.

> Generals:

1. Casander was given power over Mecedonia (Greece itself)
2. Lesimicus was given over Asia Minor
3. Seleucus was given land that stretched from east of Asia Minor, to India and south into the Holy Land (Assyrian territory)
4. Ptolomy – Given power over North Africa, all of Egypt, Libia, Ethiopia and onto the Straits of Gibraltar

> These generals divided the world into four parts, and this is notable because one of these generals is very interesting from a prophetic point of view.

> The main purpose of this chapter is to focus back on Israel and the coming antichrist.

> Alexander, after conquering the known world decides to set-up his throne back in Babylon.

While there, he becomes severely depressed because there is no more world left to conquer. He comes up with the idea that he'll now conquer Heaven!

> Alexander removed the debris surrounding the original Tower of Babel in Babylon and sought to rebuild it – this is about when he died!

> \*\*\* READ ANNALS OF THE WORLD ACCOUNT OF THE DEATH OF ALEXANDER\*\*\*

> It is said that Alexander's general Ptolomey took his body to Egypt for burial as Alexander's tomb was discovered in 1995 to be there.

> It is in Siwa Oasis, at the Oracle of Zeus.

> Let's get back to the premise of Daniel, chapter 8.

> The overriding theme is verses 8, 9 and those following, which depicts the death of Alexander and the rise of the four generals.

> Out of those four generals rises a "little horn"

> Read Daniel 8:9...

<sup>DA 8:9</sup> Out of one of them came another horn, which started small but grew in power to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land.

> This was Antiochus Epiphanies of the house of Seleucid and typical of the coming Antichrist.

- > General Seleucus began a ruling dynasty called the Seleucid dynasty.
- > Seleucid is a title, just as Darius and Harrod are titles.
- > Antiochus is a title as well.
- > There were many Seleucids and many Antiochus' in that period.
- > Note that there were a total of about thirteen Antiochus', but we are interested in Antiochus IV (Epiphanes).
- > Note that Daniel 8:9 says that this "little horn" to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land.
- > To the south, he was given rule over what we call today Syria, Iraq and Iran – what in the ancient world was Syria and Assyria, and east to Ganges River in India, which runs east from the southern border of China to the southern end of Bangladesh.
- > Remember, that chapter seven introduces the Antichrist.
- > Read Daniel 7:8...

<sup>DA 7:8</sup> "While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully.

- > The reason chapter 8 is after chapter 7 is because chapter 8 furthers the theme of this coming "prince of darkness".
- > Remember, the chronological timing of chapter 8 occurs fifteen years *before* chapter 7 (chapter 8 opens with <sup>DA 8:1</sup> In the third year of King Belshazzar's reign, I, Daniel, had a vision, after the one that had already appeared to me.)

> \*\*\* **PUT CHAPTER CHRONOLOGY ON BOARD:**  
**1,2,3,4,7,8,5,6,9,10,11,12 \*\*\***

> As a matter of fact, chapters 9, 10, 11 and 12 speaks to the time of the Antichrist – just about the last half of the book of Daniel centers on this future prominent “man of sin”!

> Read Micah 5:5 (Amplified)...

And this [One] shall be our peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads upon our soil and in our palaces, then will we raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes among men.

> We don't know who these shepherds and princes are, but we do know that this “One” is Messiah.

> The original Assyrian was Seleucus. All of his dynastic successors controlled the land of Assyria.

> Out of this Assyrian dynasty came Antiochus IV Epiphanes who in 168 B.C overthrew the Temple, profaned it filled it with statuary, including a statue of Zeus. He sacrificed a sow and profaned the altar with the sow's blood.

> Antiochus IV Epiphanes wanted to be the new god of the universe – and where better to accomplish that than at the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

> Read Matthew 24:15...

> And, history is doomed to repeat itself.

MT 24:15 "So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel--let the reader understand--<sup>16</sup> then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.<sup>17</sup> Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house.<sup>18</sup> Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak.<sup>19</sup> How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers!<sup>20</sup> Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath.<sup>21</sup> For then there will be great distress, unequalled from the beginning of the world until now--and never to be equaled again.

> Daniel is telling us the family lineage of the Antichrist – Alexander the Great, through Seleucus, on to Antiochus IV Epiphanies. These form the special lineage of Antichrist to come in that way of Antiochus IV Epiphanies.

### **4/2/06 Lesson**

**\*\*\* BRING UP PTOLOMEY AND HIS BEING ALMOST AS PROMINENT AS SELEUCUS, BUT NOT IN THE CONTEXT OF DANIEL CHAPTER 8 – AND THE LINE OF THE ANTICHRIST \*\*\***

> We will wrap-up our study of chapter 8 today.

> Please turn to Daniel 8:3~9...

> Let's review the thrust of Daniel chapter 8...

> (Parse these verses...)

<sup>3</sup> I looked up, and there before me was a ram with two horns, standing beside the canal, and the horns were long. One of the horns was longer than the other but grew up later. <sup>4</sup> I watched the ram as he charged toward the west and the north and the south. No animal could stand against him, and none could rescue from his power. He did as he pleased and became great.

<sup>DA 8:5</sup> As I was thinking about this, suddenly a goat with a prominent horn between his eyes came from the west, crossing the whole earth without touching the ground. <sup>6</sup> He came toward the two-horned ram I had seen standing beside the canal and charged at him in great rage. <sup>7</sup> I saw him attack the ram furiously, striking the ram and shattering his two horns. The ram was powerless to stand against him; the goat knocked him to the ground and trampled on him, and none could rescue the ram from his power. <sup>8</sup> The goat became very great, but at the height of his power his large horn was broken off, and in its place four prominent horns grew up toward the four winds of heaven.

<sup>DA 8:9</sup> Out of one of them came another horn, which started small but grew in power to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land.

> Let's see what C.I. Scofield had to say in his Reference Notes (1917 edition) about this...

> (ASK/DISCUSS) Who is C.I. Scofield?...

> Cyrus Ingerson Scofield (1843-1921), Bible student and author, was privately educated. Converted at 36, he was ordained to the congregational ministry in 1882, and served as pastor of the First Church, Dallas, Texas (1882-1895), and again (1902-1907); and of the Moody Church, Northfield, Massachusetts (1895-1902). He spent his later years lecturing on biblical subjects on both sides of the Atlantic. The work for which he is **best remembered is his 1909 dispensational premillennial Scofield Reference Bible.**

"The "little horn" here is a prophecy fulfilled in Antiochus Epiphanes, B.C. 175, who profaned the temple and terribly persecuted the Jews. He is not to be confounded with the "little horn" of Dan. 7. who is yet to come, and who will dominate the earth during the great tribulation. But Antiochus is a remarkable type of the Beast, the terrible "little horn" of the last days. Verses 24,25 go beyond Antiochus and evidently refer to the "little horn" of Dan. 7. Both Antiochus and the Beast, but the Beast pre-eminently, are in view in verses 24,25. That the "little horn" of Dan. 7. cannot be the little horn of Daniel 8:9-13,23 is evident. The former comes up among the ten horns into which the fourth empire (Roman) is to be divided; the little horn of Dan. 8. comes out of one of the four kingdoms into which the third (Grecian) empire was divided (Daniel 8:23), and in "the latter time" of the four kingdoms Daniel 8:22,23). This was historically true of Antiochus Epiphanes. They are alike in hatred of the Jews and of God, and in profaning the temple.

Antiochus Epiphanes came out of Syria (*Pointing back to Seleucus*), one of the "four notable" kingdoms into which Alexander's empire was divided.

> Verses 10~14 moves us out of the context of Alexander and his successor, General Seleucus, into a discussion about Antiochus Epiphanes...

<sup>10</sup> It grew until it reached the host of the heavens, and it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them. <sup>11</sup> It set itself up to be as great as the Prince of the host; it took away the daily sacrifice from him, and the place of his sanctuary was brought low. <sup>12</sup> Because of rebellion, the host of the saints and the daily sacrifice were given over to it. It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground.

<sup>DA 8:13</sup> Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to him, "How long will it take for the vision to be fulfilled--the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, the

rebellion that causes desolation, and the surrender of the sanctuary and of the host that will be trampled underfoot?"

<sup>DA 8:14</sup> He said to me, "It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be re-consecrated."

> Scofield said of verses 10~14...

"This passage is confessedly the most difficult in prophecy, a difficulty increased by the present state of the text. Historically this was fulfilled in and by Antiochus Epiphanes, but in a more intense and final sense Antiochus but adumbrates [adumbrates] ("depicts" or "points to") the awful blasphemy of the "little horn" of Daniel 7:8..."

*DA 7:8 "While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth that spoke boastfully."*

"In Daniel 8:10-14 the actions of both "little horns" (*Antiochus and the Antichrist*) blend."

> Read verse 10 again...

<sup>10</sup> It grew until it reached the host of the heavens, and it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them.

> (ASK) What are "the starry hosts of heaven"?

> This is the angelic army – We know that it was impossible for Antiochus to reach up to and affect the angels!

> The only thing this could mean is that this foreshadows the Antichrist yet to come – who's iniquity does reach into the heavens.

> Read Revelation 13:11~14...

<sup>REV 13:11</sup> Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. He had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup> He exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. <sup>13</sup> And he performed great and miraculous signs, **even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men.** <sup>14</sup> Because of the signs **he was given power to do** on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth.

> The beast and the False Prophet will be able to call on a “starry host” alright – the fallen angels who at that time still inhabit the starry heavens!

> Verse 11 says...

<sup>11</sup> It set itself up to be as great as the Prince of the host; it took away the daily sacrifice from him, and the place of his sanctuary was brought low.

> The Amplified Bible puts it this way...

Yes, [this horn] magnified itself, even [matching itself] against the Prince of the host [of heaven]; and from Him the continual [burnt offering] was taken away and the place of [God's] sanctuary was cast down and profaned.

> (POINT) As pointed out last week, from chapter 8 through the end of the book, Daniel devotes himself to the Antichrist and his “bloodline” – from Seleucus, through Antiochus and on through the Roman empire (i.e. Nero came from through the Seleucid dynasty and the Seleucids intermarried with the Harrodians who later married into the royal houses of Rome ).

> Continuing in verses 13 & 14 (*AMPLIFIED*)...

Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to the one that spoke, For how long is the vision concerning the continual offering, the transgression that makes desolate, and the giving over of both the sanctuary and the host [of the people] to be trampled underfoot?

And he said to him and to me, For 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary shall be cleansed and restored.

> This is a number of days which equates to about 6.3 years.

> This most probably depicts the time from the “abomination that causes desolation”(that Jesus spoke of in Matt. 24:15 – “spoken of through Daniel the prophet”), to the time when He not only

returns, but build ***His Temple – The Millennial Temple – with a newly re-consecrated Sanctuary.***

> (POINT) This is one of those pieces of prophecy that we can't know for shure until it happens – but we won't be here for that, so this is really left as a witness for those who *will be here at that horrible time.*

DA 8:15 While I, Daniel, was watching the vision and trying to understand it, there before me stood one who looked like a man. <sup>16</sup> And I heard a man's voice from the Ulai calling, "Gabriel, tell this man the meaning of the vision."

DA 8:17 As he came near the place where I was standing, I was terrified and fell prostrate. "Son of man," he said to me, "understand that the vision concerns the time of the end."

DA 8:18 While he was speaking to me, I was in a deep sleep, with my face to the ground. Then he touched me and raised me to my feet.

DA 8:19 He said: "I am going to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath, because the vision concerns the appointed time of the end. <sup>20</sup> The two-horned ram that you saw represents the kings of Media and Persia. <sup>21</sup> The shaggy goat is the king of Greece, and the large horn between his eyes is the first king. <sup>22</sup> The four horns that replaced the one that was broken off represent four kingdoms that will emerge from his nation but will not have the same power.

> These verses (23~25) are of key importance...

DA 8:23 "In the latter part of their reign, when rebels have become completely wicked, a stern-faced king, a master of intrigue, will arise. <sup>24</sup> He will become very strong, but not by his own power. He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy the mighty men and the holy people. <sup>25</sup> He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. When they feel secure, he will destroy many and take his stand against the Prince of princes. Yet he will be destroyed, but not by human power.

> This **IS** the Antichrist.

DA 8:26 "The vision of the evenings and mornings that has been given you is true, but **seal up the vision, for it concerns the distant future.**"

DA 8:27 I, Daniel, was exhausted and lay ill for several days. Then I got up and went about the king's business. I was appalled by the vision; it was beyond understanding.

## 4/9/06 Lesson

> Please turn to Daniel 9:1~23...

> Today we will have an introduction to chapter 9.

> This chapter opens with the subject of the chapter – Verse 22 says "...Daniel, I have now come to give you insight and understanding."

DA 9:1 In the first year of Darius son of Xerxes (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom--<sup>2</sup> in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the LORD given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years.<sup>3</sup> So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.

