

TRUTH FOR THE FINAL GENERATION

JEHOVAH The  
*Revealer*  
of SECRETS



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# Hello BOYS & GIRLS

**W**elcome to "God, Giver of All Good Gifts." This Quarter you will have an opportunity to see how God takes ordinary children and make them into leaders of His people. Some of the people in your lessons became great kings; others became famous prophets. But whether king or prophet, each one had to depend upon God for success and victory.

God gives only good gifts. He does not give us these to use selfishly, but to bring happiness and joy to others.

All the men in your lessons this Quarter, learned to love and fear God, when they were children just like you. How did they do this? They did this by loving and obeying their mommies and daddies, and by so doing were obeying their heavenly Father. And as they grew older, they loved and feared Him even more.

God was pleased with them and gave them wisdom, skill and understanding, because they depended upon Him and obeyed his commandments.

It is my prayer that you will find your lessons interesting and enjoyable, but more importantly, that you will learn to love, fear and obey your Father in heaven just like David, Solomon, Elijah, Elisha and Daniel.



## LESSON 1

# Four Boys Please God

### KEY TEXT

*“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. Daniel 1 :8.*

### OBJECTIVES

1. Summarise the conditions that led to Israel’s captivity.
2. Realise that God blesses the obedient.
3. Determine in their hearts to deny self rather than displease God.

### IN DEPTH

*Daniel 1:1-21; Prophets and Kings pp 479-490; Book of Daniel 15-30; God Cares 15-17.*

### SUNDAY

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Twenty six centuries ago, the kingdom of Judah, made up of the tribes of Benjamin and Judah, was ruled by good King Hezekiah. After a reign of thirteen years he became seriously ill and would have died, but he pleaded with God to lengthen his life. On the king’s recovery, ambassadors from Babylon visited him. They had come to hear about the mighty God of Hezekiah that could heal the sick, but instead, he took them on a tour of his palace and showed them all the treasures he had accumulated.

Hezekiah had showed them his glory: he had not shown them God’s glory.



## DISCOVERY NO. 1

Find the seventeen treasures Hezekiah showed the ambassadors of Babylon.

I S E N O T S X Y N O S J E  
A S N O O P S V X R A D E C  
A A S D L A R E M E L E W D  
P R E C I O U S S T O N E S  
R B S E C I P S N O G O I D  
E U P U R P L E E U L W S R  
C R A R M O R L N E N I L O  
I P O X Y P L S I L V E R W  
Y R R Y M S L R A E P E A S

Precious Stones  
Jewels  
Brass  
Linen

Purple  
Gold  
Spices  
Cedar

Silver  
Pearls  
Vessels

Myrrh  
Emeralds  
Spoons

Onyxstones  
Swords  
Armor

## MONDAY

Hezekiah lost the opportunity to show these heathen ambassadors, the treasures of heaven: faith, trust and prayer.

Then came the message from God by Isaiah.

## DISCOVERY NO. 2

Write the message in Isaiah 39:6. " \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ "

Here is given a prophecy of the time when the nation of Judah would be taken into captivity by the Babylonians. No doubt this prophecy



was called to mind again and again in the homes of the faithful Hebrews. Such parents trained their children with diligent care that they would remain true to their God when taken to a foreign and heathen land.

## **TUESDAY**

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One hundred years were to pass before the prophecy made by Isaiah took effect. It was unavoidable but God intended to use it for His glory, and for the exaltation of his name in the earth.

He sent the prophet Jeremiah to prepare His people for the coming captivity, to warn them to turn from their evil ways and to co-operate with God in this matter.

### **DISCOVERY NO. 3**

*Read Jeremiah 5: 15 to find out the characteristics of Babylon. Copy these characteristics below:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_

With the exception of good King Josiah, four of the five kings that followed King Hezekiah were wicked or weak and idolatrous. Had they been godly like Josiah, the city would have been spared the terrible destruction that took place when the army of Nebuchadnezzar came.

### **DISCOVERY NO.4**

*Read 2 Kings 24:10-16 and list below what Nebuchadnezzar took away in the first of three attacks on Jerusalem.*

Verse 13. "And he carried out thence of the house of the Lord; and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the king's house, and cut in pieces all the \_\_\_\_\_ of gold. Verse 14."... and all \_\_\_\_\_ and all the \_\_\_\_\_ .and all of valor and all the and \_\_\_\_\_" Verse 15. "And he carried away to Babylon and the king's \_\_\_\_\_ and the king's and his \_\_\_\_\_.

## WEDNESDAY

Among the children of Judah who were carried captive to Babylon at the time of Nebuchadnezzar's first attack were four young princes.

### DISCOVERY NO. 5

Read Daniel 1: 6 and write their name below;

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

### DISCOVERY NO. 6

According to Daniel 1 :4, what specific qualities did these youth have to possess?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_

Daniel's mother was a godly woman. She saw to it that her son was educated in principles of health and right habits. But this was not all, she recommended that her son be taught in the subjects of the schools of the prophets.

## SEARCH NO. 1

*Find out what subjects were taught in the schools of the prophets. Come prepared to share them with your Sabbath School Class.*

Nebuchadnezzar saw in these four youth remarkable abilities; and determined that they should be trained to fill important positions in his kingdom.

## THURSDAY

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In accordance with his plans, king Nebuchadnezzar ordered that these three things happen:

### DISCOVERY NO. 7

*Read Daniel 1 :4-6 and list these three things:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

Nebuchadnezzar did not only plan to train them for high office; he intended to slowly but surely cause them to exchange their faith in the living God for idolatry.

He would gradually get them to mix their belief with the idolatrous customs and heathen worship and get them to join in the fun and games of Babylon that appeared harmless; get them to feel indebted to him for his favor and, kindness and then he would have their slavish allegiance.

The crucial moment had come, “the king appointed them a daily portion of the king’s meat and the wine which he drank. Daniel and his three friends had been trained in habits of strict temperance. Would their home training help them now that they had to choose between eating right and displeasing the king? Would their fear of



the king and respect for him cause them to eat and drink what they knew God had forbidden?' Would they choose to please the king and by so doing displease God? Or would they choose to do the right and suffer the consequences. whatever they might be?

**DECISION NO. 1**

What would you have done?

It was a hard temptation. The choice that Daniel and his three friends made, would determine their future usefulness. Imagine that! One mistake and your whole future usefulness jeopardised? Yes, God forgives, but one sin can mar your influence for good. Remember Adam and Eve, David, Solomon? So, dear Juniors, watch it!

**FRIDAY**

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With the test on appetite and more importantly on pleasing or displeasing God before them, Daniel and his three friends did not hesitate. The approval of God was far more important to them than the favour of the king.

Dear Juniors, every choice, every decision however small, is about pleasing or displeasing God. Do you understand that?

Daniel 1:8 says that "Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself .... "

**1.What do you think "purpose in his heart" means?**

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**2.What kind of food did these four boys requested to eat.**

Daniel 1, verse 12. "Let them give us \_\_\_\_\_ to eat and to drink." \_\_\_\_\_ Not a very attractive diet was it; not even for ten days.

## DISCOVERY NO. 9

What is pulse? Share with your Sabbath School class.

God honoured their choice, and wonder of wonders, at the end of ten days, these boys appeared fitter and healthier than all those who had eaten the king's meat and drunk the king's wine.

## DISCOVERY NO. 10

*Find out what the Lord has said about honour in 1 Sam 2:30.*

So pleased was their Babylonian waiter, he allowed them to have the meals of their choice for the three years of their undergraduate studies at the University of Babylon.

When the time came for the king himself to test them, he found them to be ten times wiser than all their teachers. In physical strength and beauty, in mental vigour and literary attainment, they were without peer. What a blessed testimony to the practice of right health principles and obedience to God's requirements.

## SABBATH

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1. Review your lesson.
2. Fix the key text in your memory.
3. Come prepared to share in the Sabbath School lesson.
4. Here's a special gem for you to think on:

### Gem:

**"A noble character is not the result of accident; it is not due to special favors or endowment of Providence. It is the result of self-discipline, of subjection of the lower to the higher nature, of the surrender of self to the service of God and man." Prophets and Kings pp. 488 - 489.**

## LESSON 2

# A Heathen King Sees the Coming of Jesus

### KEY TEXT

*“.... Yea, have ye never read, out of the mouth of babes and sucklings thou has perfected praise?” Matthew 21: 16.*

### OBJECTIVES

1. Juniors will realise that God is the Source of all wisdom and knowledge.
2. Juniors will recognise that God is interested in man's history.
3. Juniors will identify and explain the symbols in Nebuchadnezzar's dream
4. Juniors will pray for and admire Daniel's humility.

### IN DEPTH

*Daniel 2; 1 Corinthians 1: 19 - 25; Deuteronomy 4: 5 - 8; Prophet and Kings pp 491 - 502.*

### SUNDAY

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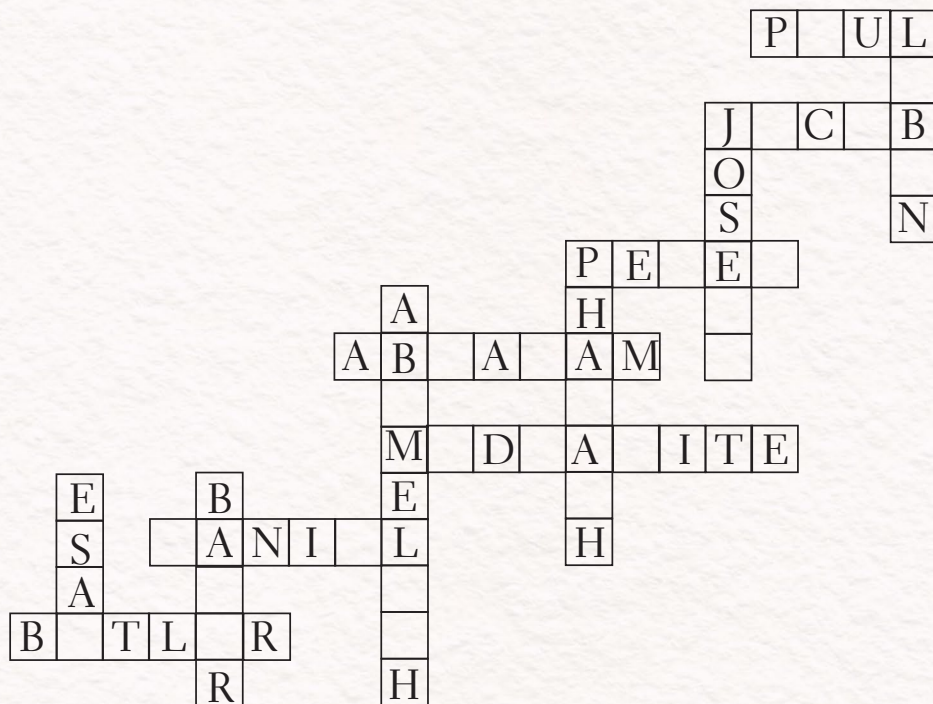
One year after Daniel and his friends graduated from the University of Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar had an amazing dream.