DA 9:4 I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed:

"O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with all who love him and obey his commands,<sup>5</sup> we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws.<sup>6</sup> We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

DA 9:7 "Lord, you are righteous, but this day we are covered with shame--the men of Judah and people of Jerusalem and all Israel, both near and far, in all the countries where you have scattered us because of our unfaithfulness to you.<sup>8</sup> O LORD, we and our kings, our princes and our fathers are covered with shame because we have sinned against you.<sup>9</sup> The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him;<sup>10</sup> we have not obeyed the LORD our God or kept the laws he gave us through his servants the prophets.<sup>11</sup> All Israel has transgressed your law and turned away, refusing to obey you.

"Therefore the curses and sworn judgments written in the Law of Moses, the servant of God, have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against you.<sup>12</sup> You have fulfilled the words spoken against us and against our rulers by bringing upon us great disaster. Under the whole heaven nothing has ever been done like what has been done to Jerusalem.<sup>13</sup> Just as it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us, yet we have not sought the favor of the LORD our God by turning from our sins and giving attention to your truth.<sup>14</sup> The LORD did not hesitate to bring the disaster upon us, for the LORD our God is righteous in everything he does; yet we have not obeyed him.

DA 9:15 "Now, O Lord our God, who brought your people out of Egypt with a mighty hand and who made for yourself a name that endures to this day, we have sinned, we have done wrong.<sup>16</sup> O Lord, in keeping with all your righteous acts, turn away your anger and your wrath from Jerusalem, your city, your holy hill. Our sins and the iniquities

of our fathers have made Jerusalem and your people an object of scorn to all those around us.

<sup>DA 9:17</sup> "Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, O Lord, look with favor on your desolate sanctuary. <sup>18</sup> Give ear, O God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. <sup>19</sup> O Lord, listen! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, hear and act! For your sake, O my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name." <sup>20</sup> While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and making my request to the LORD my God for his holy hill-- <sup>21</sup> while I was still in prayer, Gabriel, the man I had seen in the earlier vision, came to me in swift flight about the time of the evening sacrifice. <sup>22</sup> He instructed me and said to me, "Daniel, I have now come to give you insight and understanding. <sup>23</sup> As soon as you began to pray, an answer was given, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed. Therefore, consider the message and understand the vision:...

- > What we've just read is well over three-quarters of the entire chapter (the last verse is verse 27).
- > The truly amazing fact here is that *all* of the "meat" of the entire chapter is contained in just four verses! This is what we are going to dwell on – There's an awful lot of understanding revealed for us in a highly concentrated form in just four verses!
- > Make no mistake – this is one of the most important prophetic chapters in the whole Old Testament – it is the only place you will find a timeline of the Great Tribulation.
- > As we go along, you'll find that it seems that God drew a Vail as it were, across the obvious, knowing that *only those* who, *in the Latter Days*, studied (with the full implementation of the Holy Spirit) would be given a peek behind this vail.
- > We began with Daniel again starting us off with a time reference for this chapter. He states that Darius son of Xerxes (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom was the ruler at the time of this writing. This was 538 B.C.

> As a reference, we just exited chapter 8 which detailed the doings of Alexander the Great, which occurred in about 323B.C.

> As we enter chapter 9, we've been stepped back in history about 216 years (NOTE AGAIN THE CHRONOLOGY ON THE WHITEBOARD - 1,2,3,4,7,8,5,6,9,10,11,12)

> Let's review again verses 1 and 2...

DA 9:1 In the first year of Darius son of Xerxes (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom--<sup>2</sup> in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from **the Scriptures, according to the word of the LORD given to Jeremiah the prophet**, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years.<sup>3</sup> So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.

> Daniel is telling us in very plain terms, that it is most important in life to study God's Word!

> Please turn to Jeremiah 25:8~14...

> Let's look at what Daniel knew because he studied the Words of Scripture that God gave through Jeremiah.

> (DO) Imagine now that you are Daniel in the midst of this horrific and unspeakably humiliating and complete captivity and the complete destruction of Jerusalem and The Temple, and the utter subjugation of your people to these putrid Gentile pagans.

JER 25:8 Therefore the LORD Almighty says this: "Because you have not listened to my words,<sup>9</sup> I will summon all the peoples of the north and my *servant* Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon," declares the LORD, "and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants and against all the surrounding nations. I will completely destroy them and make them an object of horror and scorn, and an everlasting ruin.<sup>10</sup> I will banish from them the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, the sound of millstones and the light of the lamp.<sup>11</sup> This whole country will become a desolate wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon **seventy years**."

JER 25:12 "*But when the seventy years are fulfilled*, I will punish the king of Babylon and his nation, the land of the Babylonians, for their guilt," declares the LORD, "and will make it desolate forever.<sup>13</sup> I will bring upon that land all the things I have spoken against it, all that are written in *this book and prophesied by Jeremiah* against all the nations.<sup>14</sup>"

They themselves will be enslaved by many nations and great kings; I will repay them according to their deeds and the work of their hands."

### **4/23/06 Lesson**

***\*\*\* REVIEW THAT THE "MEAT" OF CHAPTER 9 FLOWS FROM ONLY THE VERY LAST FOUR VERSES - (WHERE VERSES 1~19 ARE THE DEEP AND FERVENT PRAYER OF DANIEL TO GOD FOR REPENTANCE AND UNDERSTANDING AS DANIEL KNEW THAT THE SEVENTY YEARS OF CAPTIVITY WERE SCHEDULED TO CLOSE WITHIN THE YEAR). \*\*\****

- > First, let's establish the Biblical start and end years of the seventy-year captivity.
- > (NOTE) Today's lesson, in addition to bringing supporting facts to establishing the start and completion of the Babylonian captivity, also seeks to show the truth that Scripture supports and interprets itself – and secular historical writings add even more "cement" to solidly fix this fact.
- > Daniel knew this well – that's why he relied on the words of Jeremiah to guide him.
- > The captivity officially starts in 607 B.C. ...
- > READ THE REFERENCE OF THIS FROM THE ANALS OF THE WORLD Tab labeled: "607 B.C. Captivity Begins..." In 3 parts.

> Read Jeremiah 25:7~14 and 29:10~14...

> Let's put ourselves in Daniel's sandals and read part of the Word of God given through Jeremiah about the captivity in Babylon that you're now under:

JER 25:7 "But you did not listen to me," declares the LORD, "and you have provoked me with what your hands have made, and you have brought harm to yourselves."

JER 25:8 Therefore the LORD Almighty says this: "Because you have not listened to my words, <sup>9</sup> I will summon all the peoples of the north and my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon," declares the LORD, "and I will bring them against *this land and its inhabitants* and *against all the surrounding nations*. I will completely destroy them and make them an object of horror and scorn, and an everlasting ruin. <sup>10</sup> I will banish from them the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, the sound of millstones and the light of the lamp. <sup>11</sup> This whole country will become a desolate wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon **seventy years**."

JER 25:12 "*But when the seventy years are fulfilled*, I will punish the king of Babylon and his nation, the land of the Babylonians, for their guilt," declares the LORD, "and will make it desolate forever. <sup>13</sup> I will bring upon that land all the things I have spoken against it, all that are written in *this book and prophesied by Jeremiah* against all the nations. <sup>14</sup> They (Babylon) themselves will be enslaved by many nations and great kings; I will repay them according to their deeds and the work of their hands."

> Jeremiah 29:10~14...

JER 29:10 This is what the LORD says: "*When seventy years are completed for Babylon*, I will come to you and fulfill my gracious promise to bring you back to this place. <sup>11</sup> For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. <sup>12</sup> **Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.** <sup>13</sup> You will seek me and find me when you seek me **with all your heart.** <sup>14</sup> I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile."

> The year was 538 B.C. and Darius takes over the kingdom which Cyrus had conquered and given over to him.

> Read Daniel Chapter 9:1~3...

<sup>DA 9:1</sup> In the first year of Darius son of Xerxes (538 B.C.), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom (as it was turned over to him by Cyrus) -- <sup>2</sup> in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the LORD given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last **seventy years**.  
<sup>3</sup> So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.

> READ THE REFERENCE OF THIS FROM THE ANALS OF THE WORLD Tab labeled: "538~537B.C.: Captivity Ends"

> Here's what Isaiah said about the end of the seventy years (about 150 years before it actually took place)...

> Read Isaiah 23:15~18...

<sup>ISA 23:15</sup> At that time Tyre will be forgotten for seventy years, the span of a king's life. But at the end of these seventy years, it will happen to Tyre as in the song of the prostitute:

<sup>ISA 23:16</sup> "Take up a harp, walk through the city,  
O prostitute forgotten;  
play the harp well, sing many a song,  
so that you will be remembered."

<sup>ISA 23:17</sup> At the end of seventy years, the LORD will deal with Tyre. **She will return to her hire as a prostitute and will ply her trade with all the kingdoms on the face of the earth.** <sup>18</sup> Yet her profit and her earnings will be set apart for the LORD; they will not be stored up or hoarded. Her profits will go to those who live before the LORD, for abundant food and fine clothes.

> Read II Chronicles 36:20 and Ezra 1:2~4...

> Ezra wrote both II Chronicles and the book of Ezra.

> This is an excellent summary of the order from Cyrus for the Jews to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple...

> Let's read these verses as a single unit

<sup>2CH 36:20</sup> He carried into exile to Babylon the remnant, who escaped from the sword, and they became servants to him and his sons **until the kingdom of Persia came to power.**

<sup>21</sup> **The land enjoyed its Sabbath rests;** all the time of its desolation it rested, until the seventy years were completed in fulfillment of the word of the LORD **spoken by Jeremiah.**

<sup>2CH 36:22</sup> In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and to put it in writing:

<sup>2CH 36:23</sup> "This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:

" `The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Anyone of his people among you--may the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.' "

<sup>EZR 1:1</sup> **In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and to put it in writing:**

<sup>EZR 1:2</sup> "This is what Cyrus king of Persia says (*after the Lord so moved his heart*):

" `The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. <sup>3</sup> Anyone of his people among you--may his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem in Judah and build the temple of the LORD, the God of Israel, the God who is in Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> And the people of any place where survivors may now be living are to provide him with silver and gold, with goods and livestock, and with freewill offerings for the temple of God in Jerusalem.' "

> Isaiah said of Cyrus (about 200 years before he was even born!)

> Read Isaiah 44:24(b) and 44:28~...

I am the LORD,  
who has made all things,  
who alone stretched out the heavens,  
who spread out the earth by myself,

<sup>ISA 44:25</sup> who foils the signs of false prophets  
and makes fools of diviners,  
who overthrows the learning of the wise  
and turns it into nonsense,

<sup>ISA 44:26</sup> who carries out the words of his servants  
and fulfills the predictions of his messengers,

who says of Jerusalem, `It shall be inhabited,'

of the towns of Judah, 'They shall be built,'  
and of their ruins, 'I will restore them,'

ISA 44:27 who says to the watery deep, 'Be dry,  
and I will dry up your streams,'

ISA 44:28 who says of **Cyrus**, 'He is my shepherd  
and will accomplish all that I please;  
he will say of Jerusalem, "**Let it be rebuilt**,"

and of the temple, "**Let its foundations be laid**." '

> I hope you can clearly see that through Scripture *AND* secular historical documentation, we can truly establish the exact beginning and ending years of the seventy years of captivity

> (607 B.C.) – (537 B.C.) = 70 Years.

> Now, let's review, at a **high level**, this prophesy of these Seventy Weeks.

> Please turn to Daniel 9:23~27...

DA 9:23 As soon as you began to pray, an answer was given, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed. Therefore, consider the message and understand the vision:

DA 9:24 "Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy.

DA 9:25 "Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem (444 B.C.) until the Anointed One the ruler, comes, there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens' (7 weeks from King Artaxexes until the end of the O. T. period, then 62 weeks from the end of the O.T. period until Messiah's Triumphant entry in 33 A.D. - 69 weeks total). ' It (the City) will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble. <sup>26</sup> After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the **ruler who will come** (after Messiah is cut-off – the Antichrist) will destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. <sup>27</sup> He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven' (the Tribulation).! In the middle of the 'seven' (3.5 years) he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him. "

> (This is actually the end of chapter 9)

> “Seventy Sevens” facts:

- 70 weeks denotes weeks of years 1 week = 1 prophetic year of 360 days.

- The seventy weeks are divided into two major periods:

1. 69 weeks Clock starts in 444 B.C.