The evening before the king had spent much time thinking about the glory of his kingdom, and fell asleep with a longing to know its future. In answer to his unspoken thoughts, the peace of his sleep that night was invaded and the future history of the world was spread out in clear detail before his wondering eyes.

On awakening, Nebuchadnezzar found that the dream was gone from him and tried as he might, he could not recall the details.



## ACTIVITY NO. 1



Others who had dreams were: Fill in missing boxes to find the names.

### MONDAY

Failing to recall the dream, Nebuchadnezzar summoned all his wise men and magicians into his presence. He demanded that they both tell him the dream and give him the interpretation of it.

“I have dreamed a dreamed,” he said perplexedly, “and my spirit is troubled to know the dream.”

“Tell us the dream,” they said anxiously, “and we will tell you the interpretation.”

Where now was the wisdom of the great teachers and magicians of Babylon? Could they make known what was hidden from ordinary eyes.

The king grew angry with their apparent failure. Said Nebuchadnezzar: "...if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses made a dung hill." And Nebuchadnezzar had both the power and mind set to do it. He had hoped to give his gods credit for so wonderful a dream, but now the jokers who claimed to communicate with these gods did not have a clue.

"Unreasonable!" cried the magicians and wise men.

"You are a pack of liars and deceivers," shouted the king. "Tell me what I have dreamed, and I will know that you can tell me the interpretation.

The wise men and magicians were helpless.

These astrologers of Baby Ion pretended to read the future in the stars; the magicians pretended to heal diseases and change the course of events by magic and the use of divination which was nothing more than black magic or satanic power. But now all of these means failed them.

## **DISCOVERY NO. 1**

*Read Isaiah 47: 13 -14. Come prepared to share your views in Sabbath School.*

## **TUESDAY**

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The, decree made by King Nebuchadnezzar was made in rage and frustration. He himself stood at the head of the wise men, astrologers and magicians. Now the wisdom of Babylon had failed him and he fully intended to destroy them all.

Daniel and his three friends were considered among the wise men, but they had not been summoned to the king's palace when the others were called. It might be that they, though bright, were considered too young and inexperienced. But the God who makes His secrets known to them that fear Him, was about to change all of that.

## ACTIVITY NO. 2

*Match the following:*

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| 1. <b>Magicia</b>    | One who divines-secrets by magic                |
| 2. <b>Wise men</b>   | A member of the ancient secret order in Babylon |
| 3. <b>Astrologer</b> | One who can perform tricks that seem real       |
| 4. <b>Soothsayer</b> | One who cast spells by use of witchcraft        |
| 5. <b>Chaldeans</b>  | A wizard, especially called magi                |
| 6. <b>Sorcerer</b>   | One who studies the influence of stars on lives |

Arioch, Captain of the king's guard visited Daniel with the death warrant.

"Why is the decree so hasty from the king?" asked a puzzled Daniel.

Arioch told Daniel of the king's distress and the inability of the wisemen and magicians to make known the dream and its interpretation.

Daniel asked for time and went into his chamber with Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael. They entreated the Lord on the matter; and asked Him to reveal the secret of the king's dream that they should not be destroyed with the wise men of Babylon.



## SEARCH NO. 1

*What promise did Daniel claim in asking God for help? Copy Isaiah 46:10 below:*

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## WEDNESDAY

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There are in God's purposes, particular period when we must arise in response to God's call. The supreme moment had come to Daniel as it had done to Joseph and Moses and was to come for Queen Esther and John and a host of others. Someday too our supreme moment will come.

Daniel's early life and childhood education had been preparing him for this very moment that when faced with death, he could look up to God and claim His promise.

## DISCOVERY NO. 2

*Read God's promises in Psalm 25: 14 and Proverbs 3: 25-26.*

Searching out Arioch, whom the king had commanded to destroy the wise men, Daniel said "Destroy not the wise men of Babylon; bring me before the king and I will shew him the interpretation."

The king was careworn, and in great perplexity and anxiety, because the dream troubled him.

"Art thou able to tell me the dream which I have seen and the interpretation?" asked Nebuchadnezzar.

"The secret which you demand is beyond any man to know, but there is a God in heaven that reveals secrets, and will make known to you, what will come to pass."

## REFLECT

Do you notice how calm and selfless Daniel was before the king? Do you notice how he could have exalted his own wisdom, but rather chose to give all the glory to God?

## THURSDAY

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Before Daniel, sat the king of all the realm of Babylon, yet Daniel was calm and conscious of his connection with the God of heaven, the King of the Universe.

As Daniel began to recount the dream, King Nebuchadnezzar leaned forward on his throne anxious to catch every word spoken by the youth, who was so obviously filled with the Spirit of the God, whom the king did not know. The king caught every sentence and recognised it as the dream which had troubled him.