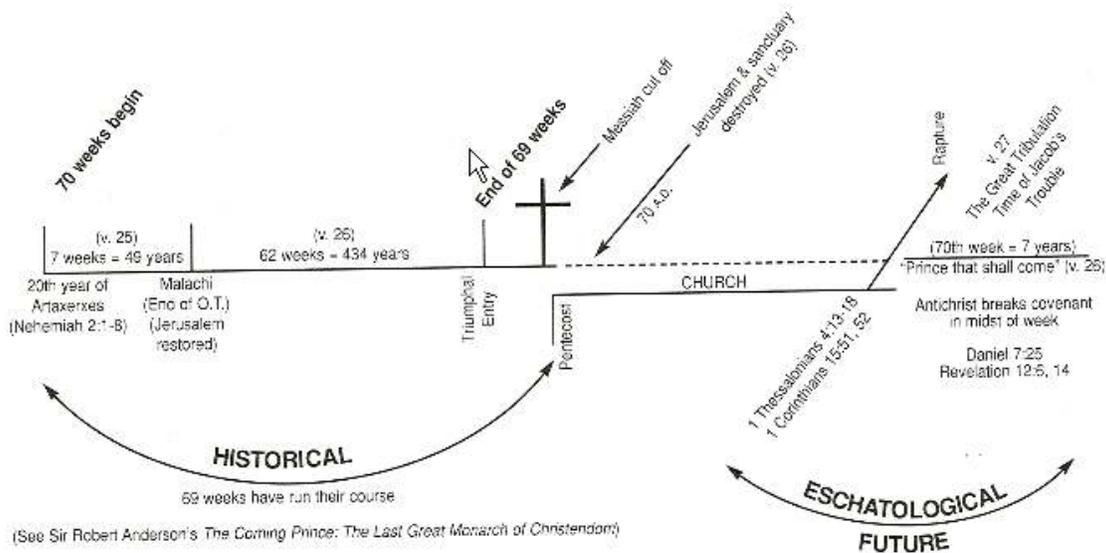
(483 year duration)

\* Church age begins as Messiah is “cut off”

(clock paused at 33 A.D.)

2. 7th week (clock resumes – 7-year Tribulation)

(7 year duration – The two periods added together equal the entire 490 prophetic years)



> Now, we’ll establish a timeline from Cyrus’ order to return the Jews from Babylon to Jerusalem (538 B.C.) to the order of King the book of Nehemiah.

> 538 B.C. - We know that the original order to rebuild the Temple came from Cyrus in 538 B.C., (he knew God had given him all the kingdoms of the earth (Ezra 1:2)

> Cyrus sent Zerubbabel (aka “Sheshbazzar”) with all of the temple vessels as the captain of the Jews who were returning to Jerusalem. *This is the official end of 70-year the Babylonian captivity.*

> 536 B.C. – On the fifth day of the seventh month the Israelites came from all their cities to Jerusalem observe the Feast of Trumpets. They built an alter and reinstated the daily morning and evening sacrifices.

> 536 B.C. – On the fifteenth day of that month they kept the Feast of Tabernacles.

> 535 B.C. – The Jews observe their first Sabbatical year after the captivity. The Temple foundation is completed.

> 535 B.C. – The Samaritans offer help. When refused, they bribe some of Cyrus’ officials and disrupt the work of building the Temple.

NOTE: It is because of this that Daniel now fasts during the entire Passover of 535 B.C. It was after this that he was given a great prophesy (by a very special “angel”!) of his people as written in Daniel chapters 10 and 11 (Daniel 10:14 introduces one of the most detailed prophecies in Scripture “Now **I** have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come...”

> 529 B.C. – Cyrus dies at the age of 70 years and leaves his kingdom to his two sons. The older, Cambyses reigns.

> 529 B.C. – Now that Cyrus is gone, the Samaritans become more bold and forceful in opposing the Jews rebuilding of The Temple.

- > 521 B.C. Cambyses dies – Artaxerxes takes the reign of the kingdom.
- > 521 B.C. - The Samaritans send a letter to Artaxerxes asking him to stop the Jews from rebuilding the city of Jerusalem – they say it is a wicked and evil place and that the Jews will never pay tribute to the kings of Persia.
- > 522 B.C. – Artaxerxes agrees and decrees that Jerusalem not be rebuilt until he gives the order to do so.
- > 522 B.C. – The Samaritans stop the rebuilding of the city *and the Temple*. They stopped all work until the second year of Darius
- > Ezra documented this as follows:
- > Read Ezra 4:12~4:24...

<sup>EZR 4:12</sup> The king should know that the Jews who came up to us from you have gone to Jerusalem and are rebuilding that rebellious and wicked city. They are restoring the walls and repairing the foundations.

<sup>EZR 4:13</sup> Furthermore, the king should know that if this city is built and its walls are restored, no more taxes, tribute or duty will be paid, and the royal revenues will suffer. <sup>14</sup> Now since we are under obligation to the palace and it is not proper for us to see the king dishonored, we are sending this message to inform the king, <sup>15</sup> so that a search may be made in the archives of your predecessors. In these records you will find that this city is a rebellious city, troublesome to kings and provinces, a place of rebellion from ancient times. That is why this city was destroyed. <sup>16</sup> We inform the king that if this city is built and its walls are restored, you will be left with nothing in Trans-Euphrates.

<sup>EZR 4:17</sup> The king sent this reply:

To Rehum the commanding officer, Shimshai the secretary and the rest of their associates living in Samaria and elsewhere in Trans-Euphrates:

Greetings.

<sup>EZR 4:18</sup> The letter you sent us has been read and translated in my presence. <sup>19</sup> I issued an order and a search was made, and it was found that this city has a long history of revolt against kings and has been a place of rebellion and sedition. <sup>20</sup> Jerusalem has had powerful kings ruling over the whole of Trans-Euphrates, and taxes, tribute and duty

were paid to them. <sup>21</sup> Now issue an order to these men to stop work, so that this city will not be rebuilt until I so order. <sup>22</sup> Be careful not to neglect this matter. Why let this threat grow, to the detriment of the royal interests?

EZR 4:23 As soon as the copy of the letter of King Artaxerxes was read to Rehum and Shimshai the secretary and their associates, they went immediately to the Jews in Jerusalem and compelled them by force to stop.

EZR 4:24 Thus the work on the house of God in Jerusalem came to a standstill until the second year of the reign of Darius king of Persia.

> 518 B.C.~510B.C. – The story of Queen Ester, Haman and Mordacai takes place, which is documented in the book of Esther.

> 520B.C. – Haggai encourages the Jews to preserve in the work of rebuilding the Temple with a promise of God’s presence and blessings.

> 519B.C. – Work again hindered. Elders say they are following an edict from Cyrus. History says that an investigation was made and a copy of this edict was found in the archives of *Ecbatana*.

> 519.B.C. – Artaxexes and Darius issue a second command to allow the temp to be rebuilt – using monies from the king’s tribute. The local “enforcement” under governor Tatnai was even ordered to pay for the daily sacrifices!

> 515 B.C. – In the sixth year of *Darius*, the Temple was completed.

> Ezra says of this in Ezra 6:13~18...

EZR 6:13 Then, because of the decree King Darius had sent, Tattenai, governor of Trans-Euphrates, and Shethar-Bozenai and their associates carried it out with diligence. <sup>14</sup> So the elders of the Jews continued to build and prosper under the preaching of Haggai the prophet and Zechariah, a descendant of Iddo. They finished building the temple according to the command of the God of Israel and the decrees of Cyrus, Darius and Artaxerxes, kings of Persia. <sup>15</sup> The temple was completed on the third day of the month Adar, in the sixth year of the reign of King Darius. Then the people of Israel--the priests, the Levites and the rest of the exiles--celebrated the dedication of the house of God with joy. <sup>17</sup> For the dedication of this house of God they offered a hundred bulls, two hundred

rams, four hundred male lambs and, as a sin offering for all Israel, twelve male goats, one for each of the tribes of Israel. <sup>18</sup> And they installed the priests in their divisions and the Levites in their groups for the service of God at Jerusalem, according to what is written in the Book of Moses.

> (DISCUSS) I want to pause a moment and ask you to imagine the joy and celebration of Ezra 6:16~18 as it will be applied to the rebuilding of the next Temple – the third, or “Tribulation Temple”!

> 444 B.C. – The order from king Artaxerxes to restore the city of Jerusalem goes out.

> Read Nehemiah’s account of this milestone:

> Read Nehemiah 2:1~8...

*(briefly review “working lunch” where Pastor Joel used Nehemiah as an example of not living in a distracted mode of life)*

<sup>NE 2:1</sup> In the month of Nisan in the twentieth year of King Artaxerxes, when wine was brought for him, I took the wine and gave it to the king. I had not been sad in his presence before; <sup>2</sup> so the king asked me, "Why does your face look so sad when you are not ill? This can be nothing but sadness of heart."

I was very much afraid, <sup>3</sup> but I said to the king, "May the king live forever! Why should my face not look sad when the city where my fathers are buried lies in ruins, and its gates have been destroyed by fire?"

<sup>NE 2:4</sup> The king said to me, "What is it you want?"

Then I prayed to the God of heaven, <sup>5</sup> and I answered the king, "If it pleases the king and if your servant has found favor in his sight, let him send me to the city in Judah where my fathers are buried so that I can rebuild it."

<sup>NE 2:6</sup> Then the king, with the queen sitting beside him, asked me, "How long will your journey take, and when will you get back?" It pleased the king to send me; so I set a time.

<sup>NE 2:7</sup> I also said to him, "If it pleases the king, may I have letters to the governors of Trans-Euphrates, so that they will provide me safe-conduct until I arrive in Judah? <sup>8</sup> And may I have a letter to Asaph, keeper of the king's forest, so he will give me timber to make beams for the gates of the citadel by the temple and for the city wall and for the residence I will occupy?" And because the gracious hand of my God was upon me, the king granted my requests. <sup>9</sup> So I went to the governors of Trans-Euphrates and gave them the king's letters. The king had also sent army officers and cavalry with me.

## 6/25/06 Lesson

> We left off last time with an explanation of the fact that the original earthly year was not the odd 365 ¼-day year we have now, but was, from creation through The Flood, an exact 360-day year.

> It is absolutely important to know this fact as we dig into the prophecies of Daniel chapter 9?

> Why?

1. To unravel the cryptic calculation God gave to us through Daniel about the prophetic timeline.

2. To further build our faith and trust as we can now even better see that Biblical prophecy is exactly on target as we see more clearly the accuracy of events as foretold by God through His prophets.

> We also detailed the timeline from the beginning of the seventy-year captivity in Babylon up until the second coming of Jesus.

> It is imperative to understand *both* this timeline and the 360-Day Prophetic Year to understand the prophecies in Daniel chapter 9.

> It is from 444 B.C., when the final “order” of King Artaxerxes to allow Nehemiah to rebuild Jerusalem, we begin to calculate the timeline of Daniel chapter 9.

> Read Daniel 9:24...

DA 9:24 "Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to finish transgression, to put an end to sin, to atone for wickedness, to bring in **everlasting righteousness**, to seal up (or, to complete) vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy.

> The Amplified version puts the verse this way:

DA 9:24 Seventy weeks [of years, or 490 years] are decreed upon your people and upon your holy city [Jerusalem], to **finish** and put **an end** to transgression, to **seal up and make full the measure of sin**, to

**purge away and make expiation and reconciliation for sin**, to bring in **everlasting righteousness** (permanent moral and spiritual rectitude in every area and relation) to **seal up vision and prophecy** and **prophet**, and to **anoint a Holy of Holies** (*Jesus IS the personification of the Holy of Holies!*).

> Let's review the "Seventy Sevens" facts:

- 70 weeks denotes weeks of years 1 week = 1 prophetic year of 360 days.
- "Seventy sevens" (70 x 7) = 490 prophetic years
- The seventy weeks are divided into two major periods:
  1. 69 weeks Clock starts in 444 B.C.  
(483 year duration)  
\* Church age begins as Messiah is "cut off"  
(clock paused at 33 A.D.)
  2. 70th week (clock resumes – 7-year Tribulation)  
(7 year duration – The two periods added together equal the entire 490 prophetic years)

> A week of years was used to measure the Jewish Sabbatical years, the neglect of which caused the Babylonian captivity of the Jews.

> Read Daniel 9:25...

DA 9:25 "Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem (444 B.C.) until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes (33 A.D.), there will be seven 'sevens,' and sixty-two 'sevens.' (a total of 69 weeks of years). It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble.

> Daniel 9:25 speaks of 69 weeks until the coming of Messiah.  
> These 69 weeks are 69 weeks total-up to 483 years. These are not our 365 day years, but 360-day prophetic years.

> Now that we know that Daniel's calculation is based on the prophetic year, we can easily do the math:

1. Multiply the 69 weeks of years (which is 483 years) by 360 (number of days in the prophetic year)...

$$483 \times 360 = 173,880 \text{ days}$$

2. Begin with the year 444 B.C. (when the order to rebuild the city was given by King Artaxerxes) and add the 173,880 days in the 483 (360-day prophetic years)...

$$444 + 173,880 = \text{A.D. } 33$$

> (ASK) What significant events happened in 33 A.D.?

> Read Matthew 21:1~11...

MT 21:1 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

MT 21:4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

MT 21:5 "Say to the Daughter of Zion,  
'See, your king comes to you,  
gentle and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.' "

MT 21:6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. <sup>7</sup> They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. <sup>8</sup> A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. <sup>9</sup> The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest!"

MT 21:10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

MT 21:11 The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

> Matthew 21:4 says :”this took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet”...

> Read Isaiah 62:11 –

ISA 62:11 The LORD has made proclamation  
to the ends of the earth:  
"Say to the Daughter of Zion,  
`See, your Savior comes!  
See, his reward is with him,  
and his recompense accompanies him.' "

> Read Zech. 9:9...

ZEC 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion!  
Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem!  
See, your king comes to you,  
righteous and having salvation,  
gentle and riding on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

> The year 33 A.D. saw:

- The Triumphal Entry of the King of the Jews into Jerusalem
- The death and burial of Jesus (Messiah “cut-off and having nothing)
- The Resurrection and
- The sending of the Holy Spirit/Pentecost which marked the beginning of the Church of “The Way”

> Daniel was given the timeline to the year of THE most important events in the history of the universe – 33 A.D.!

> The prophecy of Daniel works out in wonderful and undisputable fashion!

> Continue with Daniel 9:26~27...

<sup>26</sup> After the sixty-two 'sevens,' the Anointed One will be <sup>1</sup>cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will <sup>2</sup>destroy the city and the sanctuary. The end will come like a flood: War will continue until the end, and desolations have been decreed. <sup>27</sup> <sup>5,7</sup>He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' (3.5 years – *this marks the beginning of the Great Tribulation*) he will put an end to <sup>3,4</sup>sacrifice and offering. And <sup>6</sup>on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him. "

> Verses 26 and 27 details what will follow the coming of Messiah:

1. The Messiah will die (v.26)
2. The Temple will be destroyed (v.26)
3. Israel will be restored (v.27)
4. The Temple will be rebuilt (v.27)
5. The Antichrist will confirm a covenant or treaty (v.27)
6. The Temple will be desecrated (v.27)
7. The Jews will be persecuted (v.27)

> Some of these prophecies have already been fulfilled:

- Jesus was crucified (33 A.D.)
- The second Temple was destroyed (70 A.D.)
- Israel restored (1948 A.D.)

> The balance of them is yet to be completed.

> In verse 27, Daniel says "In the middle of the 'seven' he (the Antichrist) will put an end to sacrifice and offering.

> The sacrificial systems for the Jews was stopped in 70 A.D., as Jews know that animal sacrifices can only be performed within the context of a fully-outfitted Temple in its rightful place in the City of Jerusalem – the Temple Mount.

> (ASK) Does a Temple stand in Jerusalem now? What must be in place before a Temple in Jerusalem can be built again?

A. The Jews must be back in the land of Israel (1948) and they also must be in control of the Temple Mount (1967).

> The Six-day War in 1967 yielded the Temple Mount back into the hands of the Jews. This re-gaining of the Temple Mount was 2,000 years in the making!

> (ASK) What is the state of this most sacred piece of real estate now?

A. The day after the Jews won the Six-day War, then General Moshe Diane, in order to not “provoke” yet another Arab invasion, gave back control and administration to the Arabs – *however, the Nation of Israel still owns the entire site.*

> What does all this mean? The seventieth “week of years” has not yet begun.

> From the time Messiah is “cut-off” until *this very minute*, God has built-in a “truce” or “pause” if you will.

> (ASK) What is this “truce” and what its common name? AND, why is it important to you and me?

> A. This “truce” is the Dispensation of **Grace** – The Church Age.

> (ASK) Why did God build in this period of grace?

> (ASK) When did it start – when will it end? How?

> Our endeavor to parse the Book of Daniel has been quite a ride! I think one of the most intense parts was our journey through the

super condensed content stuffed into just the last four verses in chapter 9!

> Next week we will enter Daniel chapter 10.

### **7/2/06 Lesson**

> Today we are going to start exploring chapter 10.

> In the first year of Darius, Daniel had a vision and Gabriel told him about the seventy weeks – this was chapter 9.

> Please turn to Daniel chapter ten...

> As we enter chapter ten, it is the third year of King Cyrus (Dan 10:1) – about four years since the events of chapter nine.

> Daniel again prays deeply and fasts and is then granted another vision where he supernaturally visited.

> Read Daniel 10:1~9

<sup>DA 10:1</sup> In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia, a revelation was given to Daniel (who was called Belteshazzar). Its message was true and it concerned a great war. The understanding of the message came to him in a vision.

<sup>DA 10:2</sup> At that time I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. <sup>3</sup> I ate no choice food; no meat or wine touched my lips; and I used no lotions at all until the three weeks were over.

<sup>DA 10:4</sup> On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river, the Tigris, <sup>5</sup> I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of the finest gold around his waist. <sup>6</sup> His body was like chrysolite, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude.

<sup>DA 10:7</sup> I, Daniel, was the only one who saw the vision; the men with me did not see it, but such terror overwhelmed them that they fled and hid themselves. <sup>8</sup> So I was left alone, gazing at this great vision; I had no strength left, my face turned deathly pale and I was helpless. <sup>9</sup> Then I heard him speaking, and as I listened to him, I fell into a deep sleep, my face to the ground.

> Let's compare Daniel's encounter here with the encounter in chapter 9...

> Read Daniel 9:20~23...

DA 9:20 While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and making my request to the LORD my God for his holy hill-- <sup>21</sup> while I was still in prayer, Gabriel, the man I had seen in the earlier vision, came to me in swift flight about the time of the evening sacrifice. <sup>22</sup> He instructed me and said to me, "Daniel, I have now come to give you insight and understanding. <sup>23</sup> As soon as you began to pray, an answer was given, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed. Therefore, consider the message and understand the vision...

> Daniel knows from prior experience that this is the angel Gabriel. It seems as though Daniel is getting used to this sort of thing.

> Let's take a look at his encounter in chapter ten...

> Read Daniel 10:4~10:12...

DA 10:4 On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river, the Tigris, <sup>5</sup> I looked up and there before me was a man dressed in linen, with a belt of the finest gold around his waist. <sup>6</sup> His body was like chrysolite, his face like lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and his voice like the sound of a multitude (AMP: of people or the roaring sea).  
DA 10:7 I, Daniel, was the only one who saw the vision; the men with me did not see it, but such terror overwhelmed them that they fled and hid themselves. <sup>8</sup> So I was left alone, gazing at this great vision; I had no strength left, my face turned deathly pale and I was helpless. <sup>9</sup> Then I heard him speaking, and as I listened to him, I fell into a deep sleep, my face to the ground.

DA 10:10 A hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. <sup>11</sup> He said, "Daniel, you who are highly esteemed, consider carefully the words I am about to speak to you, and stand up, for I have now been sent to you." And when he said this to me, I stood up trembling.

DA 10:12 Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel.

> Note that Daniel trembles in fear during this encounter like never before in any of the others – such is the power of the presence in this particular instance.

> Please turn to Revelation 11:10~18...

> We are going to read of a special supernatural encounter that John experienced while on the Isle of Patmos...

<sup>10</sup> On the Lord's Day I was in the Spirit, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet, <sup>11</sup> which said: "Write on a scroll what you see and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus, Smyrna, Pergamum, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia and Laodicea."

<sup>REV 1:12</sup> I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned I saw seven golden lampstands, <sup>13</sup> and among the lampstands was someone "like a son of man," dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. <sup>14</sup> His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. <sup>15</sup> His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters. <sup>16</sup> In his right hand he held seven stars, and out of his mouth came a sharp double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance.

<sup>REV 1:17</sup> When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. Then he placed his right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup> I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

> (ASK) Do the supernatural encounters that Daniel and John had have any similarities?

> In Revelation 1:13, John explicitly states that the being he saw was "'like a son of man," - and he should know because, unlike Daniel, John knew The Son of Man personally!

> The point in making the comparison between Daniel's and John's special visitations is to bring out the fact that many theologians believe that Daniel's encounter in chapter ten was none other than the pre-incarnate Jesus Christ.

> However, if we look again at Daniel's description, the visitor's body was like Crysolite.

> The KJV puts this as "Beryl".

> The Beryl is the ore from which the metal Beryllium is refined and possesses a beautiful bluish color.

> Also, in verse five we are told that this being was dressed in linen and not a robe, as John sees in his vision.

> (ASK) So, what do *you* think? Did Daniel have another visit from the angel Gabriel or from Jesus, Himself (*pre- or post incarnate*)?

> I'll leave that for you to decide!

> Nevertheless, both Daniel, like John was brought to his knees during this spectacular and powerful visit.

> Continuing in Daniel 10:12~14...

DA 10:12 Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. <sup>13</sup> But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the **king of Persia**. <sup>14</sup> Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come."

> (ASK) Let's stop and ponder this for a moment...

> (ASK) When are we told Daniel's vision takes place? (Hint: have someone read chapter 10:1 In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia...)

> Cyrus was the King of Persia at that time.

> (ASK/DISCUSS) How is it possible for a mere human (which Cyrus definitely was) to hinder any supernatural being from doing anything?

> A: It isn't possible!

> (ASK) So, who could it be that had the power to hinder Daniel's visitor – to where it took the angel Michael to assist to free-up the heavenly messenger so that he could get to Daniel?

> (DISCUSS):

1. Persia is modern day Iran
2. Islam has a God whose name is Allah
3. Iran and the worshippers of this Allah are hell-bent on the destruction of God's people (Jews and Christians)
4. Satan is now...

> As Paul puts it in Ephesians and John puts it in his book...

KJV Eph 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

John 12:31 Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out.

> We are told in Ephesians 6:12 (AMP)...

AMP EPH 6:12 For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere.

> Conclusion: The kings of this world are kings by title only. In reality, they are pawns of prince of this world and his hierarchy until the day he is driven out for good.

> Behind the earthly political scene is a higher, spiritual political scene working. Politicians are pawns in the game of spiritual warfare.

### **7/16/06 Lesson**

> Review Daniel 10:12~14...

DA 10:12 Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. <sup>13</sup> But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the **king of Persia**."

The kings of this world are kings by title only. In reality, they are pawns of prince of this world and his hierarchy until the day he is driven out for good.

> Behind the earthly political scene is a higher, spiritual political scene working. Politicians are pawns in the game of spiritual warfare.

> The focal point is what Daniel heard from Gabriel before (verse 14)...

<sup>14</sup> Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future, for the vision concerns a time yet to come."

> In this particular revelation, Daniel didn't just have a vision or a dream, he was confronted in "real life" by this heavenly visitor

(again, we can guess if it's again Gabriel, or Jesus Himself (as the resurrected Jesus Christ or the pre-incarnate Word).

> Remember, this visitor required Michael's assistance and was probably going back to continue the battle alongside Michael.

> Let's review what the visitor said to Daniel during his time there...

> Daniel 10:14 says...

<sup>14</sup> Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people *in the future*, for the vision concerns a *time yet to come*."

> Something to ponder as we go along: Even though Daniel's prayer was answered immediately, we are told in verse 13 that he was *made to wait* twenty-one days.

> Remember that Daniel's "chapter ten experience" occurs only about four years after the revelation of the seventy weeks in chapter nine.

> You'll recall in chapter nine that after much prayer (almost the entire chapter was this prayer!), Gabriel visits Daniel and explains in verse 24...

DA 9:24 "Seventy 'sevens' are decreed for your people and your holy city to **finish transgression**, to **put an end to sin**, to **atone for wickedness**, to **bring in everlasting righteousness**, to **seal up vision and prophecy** and **to anoint the most holy**.

POINT: The "seventy sevens", or weeks of years is the timeframe to complete *all* of the events in this dispensation of time. This timeframe is the sum total and ends all sin and brings in Jesus Christ with the government is put upon His shoulders for eternity – ***Do not underestimate the full import of Daniel 9:24!***

> You will remember that there is a gap in these seventy weeks that Daniel didn't know about.

- > Sixty-nine of these weeks of years pass (from King Artaxerxes decree to rebuild Jerusalem after the captivity, until Messiah is “cut-off and has nothing” in 33AD)
- > But then there’s a pause, or “parenthesis”.
- > (ASK) What is that pause? (A. The Church Age)
- > (ASK) How long is this pause to be? (A. We don’t know, but it should be about two-thousand years!)
- > POINT: Could it be that Daniel’s twenty-one day prayer is indicative of twenty one centuries of the Church Age?
- > Since Jesus was “cut-off”, the Gospel has been preached AND the Church has been waiting for, and anticipating her “response” to her prayers!
- >(ASK) What’s your *single most important* prayer today? (A. For us to be taken Home!)
- > When the Church age is complete, what follows? (A. The Tribulation)
- > ... Which is the resuming of the clock, the close of the pause – and the last (seventieth) week commences!
- > (ASK) If you look at history, and now, even more than ever, current events, Where does the “bulk” of evil political and religious activity occur? (A. the Middle East, India, and Asia)
- > Modern-day Israel is the ONLY bastion of light (albeit secular “light”) in that whole region – and before Israel was restored back in 1948, That land was just another part of the Arab/Muslim region.

## 7/22/06 Lesson

> Let's continue with Daniel 10:16~19...

<sup>16</sup> Then one who looked like a man touched my lips, and I opened my mouth and began to speak. I said to the one standing before me, "I am overcome with anguish because of the vision, my lord, and I am helpless. <sup>17</sup> How can I, your servant, talk with you, my lord? My strength is gone and I can hardly breathe."

<sup>DA 10:18</sup> Again the one who looked like a man touched me and gave me strength. <sup>19</sup> "Do not be afraid, O man highly esteemed," he said. "Peace! Be strong now; be strong."

When he spoke to me, I was strengthened and said, "Speak, my lord, since you have given me strength." <sup>DA 10:20</sup> So he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? Soon I will return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I go, the prince of Greece will come;

> We see that, after his special mission to Daniel, this being will have to return to the fight in Persia against one of Satan's emissaries of higher rank and power (noted in verse 13 as the "prince of the kingdom of Persia" – and then Greece comes into the picture.