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

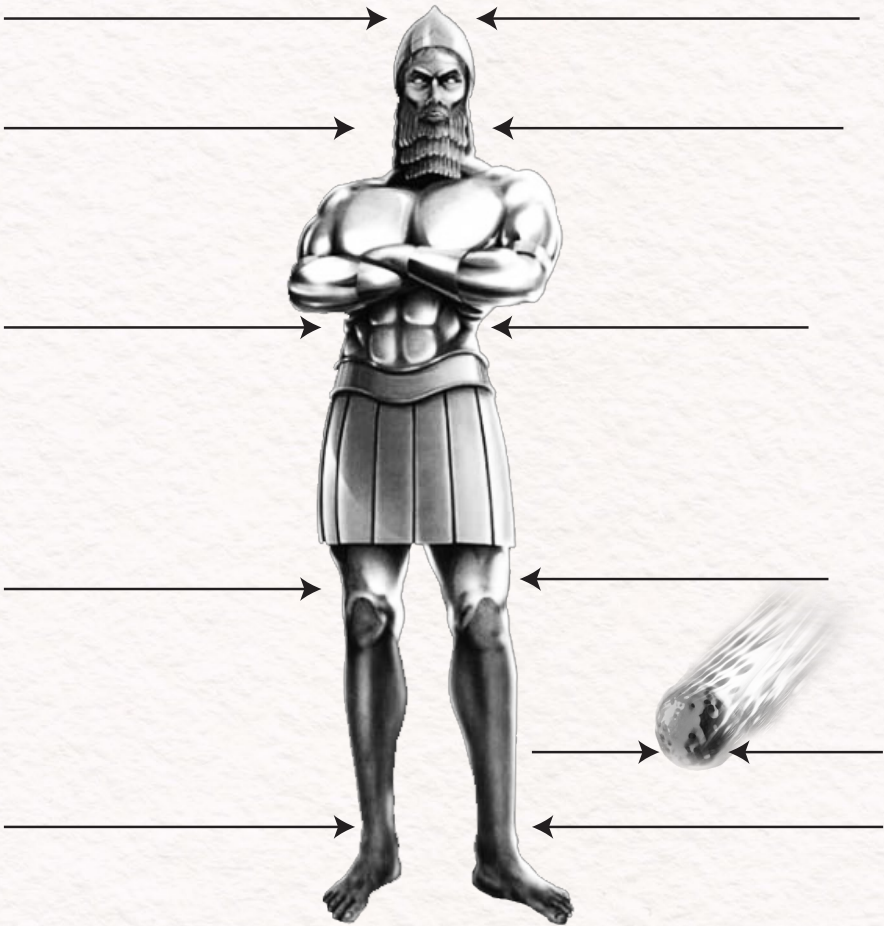
*What do you think Daniel's three friends were doing as Daniel went before the king?*

**DISCOVERY NO. 2**

Read Daniel 2: 31- 35; 37 - 45. On the right side of the image write the kingdoms represented and on the left side write the names of the metals represented.

**METALS - LEFT**

**RIGHT - KINGDOMS**





## FRIDAY

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Daniel's account was exact in every detail with that which Nebuchadnezzar had dreamed. When Daniel gave the interpretation, the king accepted it as a true prophecy from the God whom Daniel worshipped.

The king was so deeply affected that he fell on his face before Daniel and in meekness and wonder said, "of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, seeing thou couldest reveal this secret.

### DISCOVERY NO. 3

*What honours did the king bestow on Daniel? Daniel 2:48.*

1. He gave him \_\_\_\_\_
2. He made him and chief \_\_\_\_\_

Again the education of the Hebrews proved superior to that of Babylon; and the wisdom of the Hebrews based on the fear and reverence of the God of heaven proved sufficient to humble the pride of Babylon.

## SABBATH

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1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in the memory;*
3. *Come prepared to share the lesson at Sabbath School.*
4. *This week's gem comes from Prophet and Kings p. 501 - 502.*

### Gem:

**"In the history of nations the student of God's word may behold the literal fulfillment of divine prophecy. Babylon, shattered and broken at last, passed away because in prosperity its rulers had regarded themselves as independent of God, and ascribed the glory of their kingdom to human achievement."**

## LESSON 3

# Tested by Fire

### KEY TEXT

*“When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burnt; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.” Isaiah 43 :2.*

### OBJECTIVES

1. Juniors will understand that God will be with His people in times of trouble.
2. Juniors will recognise that there can be no excuse for disobeying.
3. Juniors will resolve to honour God in their lives each day.

### ADDITIONAL READING

*Daniel 3; Prophets and Kings 503 -513.*

### SUNDAY

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The dream of the great image given to Nebuchadnezzar, reaches down to the end of time, as explained by God through Daniel. Not one of the wise men in Babylon could relate the dream, furthermore interpret it.

King Nebuchadnezzar acknowledged the power of God, saying to Daniel, “Of a truth it is, that your God is a God of gods ... and a revealer of secrets.” Daniel 2: 47. For a time afterwards,

Nebuchadnezzar worshiped the God of Heaven, being influenced by fear. But while in his mind acknowledging the God of the Jews, his heart was still filled with worldly ambitions and a desire for self-exaltation. As Babylon became more and more prosperous, the king became more proud and boastful. In time he stopped worshipping God and returned to idol worship.

Search for the words that describe Nebuchadnezzar and the words that describe Daniel:

H A R S H K E L T N E G  
U " P R E I D E G O C E  
M A D E M O D E S T O L  
I E M G Y T I N A V V B  
L S B O E F O D F T E A  
I B O A S T F U L I T H  
T N E I T A P O E E E C  
Y L W O L R E R S C O A  
A S U O P M O F A N U E  
L T I N . A G O R R A O S T  
L S U O E T R U O C . "   
P O O R I N S P I R I T

**NEBUCHADNEZZAR**

Humility      Lowly      Poor-in-Spirit  
Haughty      Vanity      Self  
Harsh      Proud      Ego  
Arrogant      Mad      Patient

**DANIEL**

Teachable      Meek  
Courteous      Modest  
Covetous      Conceit  
Gentle

Copy the hidden message by writing the unused letters in sequence on the line below:



## MONDAY

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Twenty or more years had passed since God had given Nebuchadnezzar the dream of the image. These were twenty good years. The king had grown richer and all nations paid homage to Babylon. Money and goods flowed into Babylon from all over the world and Nebuchadnezzar beautified and strengthened his capital.