> Now, you remember the order of the gentile world governments in Nebbie's dream of the statue –

BABYLON  
MEDO-PERSIA  
GREECE  
ROME/REVIVED ROME

> It's interesting that this being says that after he fights in Persia, his next encounter will be the "kingdom" of Greece – right on schedule!

> The implication is that the fight will go on – even until the end of time.

> Continuing in verse 21...

<sup>21</sup> ..but first I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. (No one supports me against them except Michael, *your* prince. <sup>1</sup> And in the first year of Darius the Mede, I took my stand to support and protect him.)

> (ASK) What is the angel Michael's assignment? (A. Protector of Israel)

> If you look at Daniel 11:1, which we just read, it seems that at a point four years prior, Gabriel stood with Michael to assist and ready him for the battles in Persia and beyond. There seems to be a reciprocal relationship of assistance between them.

> An interesting point is that the chapter nine revelation to Daniel occurred (the "Seventy Weeks of Years" timeline) in that same year.

> Read Daniel 11:2...

<sup>DA 11:2</sup> "Now then, I tell you the truth: Three more kings will appear in Persia, and then a fourth, who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece.

> Chapter 10 sets the stage to prepare Daniel for more revelation of critical truth about the future of Israel that involves Persia and Greece.

> Chapter eleven deals with the rise of the Antichrist (*which we saw in chapters eight and nine*).

> We discussed this earlier, but it seems that chapters eight, nine and eleven try to show us the *lineage* of the antichrist.

> Read chapter 9:25~26...

DA 9:25 "Know and understand this: From the issuing of the decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until the Anointed One, the ruler, comes, there will be seven `sevens,' and sixty-two `sevens.' It will be rebuilt with streets and a trench, but in times of trouble.<sup>26</sup> After the sixty-two `sevens,' the Anointed One will be cut off and will have nothing. The people of the ruler who will come will destroy the city and the sanctuary.

> (ASK) When was Messiah “cut-off? (33 A.D.)

> (ASK) When was Temple destroyed after Messiah? (70 A.D.)

> (ASK) By whom? (Vespasian and his son Titus – the Romans)

> So, we know that the Antichrist will be of Roman lineage - to include all of the royal bloodline of Europe.

> However, we also know that he comes out of Alexander the Great (Greece)...

> Review Daniel 8:19~25...

DA 8:19 He said: "I am going to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath, because the vision concerns the appointed time of the end.<sup>20</sup> The two-horned ram that you saw represents the kings of Media and Persia.<sup>21</sup> The shaggy goat is the king of Greece, and the large horn between his eyes is the first king.<sup>22</sup> The four horns that replaced the one that was broken off (*Alexander the Great*) represent four kingdoms that will emerge from his nation but will not have the same power (*Alexander's four generals*).

DA 8:23 "In the latter part of their reign, when rebels have become completely wicked, a stern-faced king, a master of intrigue, will arise.<sup>24</sup> He will become very strong, but not by his own power. He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy the mighty men and the holy people.<sup>25</sup> He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. When they feel secure, he will destroy many and **take his stand against the Prince of princes** (*the Antichrist*). Yet he will be destroyed, but not by human power.

> How do we put all this together? This is the message given to Daniel in chapter eleven.

> Chapter eleven primarily deals with Syria and Egypt, until finally we see this vile person stand up and take his place as the Antichrist.

> Read Chapter 11:2~4...

<sup>DA 11:2</sup> "Now then, I tell you the truth: Three *more* kings will appear in Persia (*the current setting is in the third year of Cyrus*), and then a *fourth*, who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece.

> Here's those three kings who will rule Persia (after Cyrus dies)

(Cyrus passes away in 529 B.C.)

1-King Ahasuarus

2-King Artexeses

3-King Darius (Hystopsis - 485 B.C.)

4-Xexses (480 B.C.) Warlike super mega-ruler who wanted to move his empire to the west – and wipe out Greece.

> Read Daniel 11:3~4...

<sup>3</sup> Then a mighty king will appear, who will rule with great power and do as he pleases. <sup>4</sup> After he has appeared, his empire will be broken up and parceled out toward the *four winds of heaven*. *It will not go to his descendants, nor will it have the power he exercised, because his empire will be uprooted and given to others.*

> Here we are presented again with none other than Alexander the Great.

> So, we start the prophecies of this chapter at the point of the Persians kings which follow Cyrus (the current ruler during Daniel's visitation), on into the Dominance of Greece over Persia by Alexander the Great

- > Because the Xerxes tried to invade and ruin Greece, Greece developed a deep, almost religious hatred for the Persian people.
- > Foremost in Alexander the Great's mind was to go back and take Persia.
- > But Alexander didn't last long as you remember, and his kingdom was left to his four generals.
- > You may also remember that two of those generals became very prominent:

1. Seleucus was given land that stretched from east of Asia Minor, to India and south into the Holy Land (Assyrian territory)
2. Ptolomy – Given power over North Africa, all of Egypt, Libia, Ethiopia and onto the Straits of Gibraltar.

> > Note that Daniel 8:9 says that Seleucus is “little horn” to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land...

> Read Daniel 8:

<sup>DA 8:9</sup> Out of one of them came another horn, which started small but grew in power to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land. <sup>10</sup> It grew until it reached the host of the heavens, and it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them. <sup>11</sup> It set itself up to be as great as the Prince of the host; it took away the daily sacrifice from him, and the place of his sanctuary was brought low. <sup>12</sup> Because of rebellion, the host of the saints and the daily sacrifice were given over to it. It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground.

> The original Assyrian was Seleucus. All of his dynastic successors controlled the land of Assyria.

> Out of this Assyrian dynasty came Antiochus IV Epiphanies who in 168 B.C overthrew the Temple, profaned it filled it with statuary, including a statue of Zeus. He sacrificed a sow and profaned the alter the sow's blood.

> Antiochus IV Epiphanies wanted to be the new god of the universe – and where better to accomplish that than at the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

### **7/30/06 Lesson**

> Review...

DA 10:20 So he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? Soon I will return to fight against the prince of Persia, and when I go, the prince of Greece will come; <sup>21</sup> but first I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. (No one supports me against them except Michael, your prince. <sup>1</sup> And in the first year of Darius the Mede, I took my stand to support and protect him.)

DA 11:2 "Now then, I tell you the truth: Three more kings will appear in Persia, and then a fourth, who will be far richer than all the others. When he has gained power by his wealth, he will stir up everyone against the kingdom of Greece. <sup>3</sup> Then a mighty king will appear, who will rule with great power and do as he pleases. <sup>4</sup> After he has appeared, his empire will be broken up and parceled out toward the four winds of heaven. It will not go to his descendants, nor will it have the power he exercised, because his empire will be uprooted and given to others.

> There is a point that needs stressing...

> It seems strongly that this chapter is written specifically to the Jews, in that as they pass down their history from the very early days of Abram, all the way through until the current time...

> ...they will have been – and will be – reading the Book of Daniel, and specifically, Daniel chapter eleven.

> They will have secular sources of Jewish history, such as one that we've used during our study time-and-again, Flavious Josephus' writings...

> Specifically, "The Antiquity of the Jews" (book XII covers the period from the death of Alexander the Great to the death of Judas

Maccabeus – who recovered the city and Temple from Antiochus’ siege and desecration.

> They will know the history of Alexander the Great and his kingdom’s segway into the hand of his most prominent generals, Seleucus and Ptolomy.

> The key point for the Jews studying prophecy will apply their history to it and see...

> that these two generals battled each other across the Holy Land, the Seleucids to the north and the Ptolomeys to the south...

> Until the Ptolomeys faded away leaving the Seleucids – the Seleucids final fading away...

> When the smoke cleared, one man was left standing tall and prominent in the Jewish history – and in Scripture...

> Antiochus IV Epiphanies – *the very fore type of the soon-to-come Antichrist*. AND his yet-to-come counter-part the real Antichrist.

> To stay on track, let’s review what Daniel was told about Antiochus IV Epiphanies *and* by extension the Antichrist...

> Read Daniel 8:5~26...

<sup>DA 8:5</sup> As I was thinking about this, suddenly a goat with a prominent horn between his eyes came from the west, crossing the whole earth without touching the ground. <sup>6</sup> He came toward the two-horned ram I had seen standing beside the canal and charged at him in great rage. <sup>7</sup> I saw him attack the ram furiously, striking the ram and shattering his two horns. The ram was powerless to stand against him; the goat knocked him to the ground and trampled on him, and none could rescue the ram from his power. <sup>8</sup> The goat became very great, but at the height of his power his large horn was broken off, and in its place four prominent horns grew up toward the four winds of heaven.

DA 8:9 Out of one of them came another horn, which started small but grew in power to the south and to the east and toward the Beautiful Land. <sup>10</sup> It grew until it reached the host of the heavens, and it threw some of the starry host down to the earth and trampled on them. <sup>11</sup> It set itself up to be as great as the Prince of the host; it took away the daily sacrifice from him, and the place of his sanctuary was brought low. <sup>12</sup> Because of rebellion, the host of the saints and the daily sacrifice were given over to it. It prospered in everything it did, and truth was thrown to the ground.

DA 8:13 Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to him, "How long will it take for the vision to be fulfilled--the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, **the rebellion that causes desolation**, and the surrender of the sanctuary and of the host that will be trampled underfoot?"

> Interject Jesus Himself confirming the seriousness of the days of both the fore-type of Antichrist and the latter, more intense persecutions of the latter, full-fledged Antichrist himself...

> Read Matthew 24:14~15...

<sup>14</sup> And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

MT 24:15 "So when you see standing in the holy place 'the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of **through the prophet Daniel**--let the reader understand-- <sup>16</sup> then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

> Returning to Daniel 8:14...

DA 8:14 He said to me, "It will take 2,300 evenings and mornings; then the sanctuary will be reconsecrated."

DA 8:15 While I, Daniel, was watching the vision and trying to understand it, there before me stood one who looked like a man. <sup>16</sup> And I heard a man's voice from the Ulai calling, "Gabriel, tell this man the meaning of the vision."

DA 8:17 As he came near the place where I was standing, I was terrified and fell prostrate. "Son of man," he said to me, "understand that the vision concerns the time of the end."

DA 8:18 While he was speaking to me, I was in a deep sleep, with my face to the ground. Then he touched me and raised me to my feet.

DA 8:19 He said: "I am going to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath, because the vision concerns the appointed time of the end. <sup>20</sup> The two-horned ram that

you saw represents the kings of Media and Persia. <sup>21</sup> The shaggy goat is the king of Greece, and the large horn between his eyes is the first king. <sup>22</sup> The four horns that replaced the one that was broken off represent four kingdoms that will emerge from his nation but will not have the same power.

DA 8:23 **"In the latter part** of their reign, **when rebels have become completely wicked**, a stern-faced king, a master of intrigue, will arise. <sup>24</sup> He will become very strong, but **not by his own power**. He will cause astounding devastation and will succeed in whatever he does. He will destroy the mighty men and the holy people. <sup>25</sup> He will cause deceit to prosper, and he will consider himself superior. When they feel secure, he will destroy many and take his stand against the Prince of princes. Yet he will be destroyed, **but not by human power**.

DA 8:26 "The vision of the evenings and mornings that has been given you is true, but seal up the vision, for it concerns the distant future."

> A last point of Antiochus and Antichrist comparison is found in Daniel 7:23~25...

DA 7:23 "He gave me this explanation: 'The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth. It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it. <sup>24</sup> The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings. <sup>25</sup> He will speak against the Most High and oppress his saints and try to **change the set times and the laws**. The saints will be handed over to him for a time, times and half a time.

> So, remember that chapter eleven seeks to show, among other things that the Antichrist's lineage is not only Roman, *but even more closely* through Greece via Alexander the Great, Seleucus and the main character Aniochus IV Epiphanes.

> (DISCUSS) Now, imagine you are a Jew, in these latter days - being able to making the sense of all of this because so much time and history has passed since Daniel's writings!

> You would probably be astounded as to the accuracy of what was predicted as documented history bares it all out – and would ponder that, on this accuracy, the future track for you and your people will be just as accurate – and is just around the bend!

> It is written that all of this was to be sealed-up from understanding until the time of the end! – But **now** you *can* understand it all!

> Chapter eleven gives a “dynastic” bloodline to the Antichrist that can be checked by future generations.

> Continuing in verse 11:5...

<sup>DA 11:5</sup> "The king of the South will become strong, but one of his commanders (princes) will become even stronger than he and will rule his own kingdom with great power.

> The “king of the South” is Ptolomey, who was the king over of Egypt at that time. He pressed against Seleucus who finally did prevail over Ptolomey.

> Continuing in verse 11:6...

<sup>6</sup> After some years, they will become allies. The daughter of the king of the South will go to the king of the North to make an alliance, but she will not retain her power, and he and his power will not last. In those days she will be handed over, together with her royal escort and her father and the one who supported her.

> Ptolomey II (second ruler of the Ptolemaic Dynasty in Egypt) brought his daughter Bernice to Antiochus Theos of Syria as a marriage pledge. Both she and Antiochus Theos were only seven years old.

> They were married at twelve and later killed which touched-off another battle.

> Continuing in verse 11:7...

DA 11:7 "One from her family line will arise to take her place. He will attack the forces of the king of the North and enter his fortress; he will fight against them and be victorious.

> This is about Ptolemy III Euergetes (third ruler of the Ptolemaic Dynasty in Egypt), Bernice's brother, who held great hatred for the Seleucids and wanted to avenge the death of his sister and reeked havoc upon the north.

> Continuing in verse 11:8~14...

<sup>8</sup> He will also seize their gods, their metal images and their valuable articles of silver and gold and carry them off to Egypt. For some years he will leave the king of the North alone. <sup>9</sup> Then the king of the North will invade the realm of the king of the South but will retreat to his own country. <sup>10</sup> His sons will prepare for war and assemble a great army, which will sweep on like an irresistible flood and carry the battle as far as his fortress. DA 11:11 "Then the king of the South will march out in a rage and fight against the king of the North, who will raise a large army, but it will be defeated. <sup>12</sup> When the army is carried off, the king of the South will be filled with pride and will slaughter many thousands, yet he will not remain triumphant. <sup>13</sup> For the king of the North will muster another army, larger than the first; and after several years, he will advance with a huge army fully equipped.

DA 11:14 "In those times many will rise against the king of the South. The violent men among your own people will rebel in fulfillment of the vision, but without success.

> In summary, verses five through fourteen details events about 250 years yet future to Daniel's current time (which is about the 538 B.C. timeframe).

> What is detailed in these verses in chapter 11 is a long (yet future to Daniel) history of the intense warring back-and-forth between the Seleucid and the Ptolemaic dynasties.

> So, the Seleucids are in the north, the Ptolemy's are in the south – and because of it's geographic position, poor Israel gets the brunt of fighting.

> Now Daniel 11:15 we come to Antiochus I Soter The Great –

### **9/3/06 Lesson**

> Read Daniel 11:15~16...

<sup>15</sup> Then the king of the North will come and build up siege ramps and will capture a fortified city. The forces of the South will be powerless to resist; even their best troops will not have the strength to stand. <sup>16</sup> The invader will do as he pleases; no one will be able to stand against him. He will establish himself in the Beautiful Land and will have the power to destroy it.

> After Antiochus I The Great came a couple of Seleucus', but Daniel specifically mentions Seleucus Philopater. His lifelong desire was to raise a great army. To help fund this dream, he greatly taxed his kingdom - and Israel...

> Read Daniel 11:20...

<sup>DA 11:20</sup> "His (Antiochus I The Great) successor (Seleucus Philopater) will send out a tax collector to maintain the royal splendor. In a few years, however, he will be destroyed, yet not in anger or in battle.

> ... He did indeed not die in anger or battle. History shows that he just died.

> We then follow into verse 21, where the focal-point, Antiochus IV Epiphanes comes on the scene...

> This is the “big guy” – this is the man who Daniel dwells on and makes to prefigure the “ultimate big guy” – the coming Antichrist.

> You may remember that Antiochus IV Epiphanes (again a decedant of Alexander The Great) was the original desecrator of the Temple when in 168 BC, (during the inter-testimal period between Malachi and Matthew) he sacrificed a pig on the alter.

> You will also remember that Mattathias the Hasmonean and his son Judah Maccabee “The Hammer” and his band finally won back the Temple, cleansed and rededicated it. They relit the Menorah but had only one day’s supply of oil for the lamps. But God made it last for eight days – this is the story behind Chanukah.

> Read Daniel 11:21~23...

DA 11:21 "He will be succeeded by a contemptible person who has not been given the honor of royalty. He will invade the kingdom when its people feel secure, and he will seize it through intrigue. <sup>22</sup> Then an overwhelming army will be swept away before him; both it and a prince of the covenant will be destroyed. <sup>23</sup> After coming to an agreement with him, he will act deceitfully, and with only a few people he will rise to power.

> History shows that Antiochus IV Epiphanies came in to Israel gloriously and in honor. He bedazzled them with pomp, circumstance and goodness.

> The Jews took to him and thought that he was benevolent – they were almost all set to worship him as their leader, until 171 B.C when he started to persecute them. In 168 B.C. he went into the Temple and desecrated it.

> BTW, Antiochus took all of the golden implements, including the Menorah (sound familiar?). When the Macabees rededicated the Temple, the Menorah was still gone. They made one out of lead (for lack of any gold). It is the lamps of this leaden Menorah that God blessed to burn eight days on one days supply of oil.

> KEY POINT: From verse 21 forward the subject is not only Antiochus IV Epiphanies but the future fulfillment of this “man of sin”, the coming Antichrist. The text blends together both this foreshadow and the latter fulfillment of the Antichrist.

> The clear indication is that they are both of the same *bloodline* and *dynasty*.

> Read Daniel 11:24~36a...

<sup>24</sup> When the richest provinces feel secure, he will invade them and will achieve what neither his fathers nor his forefathers did. He will distribute plunder, loot and wealth among his followers. He will plot the overthrow of fortresses--but only for a time.

DA 11:25 "With a large army he will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South. The king of the South will wage war with a large and very powerful army, but he will not be able to stand because of the plots devised against him. <sup>26</sup> Those who eat from the king's provisions will try to destroy him; his army will be swept away, and many will fall in battle. <sup>27</sup> The two kings, with their hearts bent on evil, will sit at the same table and lie to each other, but to no avail, because an end will still come at the appointed time. <sup>28</sup> The king of the North will return to his own country with great wealth, but his heart will be set against the holy covenant. He will take action against it and then return to his own country.

DA 11:29 "At the appointed time he will invade the South again, but this time the outcome will be different from what it was before. <sup>30</sup> Ships of the western coastlands will oppose him, and he will lose heart. Then he will turn back and vent his fury against the holy covenant. He will return and show favor to those who forsake the holy covenant.

DA 11:31 "His armed forces will rise up to *desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice*. Then they will set up the abomination that causes desolation. <sup>32</sup> **With flattery he will corrupt those who have violated the covenant, but the people who know their God will firmly resist him.**

DA 11:33 "Those who are wise will instruct many, though for a time they will fall by the sword or be burned or captured or plundered. <sup>34</sup> When they fall, they will receive a little help, and many who are not sincere will join them. <sup>35</sup> Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined, purified and made spotless until the time of the end, for it will still come at the appointed time. DA 11:36 "The king will do as he pleases..."

> Read Revelation 13:3b~14...

The whole world was astonished and followed the beast. <sup>4</sup> Men worshiped the dragon because he had given authority to the beast, and they also worshiped the beast and asked, "Who is like the beast? Who can make war against him?"

REV 13:5 The beast was given a mouth to utter proud words and blasphemies and to exercise his authority for forty-two months. <sup>6</sup> He opened his mouth to blaspheme God, and to slander his name and his dwelling place and those who live in heaven. <sup>7</sup> He was given power to make war against the saints and to conquer them. And he was given authority over every tribe, people, language and nation. <sup>8</sup> All inhabitants of the earth will worship the beast--all whose names have not been written in the book of life belonging to the Lamb that was slain from the creation of the world.

> Skipping to verse 11...

<sup>REV 13:11</sup> Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. He had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon. <sup>12</sup> He exercised all the authority of the first beast on his behalf, and made the earth and its inhabitants worship the first beast, whose fatal wound had been healed. <sup>13</sup> And he performed great and miraculous signs, even causing fire to come down from heaven to earth in full view of men. <sup>14</sup> Because of the signs he was given power to do on behalf of the first beast, he deceived the inhabitants of the earth.

> Somewhere, at some time (and it looks to be soon!) there will be a son or descendent of European royalty with Seleucid blood in his veins, who will stand up as “the willful king” – the Antichrist.

> It was given to Daniel to tell this story – it is given to the Jew, and *us* to understand!

> Read verse 28...

<sup>28</sup> The king of the North will return to his own country with great wealth, but his heart will be set against the holy covenant. He will take action against it and then return to his own country.

> This applies to both Antiochus IV and Antichrist. Antiochus pretended to support the Holy Covenant, but despised it as will Antichrist.

> What is the Holy Covenant? – The Abrahamic Covenant – the land grant of God to Abraham and his seed – especially Jerusalem and the Temple Mount!

> In the future, when the Antichrist turns around and shows his hatred for this Covenant, Jesus says in the Gospel of Matthew...

>Read Matthew 24:15~18...

<sup>MT 24:15</sup> "So when you see standing in the holy place `the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel--let the reader understand-- <sup>16</sup> then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. <sup>17</sup> Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. <sup>18</sup> Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak.

> Read Daniel 11:29~30...

DA 11:29 "At the appointed time he will invade the South again, but this time the outcome will be different from what it was before. <sup>30</sup> Ships of the western coastlands (KJV says "ships of Chittim) will oppose him, and he will lose heart. Then he will turn back and vent his fury against the holy covenant. He will return and show favor to those who forsake the holy covenant.

> This is a reference to the world global system (i.e. the Ships of Tarshish, mentioned in the context of bearing riches and finery and commerce – also referenced many times as being destroyed ex. Isa. 23:14 – exemplifying the trade system that Mystery Babylon), finally coming to and end in the book Revelation.

## **9/10/06 Lesson**

> Read Daniel 11:31...

DA 11:31 "His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will abolish the daily sacrifice. Then they will set up the 'abomination that causes desolation'.

> There it is – the Antichrist will do what Antiochus did, this time in the third Temple and at a much higher magnitude.

> Read Daniel 11:35...

> Here, Daniel puts a "parenthesis" of time into his dialog. Dividing the time of Antiochus IV Epiphanies (yet future to Daniel) and the Antichrist (future still for all)

<sup>35</sup> Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined, purified and made spotless until the time of the end, for it (the Antichrist and the Tribulation) *will still* come at the appointed time.

> The Amplified Bible puts verse 35 this way...

And some of those who are wise, prudent, and understanding shall be weakened and fall, [thus, then, the insincere among the people will lose courage and become deserters. It

will be a test] to refine, to purify, and to make those among [God's people] white, even to the time of the end, because it is yet for the time [God] appointed.

We are moved into the time of Antichrist...

> Read Daniel 11:36...

DA 11:36 "The king (Antichrist) will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful until the time of wrath is completed, for what has been determined must take place.

<sup>37</sup> He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all.

> Let's pause here for a moment and take note of something.  
The Amplified Bible puts verse 37 this way...

He shall not regard the gods of his fathers or Him [to Whom] women desire [to give birth--the Messiah] or any other god, for he shall magnify himself above all.

> It is said that part of the lineage of the Antichrist also lies with the tribe of Dan. – the lost tribe. Revelation chapter 7 details the 144,000 sealed Israelite men and each of the tribes of Israel from which they are assembled. If you read about it (Rev. 3~8) you'll find that the tribe of Dan will have no part in those sealed for service to God during the Tribulation.

> Why the tribe of Dan?

> Read Genesis 48:21~49:1...

> Israel is about to die and gathers his twelve sons to bless them and foretell what will befall them as time passes...

GE 48:21 Then Israel said to Joseph, "I am about to die, but God will be with you and take you back to the land of your fathers. <sup>22</sup> And to you, as one who is over your brothers, I give the ridge of land I took from the Amorites with my sword and my bow."

GE 49:1 Then Jacob called for his sons and said: "Gather around so I can tell you what will happen to you in days to come.

> Skip to Genesis 49:9~

GE 49:9 You are a lion's cub, O Judah;  
you return from the prey, my son.  
Like a lion he crouches and lies down,  
like a lioness--who dares to rouse him?

GE 49:10 The scepter will not depart from Judah,  
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,  
until he comes to whom it belongs  
and the obedience of the nations is his.

GE 49:11 *He will tether his donkey to a vine,  
his colt to the choicest branch;  
he will wash his garments in wine,  
his robes in the blood of grapes.*

GE 49:12 His eyes will be darker than wine,  
his teeth whiter than milk.

> Skipping to verse 16...

GE 49:16 "Dan will provide *justice* for his people  
as one of the tribes of Israel (*a reference to Samson*).

GE 49:17 Dan will be a serpent by the roadside,  
a viper along the path,  
that bites the horse's heels  
so that its rider tumbles backward.

GE 49:18 "I look for your deliverance, O LORD.

GE 49:19 "Gad will be attacked by a band of raiders,  
but he will attack them at their heels...

> Dan's being part of the lineage of Antichrist is also a longstanding tradition which goes back to ancient Jewish/Rabbinical thought. The main reason is because of what Jeremiah wrote...

> Read Jeremiah 7:30~32...

JER 7:30 " `The people of Judah have done evil in my eyes, declares the LORD. They have set up their detestable idols in the house that bears my Name and have defiled it. <sup>31</sup> They have built the high places of Topheth in the Valley of Ben Hinnom to burn their sons and daughters in the fire--something I did not command, nor did it enter my mind. <sup>32</sup> *(they followed the ministrations of their brother Dan)*

So beware, the days are coming...

> God readies Punishment for Judah. Read Jeremiah 8:1~16...