In interpreting the dream Daniel had said to Nebuchadnezzar, "Thou art this head of gold." The wise men of Babylon, taking advantage of the king's return to idolatry, and knowing his; ambition and love for display, suggested that he make an image similar to the one he had seen in his dream. He was to set it up where all might behold the head of gold which represented his kingdom.

The wise men hoped to turn Daniel's counsel and wisdom to naught, but they dared not tell the king their thoughts but left it for the king's vain ambition and conceit to work out.

And he did!

Pleased with the flattering suggestion, he went even further. He would indeed make the image, but instead of exactly like the one in his dream with different metals, he would make the entire image of gold. In this way he would gratify his own pride. For the entire image was of gold.

This is just as the wise men had hoped!

All the wise men, astrologers, Chaldeans and sorcerers were nothing more than Satan's servants in disguise. They were just too glad when the king fell into their trap.

## DISCUSSION

*Apart from the ideas given above, what might be the real reason why Nebuchadnezzar made the entire image of gold?*

## TUESDAY

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King Nebuchadnezzar intended that contrary to what Daniels' God had said, his kingdom would last forever. What a vain and rebellious thought!

In the interpretation, Daniel had declared, "In the days of the kings, shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed .... and it shall stand forever."

### SEARCH

Write out the last part of Daniel's words in Daniel 2: 45.

" ... and the dream \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Write out*

Psalm 33:11 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The thought of establishing an empire that should endure forever appealed to Nebuchadnezzar. But he was fighting a battle against the words of the God of heaven. The men who advised him, had completely forgotten that it was Daniel and Daniel's God who had saved them from certain death. They revealed their unselfish hearts. They wanted power and supremacy and would, with the king, exalt Babylon as supreme and worthy of worldwide reverence.

Through this false image, Satan was seeking to make a mockery of God's purpose for the human race. The image was imposing, beautiful and priceless. It was about 90 feet tall and 9 feet in breath, and it commanded the wonder and applause of the people.

## WEDNESDAY

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The image of Gold was set up on a platform in the plain of Dura.

Nebuchadnezzar, with the advice of his "wise" men decided to consecrate this image as an object of worship. Accordingly, a decree from the king went out. On a certain day the image was to be dedicated and on this occasion all the officials and leading men in the empire were to be there worshipping the idol, to show allegiance to him, its designer and maker.

Then all the people both great and small, high and low, rich and poor were to give worship to this piece of metal made by man's hand.

### SEARCH

#### Who were to assemble at the dedication of the image?

Daniel 3: 2. List them here

"The \_\_\_\_\_  
and all the \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
\_\_\_\_\_ "

#### What was the plan of action: Daniel 3:5

"At what time ye hear \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ "

### DISCUSS

What would you have done if you were one of the three Seventh-day Adventists?



## THURSDAY

---

It was God's plan to make the presence of the children of Israel in Babylon a blessing to all the nations. Satan hoped to defeat this purpose of God and so he led King Nebuchadnezzar to set up the image, a command all the officials, including Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego had to obey. Indeed with Daniel absent from Babylon, Satan hoped to defeat the faith of these three boys, and so claim universal worship.

But God decreed otherwise!

When the music began to play and the herald commanded all to fall in worship before the image these three boys refuse to bend their knees. They remained tall and straight like a ramrod. Their God was the true and living God, they would bow to none other. Their test had come and they would die rather than dishonour God.

King Nebuchadnezzar sat pleased on his royal throne, in his royal pavilion, flushed with the glory that comes from the worship of men. Then certain of the wise men, jealous of the positions these boys held, brought word to Nebuchadnezzar that the Hebrew boys refused to obey his royal decree.

Ordering the young men into his presence, he inquired, "Is it true?" In other words, "after all I have done for you, could it be that you would embarrass me so?"

The king threatened them by fire. But firmly, calmly, and respectfully, they told the king that they could not worship him.

### SEARCH

*Copy the immortal words of these Hebrews found in Daniel 3:18.*

"Be it not \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

”

What humility, what deference, what courage! How all the armies of heaven and hell; how all the people in the unfallen worlds must have watched this contest. How the Father and Son must have beamed with joy and delight.

## FRIDAY

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When the king saw that his will was not received as the will of God, he was “filled with fury”, so that his face became contorted and he foamed at his mouth with rage.

“Heat that fire seven times hotter!”

He felt that it required more than ordinary power to deal with these men.

“Who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hand?”

How quickly Nebuchadnezzar had forgotten Daniel and his all - powerful God!

The fire was heated up!

Sensing that something unusual might happen to save them, he ordered his strongest men to bind them hand and foot and throw them into the fiery furnace.

Into the fire they fell and stood. There, standing, they met their Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, in person and together they walked and talked in the midst of the fire. What's this; a fiery furnace that should have burnt them up in an instant, or was it a day at the beach?

Boys and girls, the fire was real, ask the men who threw them in. But, you see, God had not forgotten His own. In the presence of the Lord of heat and cold, the flames was as a morning shower, they lost their power to consume.

From his royal seat, in his royal pavilion, the king looked on. Suddenly he leaned forward; weakly he stood, gawkily he pointed. Finding his

tongue loosed at last, he stammered -“What -what's happening here? Did I not throw three men into the fiery furnace? I see a fourth and he looks like the Son of the Living God.”