JER 8:1 " `At that time, declares the LORD, the bones of the kings and officials of Judah, the bones of the priests and prophets, and the bones of the people of Jerusalem will be removed from their graves. <sup>2</sup> They will be exposed to the sun and the moon and all the stars of the heavens, which they have loved and served and which they have followed and consulted and worshiped. They will not be gathered up or buried, but will be like refuse lying on the ground. <sup>3</sup> Wherever I banish them, all the survivors of this evil nation will prefer death to life, declares the LORD Almighty.'

JER 8:4 "Say to them, `This is what the LORD says:

" `When men fall down, do they not get up?  
When a man turns away, does he not return?

JER 8:5 Why then have these people turned away?  
Why does Jerusalem always turn away?  
They cling to deceit;  
they refuse to return.

JER 8:6 I have listened attentively,  
but they do not say what is right.  
No one repents of his wickedness,  
saying, "What have I done?"  
Each pursues his own course  
like a horse charging into battle.

JER 8:7 Even the stork in the sky  
knows her appointed seasons,  
and the dove, the swift and the thrush  
observe the time of their migration.  
But my people do not know  
the requirements of the LORD.

JER 8:8 " **How can you say, "We are wise,  
for we have the law of the LORD,"  
when actually the lying pen of the scribes  
has handled it falsely?**

> Skipping to verse 10...

JER 8:10 Therefore I will give their wives to other men  
and their fields to new owners.  
From the least to the greatest,  
all are greedy for gain;  
prophets and priests alike,  
all practice deceit.

JER 8:11 They dress the wound of my people  
as though it were not serious.  
**"Peace, peace," they say,  
when there is no peace.**

JER 8:12 Are they ashamed of their loathsome conduct?  
No, they have no shame at all;  
they do not even know how to blush.  
So they will fall among the fallen;  
they will be brought down when they are punished,  
says the LORD.

> Skipping to verse 15...

JER 8:15 We hoped for peace  
but no good has come,  
for a time of healing  
but there was only terror.

JER 8:16 ***The snorting of the enemy's horses  
is heard from Dan;  
at the neighing of their stallions  
the whole land trembles.  
They have come to devour  
the land and everything in it,  
the city and all who live there."***

> The Amplified Bible puts verse 16 this way...

The snorting of [Nebuchadnezzar's] horses is heard from Dan [on the northern border of Palestine]. At the sound of the neighing of his strong war-horses the whole land quakes; for they come and devour the land and all that is in it, the city and those who dwell in it.

> The early church fathers including Irenaeus and Hyppolytus wrote about Dan as well.

> (DISCUSS) The Riddle of Samson...

> Read Judges 14:1~14:17...

JDG 14:1 Samson went down to Timnah and saw there a young Philistine woman. <sup>2</sup> When he returned, he said to his father and mother, "I have seen a Philistine woman in Timnah; now get her for me as my wife."

JDG 14:3 His father and mother replied, "Isn't there an acceptable woman among your relatives or among all our people? Must you go to the uncircumcised Philistines to get a wife?"

But Samson said to his father, "Get her for me. She's the right one for me." <sup>4</sup> (His parents did not know that this was from the LORD, who was seeking an occasion to confront the Philistines; for at that time they were ruling over Israel.) <sup>5</sup> Samson went down to Timnah together with his father and mother. As they approached the vineyards of Timnah, suddenly a young lion came roaring toward him. <sup>6</sup> The Spirit of the LORD came upon him in power so that he tore the lion apart with his bare hands as he might have torn a young goat. But he told neither his father nor his mother what he had done. <sup>7</sup> Then he went down and talked with the woman, and he liked her.

JDG 14:8 Some time later, when he went back to marry her, he turned aside to look at the lion's carcass. In it was a swarm of bees and some honey, <sup>9</sup> which he scooped out with his hands and ate as he went along. When he rejoined his parents, he gave them some, and they too ate it. But he did not tell them that he had taken the honey from the lion's carcass.

JDG 14:10 Now his father went down to see the woman. And Samson made a feast there, as was customary for bridegrooms. <sup>11</sup> When he appeared, he was given thirty companions.

JDG 14:12 "Let me tell you a riddle," Samson said to them. "If you can give me the answer within the seven days of the feast, I will give you thirty linen garments and thirty sets of clothes. <sup>13</sup> If you can't tell me the answer, you must give me thirty linen garments and thirty sets of clothes."

"Tell us your riddle," they said. "Let's hear it."

JDG 14:14 He replied,

"Out of the eater, something to eat;  
out of the strong, something sweet."

For three days they could not give the answer.

JDG 14:15 On the fourth day, they said to Samson's wife, "Coax your husband into explaining the riddle for us, or we will burn you and your father's household to death. Did you invite us here to rob us?"

JDG 14:16 Then Samson's wife threw herself on him, sobbing, "You hate me! You don't really love me. You've given my people a riddle, but you haven't told me the answer."

"I haven't even explained it to my father or mother," he replied, "so why should I explain it to you?"<sup>17</sup> She cried the whole seven days of the feast. So on the seventh day he finally told her, because she continued to press him. She in turn explained the riddle to her people.

### > Summary of the story...

Samson, a Nazarite of the tribe of Dan, judged Israel during the period of Philistine domination. At the feast celebrating his marriage to a Philistine woman, Samson proposed a riddle to the Philistines: "Out of the eater came forth meat (food), and out of the strong came forth sweetness." (Judges 14:14). On the seventh day of the feast, the Delilah got from Samson the interpretation of the riddle and related its meaning to her people, that the carcass of a young lion which Samson had killed with his bare hands had attracted a swarm of bees who produced honey therein. Samson paid the wager by slaying thirty Philistines -- after which his wife was taken from him. Angered by their treachery, Samson avenged himself by slaughtering many more Philistines and eventually the Philistine lords.

> (POINT) Samson killed the Lion (a type of Judah).

> (ASK) What was the "sweet honey" that came out of the lion's carcass? A: Jesus! He came through the lineage of Judah...

> Let's revisit Israel's prediction about the tribe of his son Judah in Genesis 49:10!...

GE 49:10 The scepter will not depart from Judah,  
nor the ruler's staff from between his feet,  
until he comes to **whom it belongs**  
and the **obedience of the nations is His**.

> Samson was a judge in Israel – a Nazarite of the tribe of Dan.

> Finally, Amos 8:7 and 8:13~14...

AM 8:7 The LORD has sworn by the Pride of Jacob: "I will never forget anything they have done.

AM 8:13 "In that day (of the famine of the words of the God)

"the lovely young women and strong young men  
will faint because of thirst.

AM 8:14 They who swear by the shame of Samaria,  
or say, 'As surely as your god lives, O Dan,'  
or, 'As surely as the god of Beersheba lives'--  
they will fall,  
never to rise again."

> Back to Daniel 11:38...

<sup>38</sup> Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his fathers he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. <sup>39</sup> He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honor those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price.

DA 11:40 "At the time of the end the king of the South will engage him in battle, and the king of the North will storm out against him with chariots and cavalry and a great fleet of ships. He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood. <sup>41</sup> He will also invade the Beautiful Land. Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand.

> A point to make here is that the nations mentioned in verses 40 and 41 are detailed in Ezekiel chapter 38 where we are told about the invasion of Gog, the prince of Magog and all of the Islamic forces he will bring with him as a cloud to invade Israel.

> Continuing with verse 42...

<sup>42</sup> He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape. <sup>43</sup> He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Nubians in submission. <sup>44</sup> But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. <sup>45</sup> He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.

## 9/17/06 Lesson

> The Book of Daniel – the premier study book of prophecy in the Old Testament.

> We have traveled far in about a year's time. We have seen through Daniel's eyes the demise of Israel and the rise of the Times of the Gentiles – which continues until this very day in 2006.

> Now we enter chapter twelve, the last chapter of this marvelous Book.

> Read Chapter 11:40~45...

> We're picking up at the end of chapter eleven because there is a chain of thought that moves right into what we know as chapter twelve.

> NOTE: The Scriptures were not delineated into chapter and verse form until, it is said, around the time of the Latin Vulgate first printing, which was about the year 1420.

He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood. <sup>41</sup> He will also invade the Beautiful Land. Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand. <sup>42</sup> He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape. <sup>43</sup> He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Nubians in submission. <sup>44</sup> But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. <sup>45</sup> He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him...

> Continuing into chapter 12:1

DA 12:1 "At *that time* Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until *then*. But *at that time* your people--everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered.

> (ASK) What is the *that time* which verse one is stressing?

> Remember, the shift from chapter eleven to twelve is actually a seamless thought...

> Review chapter 11:40~45...

He will invade many countries and sweep through them like a flood. <sup>41</sup> He will also invade the Beautiful Land. Many countries will fall, but Edom, Moab and the leaders of Ammon will be delivered from his hand. <sup>42</sup> He will extend his power over many countries; Egypt will not escape. <sup>43</sup> He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Nubians in submission. <sup>44</sup> But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. <sup>45</sup> He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him...

> A: *That time* is the time of the Antichrist – the time of the **absolute worst** persecution of the Jews and the world that has or will ever occur.

> Jesus spoke plainly about it in Matthew 24:15~22...

MT 24:15 "So when you see standing in the holy place `the abomination that causes desolation,' spoken of through the prophet Daniel--let the reader understand-- <sup>16</sup> then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. <sup>17</sup> Let no one on the roof of his house go down to take anything out of the house. <sup>18</sup> Let no one in the field go back to get his cloak. <sup>19</sup> How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! <sup>20</sup> Pray that your flight will not take place in winter or on the Sabbath. <sup>21</sup> For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now--and never to be equaled again. <sup>22</sup> **If those days had not been cut short, no one would survive, but for the sake of the elect those days will be shortened.**

> Daniel is now given a panoramic look into the very key “Time of Jacob’s Trouble” – The time of the Great Tribulation, the Time of The End!

> Read Jeremiah 30:4~7...

> You will remember that Daniel leaned heavily upon the writings of Jeremiah. God gave Jeremiah some very plain explanation of this special – the Time of Jacob’s Trouble.

> Imagine you are Daniel reading this in Jeremiah – especially after he was given all that he wrote about the coming wars, persecution and the “mother” of them all – the Great Tribulation, headed-up by Satan and the Antichrist...

JER 30:4 These are the words the LORD spoke concerning Israel and Judah: <sup>5</sup> "This is what the LORD says:

" `Cries of fear are heard--  
terror, not peace.

JER 30:6 Ask and see:

Can a man bear children?  
Then why do I see every strong man  
with his hands on his stomach like a woman in labor,  
every face turned deathly pale?

JER 30:7 How awful that day will be!

None will be like it.  
It will be a **time of trouble for Jacob**,  
*but he will be saved out of it.*

> The context at the beginning of chapter 12 is that Michael (the protector of the Israelites) stands up against the one who was shown to us mostly in chapter eleven.

> Read Revelation 12:7~10...

> Here is another testament to that same time when Michael stands up for the house of Jacob...

REV 12:7 And there was war in heaven. Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back. <sup>8</sup> But he was not strong enough, and they lost their place in heaven. <sup>9</sup> The great dragon was hurled down--that ancient serpent called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray. He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

REV 12:10 Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say:

"Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God,  
and the authority of his Christ.  
For the accuser of our brothers,  
who accuses them before our God day and night,  
has been hurled down.

> It is important to understand that this passage denotes *not* the original casting of Satan out of God's realm in Heaven; This had already occurred. The context here is that Satan, who was given jurisdiction over the physical universe of outer space and the atmosphere of the earth, is now cast down *to* and *bound to* earth *itself*.

> Further validation of this is that the context of time leads from him and his angels losing their "place" in heaven, right into the time of salvation being heralded-in with the return of Jesus and all of us with him.

> So, Michael stands up in response to the abomination that causes desolation.

> (ASK) When does this "abomination that causes desolation" take place? A: Three-and-one-half years into the seven-year Tribulation.

- > One point to make clear is that what we just read of Michael standing up in Revelation chapter twelve is a reiteration of what Daniel presents to us in Daniel chapter twelve and verse one.
- > If you continued to read Revelation chapter twelve from that point forward, you would find that immediately we go into the time of the end of the Tribulation and the dawning of salvation and Jesus' reign.
- > ... This is why Jeremiah says:

JER 30:7 How awful that day will be!  
 None will be like it.  
 It will be a time of trouble for Jacob,  
**but he will be saved out of it.** *(We'll continue in here in Jeremiah and show the rest of the story so put a bookmark here)*

- > Remember that the Tribulation is divided into two almost equal parts of about 3.5 years each.
- > Daniel 11:31 speaks of this...

> DA 11:31 "His armed forces will rise up to desecrate the temple fortress and will **abolish the daily sacrifice**. Then (3.5 years on) they will set up **the abomination that causes desolation**.

- > Chapter 12 verses 11 and 12 make sure that this is clear...

DA 12:11 "From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. <sup>12</sup> *Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days.*

- > You should remember that all this timing is based on the Prophetic Year of 360 days:

1260 / 360 = 3.5 years – The first part of the Tribulation  
 1335 / 360 = 3.7 years – The Great Tribulation  
 (For all intents and purposes these are two periods of 3.5 years)

*Actual difference between the two periods is about six months*

> The time setting of Daniel chapter twelve is half way through the already-underway Tribulation.