Forgetting his royal dignity, he was in a daze. He flew down the steps to the mouth of the cave and cried out. “Ye servants of the most high God, come forth, come thither.”

Forgotten was the great golden image, set up with such pomp. In the presence of the living God, men feared and trembled. And the three noble young men came forth.

## SEARCH

*Copy Daniel 3:27 second part on the lines below:*

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## SABBATH

1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in memory.*
3. *Come prepared to share in Sabbath School Class.*

### Gem:

“As in the days of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, so in these closing days of earth’s history, the Lord will work mightily in behalf of those who stand steadfastly for the right. He who walked with the Hebrew worthies in the fiery furnace, will be with His followers wherever they are. His abiding presence will comfort and sustain ... Satan with all the host of evil cannot destroy the weakest of God’s servants. Angels that excel in strength will protect them .... “ Prophets and Kings pp. 512-513.



## LESSON 4

# Pride Goes Before a Fall

### KEY TEXT

*“Pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall.” Proverbs 16: 18*

### OBJECTIVES

1. *explain what God allowed to happen to Nebuchadnezzar in order to humble him*
2. *recount the dream and the interpretation*
3. *understand key terms like: ‘watchers’ and ‘holy ones’ and ‘times’.*
4. *recognise God’s hand in the affairs of nations and their life.*
5. *desire to be truly great.*

### IN DEPTH

*Daniel 4, Prophets and Kings 520 -521*

### SUNDAY

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Will Winslow was from a well-to-do family but he was the worst boy in the village. His dad had neglected his training and, so he was a most disagreeable child. He was abusive and very disrespectful, particularly to the old and the cripple.

One poor old woman who was bent with age, was his particular object of ridicule and mocking. “Look at her,” he would say, “isn't she like the letter 's' with an extra crook in it?” Then he would laugh as he followed closely behind her, mocking an imitating her disfigured body and painful walk.

“Shame on you!” said Charles Mansfield, “to laugh at her because of her misfortune.”

"If! looked like that I would not stay among people!" said Will.

Not many days after, Will Winslow dashed from a detention when his teacher's back was turned. He rushes on to the playing field exclaiming triumphantly, "Now let him punish me again, if he can!" As he said this he ran backwards and to the horror of those boys present, he fell into an open well that was under repairs.

The well was deep but Charles Mansfield decided to climb down. Carefully he lifted Will's limp and disfigured body with one hand. With the other upon a rope he carefully climbed out. The old crippled lady had witnessed the fall and hurried upon her crutch to the scene. Will was taken to her humble home and upon the lowly bed of the same woman whom he had mocked and ridiculed, he laid as if dead.

A doctor was called and he was examined. But poor Will, his once youthful, lithe body, was now broken and distorted with an ugly scar upon his forehead, stark reminder of pride that goes before a fall.

## **DISCUSSION**

1. *Express your feeling for the old, crippled and disfigured.*
2. *How do you feel about bullies and braggarts?*

## **MONDAY**

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King Nebuchadnezzar had been favorably impressed by the faithfulness of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the face of death. He was more impressed when the Son of God went with them into the fire to save them out of it, so that not a hair of their head was singed, nor was the scent of smoke on them. In fact, so impressed and humbled was Nebuchadnezzar, that he immediately made a law "that every people, nation and language, which speak anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces and their houses shall be made a dung hill."

Regrettably this favorable impression and attitude by Nebuchadnezzar did not last. The king was naturally ambitious and proud-spirited and he always indulged feelings of self - importance. Was he not called "the terrible of the nations" and "the hammer of God." All his victories he claimed for his gods. It should not be surprising then that he should be tempted to turn aside from humility, which leads to true greatness.

## **TUESDAY**

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God must have loved the man Nebuchadnezzar very much. In mercy he gave the king another dream, to warn him of the danger and of the snare that Satan had laid for his ruin. What a merciful and kind Father! And to think that the king was a stubborn old heathen!

The king could remember this dream but he could not understand its meaning. Greatly troubled by it he again, just as in former times, called for his soothsayers and wisemen. And of course with the dream all told in clear and simple language they ought to be able to interpret it. Nebuchadnezzar did not think to send for Daniel. To the king's great amazement and greater annoyance, not one of the supposed wisemen could interpret it. The king in his perplexity sent for his faithful servant Daniel.

## **SEARCH**

*What made the difference in understanding between Daniel and the wise men of Babylon? See Psalms 41:10, Jeremiah 8:9, Daniel 4:8, 1 Cor 2:7-10.*

## **WEDNESDAY**

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When Daniel, in response to the king's summons stood before the king, how did Nebuchadnezzar address him and what admission did he make?

*Search Daniel 4:9.*



**How?**

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**Admission?**

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*Search Daniel 4: 10-18*

**1. What was the central object in the picture (Verse 11)**

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**2. What command was given against the tree (Verse 14)**

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**3. Who gave the command? (Verse 13)**

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**4. What lesson were men to learn from the command? (Verse 17)**

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To Daniel the meaning was plain. Yet out of distress and astonishment, he could not bring himself to speak: for an whole hour.

The king, seeing Daniel's distress and hesitation said, "Belteshazzar, don't let what you see trouble you, speak."

## THURSDAY

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*In prophecy, symbols have interpretation and warning.*

### ACTIVITY

*Who or what did Daniel interpret the following to mean? (See Daniel 4:20-26)*

1. *The tree*
2. *Reaching to the heavens*
3. *Watcher and holy one*
4. *Hew down the tree*
5. *Leaving the stump*
6. *Wet with the dew of heaven*

## FRIDAY

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Having faithfully interpreted the dream, Daniel pleaded with the king to put away his pride and turn to God. Nebuchadnezzar had made great conquests, he was monarch of the world's greatest kingdom, and nations were subject to him.. He was a great statesman and builder. He was therefore naturally proud and very self-centred.

The dream and its interpretation had been given to warn him, that by repentance he might avoid the lurking calamity.

For a time the impression of warning and counsel was strong upon him, but his heart still unrenewed soon lost the impressions of the Holy Spirit.

A year passed and then disaster struck. One day, while walking in his gardens which he had caused to be built, a great wave of pride swept over him. With a feeling of self-glory, he uttered the fateful words:

*Copy Daniel 4:30.*

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Nebuchadnezzar gave himself and his gods praise for his intelligence and skill and riches and power. He had both forgotten the God who had given him his throne and the message of the Watcher and the Holy one.

## SABBATH

---

1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in your memory.*
3. *Come prepared to share in the Sabbath School lesson.*
4. *Here's a special gem for you to think on:*

### **Gem:**

**“In a moment the reason God had given him was taken away; the judgment that the king thought perfect, wisdom in which he prided himself, was removed and the once mighty ruler was now a maniac. “For seven year Nebuchadnezzar was an astonishment to all his subjects; for seven years he was humbled before all the world. Then his reason was restored and the once proud monarch became a humble child of God.” Prophets and Kings 520-521**



## LESSON 5

# The Unseen Watcher

### KEY TEXT

*“Flee out of the midst of Babylon and deliver every man his soul, be not cut off in her iniquity, for this is the time of the Lord’s vengeance, He will render her a recompense. “Jeremiah 51: 6*

### OBJECTIVES

1. *understand how the God of Heaven deals with nations.*
2. *understand how God deals with individuals*
3. *recognise that their’ day of opportunity’ is now.*
4. *determine to make use of their opportunity.*

### IN DEPTH

*Daniel 5: 1-31, Prophets and Kings pgs 522 - 538*

### SUNDAY

---

The history and story of Babylon, is one of how God deals with earthly nations. It is also a picture of how God deals with individuals. It is good for you to remember at the outset, that the God who rules the heavens is just and good and His commandments are all given in love. God wants our salvation and desires us to be happy and therefore he gives each nation and each individual time and chance to make up their mind.

The kingdom of Babylon was raised up by God for a special purpose. That purpose was to chastise God’s people who had turned from Him and had turned to following the ways of the idolatrous nations around them. In doing this work, God gave to Babylon and its kind, ample opportunity to get to know Him and His principles of righteousness and truth.

## SEARCH

*Record the three outstanding opportunities God gave to Babylon to know and choose Him. (See Daniel Chapters 1 - 4).*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## MONDAY

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In the vision given to Nebuchadnezzar of a great image (Daniel 2) the kingdom of Babylon and its great king were represented as the head of Gold. Gold- is described as the choicest or most precious of metals. In another place (Daniel 7) Babylon is ascribed as a Lion, the king of beasts.

Babylon, then can be described as a very favoured nation. God bestowed upon this kingdom the richest blessings He could bestow upon any earthly kingdom.

Babylon was built on the world's most fertile plain; it was watered by the world's greatest rivers; wisdom was given to its people. Furthermore God protected its king on his throne and gave him power in battle, making him a conqueror.

It was God who caused Babylon and its king to grow like a tree to the heavens and who gave strength and beauty to its branches. In other words, God gave them everything necessary, that would cause the king and his people to see the difference between the false and the true and lead them to choose the true.

This is always God's purpose in dealing with nations and individuals.

## DISCUSSION

*What privileges and opportunities has God given to me, the church and our nation that we may choose the true?*

**Me:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**The church:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**The nation:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## TUESDAY

A period of twenty-five years passed between the time of Nebuchadnezzar's illness and restoration in Daniel 4, and the events and fall of Babylon in Daniel 5.

Nebuchadnezzar, on regaining his health, was cured not only of his mental disease, but finally of his pride and tyranny. He became a wise and compassionate king and happily a humble child of God. It took God many years to break Satan's hold on the king, but in the end, the king acknowledged Jehovah as the living God.

After Nebuchadnezzar's death, his son ruled in his stead.

## SEARCH

1. What was the name of this son? (2 Kings 25:27)

\_\_\_\_\_



2.What kind deed did he do? (2 Kings 25:27-31)

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Evil Merodach had known the Jews and their history from his youth up. Daniel might even had been the instructor of the prince. He reigned for two years.

Nabonadus who was Nebuchadnezzar's son-in-law was seated on his throne. He later shared this throne with his son Belshazzar, (540 - 538 BC) at which time Babylon was overthrown.

## **WEDNESDAY**

---

During the reign of Belshazzar, very important changes occurred in Babylon.

Daniel, the most trusted advisor was dismissed from active service at the court. He retired to Sushan. Here he intended to spend his last days and here he was given the vision of Daniel 8.

This King himself did not regard the God of Heaven, nor did he care for the Jews. He moved to make their lives very hard. The time came when the Babylonians sun-worshippers began to mock the Sabbath-keeping Jews who had remained faithful.

## **SEARCH**

1. What did Jeremiah call this time of trouble for the Jews? (Jeremiah 30:8,9)

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2. Who was to plead their cause? (Jeremiah 50:33, 34 - copy verses)

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## THURSDAY

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God never leaves His people without warning and comfort during times of trouble. Nor does He leave them without a sign of deliverance, which also serves as a sign or opportunity that they were to flee and seek safe refuge.