> *This* is where the event of Michael standing up to defend the Elect comes in.

> So, the Antichrist has come on the scene, building his political power...

> He reaches the pinnacle of his power by moving into the Temple of God (the soon-to-be-built 3rd Temple), declaring that he is in fact God...

> ...commits the abomination that causes desolation...

> Establishes the mark of the beast and then takes over as the dictator of the world – *this* is the setting as we move into chapter twelve.

> Now a sanity check...

> Read Chapter 11:36...

DA 11:36 "The king will do as he pleases. He will exalt and magnify himself above every god and will say unheard-of things against the God of gods. He will be successful **until the time of wrath is completed**, for what has been determined *must* take place.

> The sanity check is that none of where this world is hurtling to is taking God by surprise, nor is He unable to control what is going to take place as sin runs its course from Satan, through Adam until the Antichrist comes in the near future.

> Not only is He in control, He will allow it all and cause it to precisely follow the path He's laid out for it.

> Make no mistake - this is predetermined judgment for Israel and for the world

> But WE are not appointed unto wrath! WE will be gone, because WE, through Christ, have been made white and are never to be under judgment henceforth.

> So, let's find out the rest of the story as Jeremiah saw it...

> We resume reading Jeremiah's thoughts at chapter 30:8...

... JER 30:8 " 'In that day,' declares the LORD Almighty,  
'I will break the yoke off their necks  
and will tear off their bonds;  
no longer will foreigners enslave them.

JER 30:9 Instead, they will serve the LORD their God  
and David their king,  
whom I will raise up for them.

JER 30:10 " 'So do not fear, O Jacob my servant;  
do not be dismayed, O Israel,'  
declares the LORD.  
'I will surely save you out of a distant place,  
your descendants from the land of their exile.  
Jacob will again have peace and security,  
and no one will make him afraid.

JER 30:11 I am with you and will save you,'  
declares the LORD.  
'Though I completely destroy all the nations  
among which I scatter you,  
I will not completely destroy you.  
I will discipline you but only with justice;  
I will not let you go entirely unpunished.'

JER 30:12 "This is what the LORD says:

" 'Your wound is incurable,  
your injury beyond healing.

JER 30:13 There is no one to plead your cause,  
no remedy for your sore,  
no healing for you.

JER 30:14 **All your allies have forgotten you;  
they care nothing for you.  
I have struck you as an enemy would  
and punished you as would the cruel,**  
because your guilt is so great  
and your sins so many. (*doesn't this sound like current day Israel's position?*)

JER 30:15 Why do you cry out over your wound,  
your pain that has no cure?  
Because of your great guilt and many sins  
**I** have done these things to you.

JER 30:16 " `But all who devour you will be devoured;  
all your enemies will go into exile.  
Those who plunder you will be plundered;  
all who make spoil of you I will despoil.

JER 30:17 But I will restore you to health  
and heal your wounds,'  
declares the LORD,  
'because you are called an outcast,  
Zion for whom no one cares.'

JER 30:18 "This is what the LORD says:

" `I will restore the fortunes of Jacob's tents  
and have compassion on his dwellings;  
the city will be rebuilt on her ruins,  
and the palace will stand in its proper place.

JER 30:19 From them will come songs of thanksgiving  
and the sound of rejoicing.  
I will add to their numbers,  
and they will not be decreased;  
I will bring them honor,  
and they will not be disdained.

JER 30:20 Their children will be as in days of old,  
and their community will be established before me;  
I will punish all who oppress them.

JER 30:21 **Their leader will be one of their own;  
their ruler will arise from among them.**

I will bring him near and he will come close to me,  
for who is he who will devote himself  
to be close to me?'  
declares the LORD.

JER 30:22 " **So you will be my people,  
and I will be your God.' "**

JER 30:23 See, the storm of the LORD  
will burst out in wrath,  
a driving wind swirling down  
on the heads of the wicked.

JER 30:24 The fierce anger of the LORD **will not turn back**  
until he *fully accomplishes*  
the purposes of his heart.  
In days to come  
you will understand this.

JER 31:1 "At that time," declares the LORD, "I will be the God of all the clans of Israel, and they will be my people."

JER 31:2 This is what the LORD says:

"The people who survive the sword  
will find favor in the desert;  
I will come to give rest to Israel."

JER 31:3 The LORD appeared to us in the past, saying:

"I have loved you with an everlasting love;  
I have drawn you with loving-kindness.

JER 31:4 I will build you up again  
and you will be rebuilt, O Virgin Israel.  
Again you will take up your tambourines  
and go out to dance with the joyful.

JER 31:5 Again you will plant vineyards  
on the hills of Samaria;  
the farmers will plant them  
and enjoy their fruit.

JER 31:6 There will be a day when watchmen cry out  
on the hills of Ephraim,  
'Come, let us go up to Zion,  
to the LORD our God.' "

JER 31:7 This is what the LORD says:

"Sing with joy for Jacob;  
shout for the foremost of the nations.  
Make your praises heard, and say,  
'O LORD, save your people,  
the remnant of Israel.'

## **9/24/06 Lesson**

- > To review, Daniel chapter twelve continues a description of the coming Antichrist and is dealing with a specific time, that time being the seven-year Tribulation – as the Lord through Jeremiah puts it, the time of Jacob’s Trouble. Even more specifically, this chapter dwells heavily on the last half of the Tribulation (the Great Tribulation).
- > *This* is where the event of Michael standing up to defend the Elect comes in.
- > So, the Antichrist has come on the scene, building his political power...
- > He reaches the pinnacle of his power by moving into the Temple of God (the soon-to-be-built 3rd Temple), declaring that he is in fact God...
- > ...commits the abomination that causes desolation...
- > Establishes the mark of the beast and then takes over as the dictator of the world – *this* is the setting as we continue to move forward into chapter twelve.

> Remember, that the worlds leaders and those in other positions of power will bow to the Antichrist, but Scriptures says that they will also become concerned and then angry and start to rebel against him.

> Remember, Daniel chapter 11:43~45 says...

<sup>43</sup> He will gain control of the treasures of gold and silver and all the riches of Egypt, with the Libyans and Nubians in submission. <sup>44</sup> But reports from the east and the north will alarm him, and he will set out in a great rage to destroy and annihilate many. <sup>45</sup> He will pitch his royal tents between the seas at the beautiful holy mountain. Yet he will come to his end, and no one will help him.

> These world leader and politicians will seek to rebel against the all-encompassing grip that the Antichrist will have on them through the requirement of all having the “Mark of the Beast” to move about and maneuver in the global economy which at that time will be under this dictator’s complete control.

> The antichrist will counter-move by consolidating his power at the Temple in Jerusalem – and claim that he is not only the world’s leader, but that he is actually god – this is where the Great Tribulation starts to come together, with the end being the gathering of all nations to Armageddon.

> Read Daniel 12:1~3...

> Now Daniel moves into a discussion of the various resurrections...

DA 12:1 "At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time *your* people--everyone whose name is found written in the book--will be delivered. <sup>2</sup> Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life (*this happens to many as they are saved and then die during the Tribulation*), others to shame and everlasting contempt (*this happens 1,000 years later, after the Tribulation and Armageddon and the Millennium has passed – the ime of the Great White Throne Judgment*). <sup>3</sup> Those who are wise will shine like the brightness of the

heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever (*this describes all who have been saved throughout human history and have gone about the Great Commission – bringing others to Christ and saving souls*).

> Solomon says in Proverbs 11:30 (well before the Gospel was known)...

PR 11:30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life,  
and **he who wins souls is wise.**

> Just imagine at that time how wonderful it will be to meet all of the souls *you personally* had at least a part in bringing to eternity with God!

> Continuing in verse 4...

<sup>4</sup> But you, Daniel, close up and seal the words of the scroll until the time of the end. Many will go here and there to increase knowledge."

> We've come full circle to where we started about a year ago.

> The Book was shut-up and sealed: No theologians, no Jews no one at all would be able to fully understand its content...

> But, understanding has been rebirth and building rapidly as time marched on, through where we are now in the latter days...

> ...The march of the Gentile world governments and systems; the hidden bloodline that mixes and disperses into the world which moves through Alexander the Great, through Antiochus IV Epiphanies, even through the tribe of Dan and finally terminating in the real and final Antichrist – the final Son of Perdition...

> We have sought to prove through this study that the time has come and that this Book is truly up-to-date – and it has finally been given to the wise and those who truly seek - *to understand!*

> (MAIN POINT) When the Antichrist emerges, the Jew and Gentile alike (those who are wise and read and study Scripture at that time) will be able to see what is happening, trace the mark of the Beast and the number of his name and trace his lineage and know for certain who he is and where they are in history!

> ***THEY WILL UNDERSTAND IT ALL AT THAT TIME!***

> You may remember Hypolitus, a theologian and the pastor of the church in Roman (lived between 170 A.D ~ 236 A.D.), a contemporary of Iranius, who was a student of Polycarp, who was a student of John the Apostle...

>... He said that the book that is opened in Revelation chapter 5 is the Book of Daniel...

> Read Revelation 5:1~5...

REV 5:1 Then I saw in the right hand of him who sat on the throne a scroll with writing on both sides and sealed with seven seals. <sup>2</sup> And I saw a mighty angel proclaiming in a loud voice, "Who is worthy to break the seals and open the scroll?" <sup>3</sup> But no one in heaven or on earth or under the earth could open the scroll or even look inside it. <sup>4</sup> I wept and wept because no one was found who was worthy to open the scroll or look inside. <sup>5</sup> Then one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep! See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed. He is able to open the scroll and its seven seals."

> This cannot be taken as absolute, but remember that Hypolitus was taught by men who were very close in time to direct teaching from John himself.

> It's also ironic to know that the Book was sealed even to the beloved Daniel, to whom God chose to reveal so very much in the first placed...

> Read Daniel 12:5~13...

DA 12:5 Then I, Daniel, looked, and there before me stood two others, one on this bank of the river and one on the opposite bank. <sup>6</sup> One of them said to the man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, "How long will it be before these astonishing things are fulfilled?"

DA 12:7 The man clothed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, lifted his right hand and his left hand toward heaven, and I heard him swear by him who lives forever, saying, "It will be for a time, times and half a time (*3.5 years*). When the power of the holy people has been finally broken, all these things will be completed."

DA 12:8 **I heard, but I did not understand. So I asked, "My lord, what will the outcome of all this be?"**

DA 12:9 He replied, "Go your way, Daniel, because the words are closed up and sealed until the time of the end. <sup>10</sup> Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.

DA 12:11 "From the time that the daily sacrifice is abolished and the abomination that causes desolation is set up, there will be 1,290 days. <sup>12</sup> Blessed is the one who waits for and reaches the end of the 1,335 days.

DA 12:13 "As for you, go your way till the end. You will rest, and then at the end of the days you will rise to receive your allotted inheritance."

> *AMOS SAYS: "Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing without revealing his plan to his servants the prophets..."*

> Read Amos 3:1~7...

AM 3:1 Hear this word the LORD has spoken against you, O people of Israel--against the whole family I brought up out of Egypt:

AM 3:2 "You only have I chosen  
of all the families of the earth;  
therefore I will punish you  
for all your sins."

AM 3:3 Do two walk together  
unless they have agreed to do so?

AM 3:4 Does a lion roar in the thicket  
when he has no prey?  
Does he growl in his den  
when he has caught nothing?

AM 3:5 Does a bird fall into a trap on the ground  
where no snare has been set?  
Does a trap spring up from the earth  
when there is nothing to catch?

AM 3:6 When a trumpet sounds in a city,  
do not the people tremble?  
When disaster comes to a city,  
has not the LORD caused it?

AM 3:7 Surely the Sovereign LORD does nothing  
without revealing his plan  
to his servants the prophets.

> Read Isaiah 60:14~15 and Malachi 3:13~4:5...

> Isaiah and Malachi sum up the final outcome nicely...

ISA 60:14 The sons of your oppressors will come bowing before you;

all who despise you will bow down at your feet  
and will call you the City of the LORD,  
Zion of the Holy One of Israel.

ISA 60:15 "Although you have been forsaken and hated,  
with no one traveling through,  
I will make you the everlasting pride  
and the joy of all generations.

MAL 3:13 "You have said harsh things against me," says the LORD.  
"Yet you ask, 'What have we said against you?'

MAL 3:14 "You have said, 'It is futile to serve God. What did we gain by carrying out his requirements and going about like mourners before the LORD Almighty?'<sup>15</sup> But now we call the arrogant blessed. Certainly the evildoers prosper, and even those who challenge God escape.' "

MAL 3:16 Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other, and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored his name.

MAL 3:17 "They will be mine," says the LORD Almighty, "in the day when I make up my treasured possession. I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him.<sup>18</sup> And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.

MAL 4:1 "Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire," says the LORD Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them.<sup>2</sup> But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall.<sup>3</sup> Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things," says the LORD Almighty.

MAL 4:4 "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.

MAL 4:5 "See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.<sup>6</sup> He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."

**THE END**