### ACTIVITY

*Match the events below with the correct sign or opportunity of deliverance.*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>1. Destruction of Babylon</b>           | With removal of Roman army from Jerusalem                           |
| <b>2. Flight from Egypt</b>                | Migration of birds and animals to a place of safety                 |
| <b>3. Coming of the flood</b>              | Cyrus discontinued march due to the death of his sacred White Horse |
| <b>4. Destruction of Jerusalem (AD 70)</b> | Death of the first born   |

### DISCUSSION POINT

What event has God given to faithful Sabbath keepers as the sign for our flight out of the cities and towns to places of safety?

## FRIDAY

---

In the year 538 AD God sent the combined army of the Medes and the Persians to punish Babylon and to take over its place as the second kingdom to rule the world.

Belshazzar the king and one thousand of his lords were gathered at the Royal Palace to eat, drink and be merry, unmindful of the danger that threatened them.

They drank wine until reason left them. Then Belshazzar made a decision that sealed his doom forever. 36 | Youth Quarterly

In his drunken stupor, he ordered, that the sacred vessels Nebuchadnezzar had brought from the temple of Jerusalem, be now brought into the banqueting hall for use by his immoral, drunken, godless lords and ladies.

His cup was filled as he raised it in honour of his god Bel. It never reached his profane, unclean lips, for in bold letters of an unknown language, a bloodless hand was writing on the opposite wall.

The Chaldees, astrologers and soothsayers were summoned to the court but the writing was meaningless to them. Then the Queen's mother remembered Daniel and suggested that he be called. He read the writing on the wall and its meaning.

## ACTIVITY

*Read the message and the meaning of the words. Begin at the arrow and select every other letter.*

## SABBATH

---

1. Review your lesson.
2. Fix the key text in your memory.
3. Come prepared to share in the Sabbath School lesson.
4. Here's a special gem for you to think on:

### Gem:

The history of nations speak to us today. To every nation and to every individual, God has assigned a place in His great plan. Today men and nations are being tested by the plummet in the hand of Him who makes no mistakes. All are by their own choices deciding their destiny and God is over-ruling all for the accomplishment of His purpose.



## LESSON 6

# How to Tame Lions

### KEY TEXT

*“Even to your old age I am He; and even to hoar hairs will I carry you: I have made, and I will bear; even I will carry and will deliver you.” Isaiah 46:4.*

### OBJECTIVES

1. *understand the nature of envy and its sure results.*
2. *understand the principles of “Freedom of Conscience” and “religious liberty” as demonstrated in Daniel’s life.*
3. *explain how Daniel’s life proved to be a Great Witness for God among heathen*
4. *practise the principle of prayer and absolute surrender to God.*
5. *trust God to work out all things for them.*

### HELPS

*Daniel 6;, Prophet and Kings pp. 539 - 548.*

### SUNDAY

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The Medes and Persians who took the empire formerly ruled by Babylon, were a physically strong and rugged people. This was due in a great measure to the simplicity of their habits and temperance in eating. The Medes were not unknown to the Jews; for four hundred years earlier, the Assyrians had carried away Jews into Assyria and scattered them among the Medes. This contact permitted the Medes to have some knowledge of God and this may be why, though heathen, they never fell into the wicked forms of idolatry found in Babylon. Find the names of the heathen nations who had dealings with the Jews.

S M, S E T I R O M A T H  
 E H E G Y P T I A N S S  
 T I O D U S S H A N L E  
 I T T H I N A V A E N N  
 N T 10 M O A B I T E I S I  
 O I O T H M N E R G O T  
 M T D E D O M I T E S S  
 M E S B L R E F T O R I  
 A S S Y R I A N S E E L  
 E M B P E R S I A N S I  
 E A M A L E K I T E S H  
 B S E T I N A A N A C D

Medianites

Assyrians

Medes

Persians

Babylonians

Greek

Romans

Egyptians

Philistines

Moabites

Canaanite

Amalekites

Hittite

Amorites

Edomites

## MONDAY

The first ruler of the Median-Persian empire was King Darius. He immediately began the work of reorganising the Government. This reorganisation was to cause deadly jealousy and hatred from the start, but God over-ruled it for His glory and praise.

When the army of the Medo-Persian sacked Babylon, they put all of the royal family and chief men to the sword. Daniel, who at the time of assault was in the city, was saved alive, no doubt providentially. It may also be that the Medo-Persian intelligence had information on Daniel as being an upright and honest counsellor. No doubt Darius wanted men around him who knew the affairs of Babylon and men whom he could trust with state affairs.

Darius selected one hundred and twenty princes and set them over the provinces of his empire. Over these, he set three presidents, of whom Daniel was the first. Daniel was made first among equals because an "excellent" spirit was in him.

## ACTIVITY # 1

*Discussion*

**What is meant by "excellent spirit"?**

**Can anyone acquire it? If yes, how?**

## TUESDAY

---

The honour bestowed upon Daniel excited and inflamed the jealousy and envy of the princes and presidents of the kingdom.

"Who is this Daniel that the king has chosen him above us," one must have said.

"He is quite old and will soon die anyhow," another might have said.

"These accursed Jews, slaves, pestilentious rebels; why should they be favoured above us?" Another might have retorted.

These men, themselves raised by the king to high honour, were all apposed to Daniel, and sought to find fault with Daniel and his work, but they could find nothing against him. And why? because Daniel



was faithful in the king's business: He would not join in their petty plans nor hang around their questionable parties. He was always punctual and present at work and, above all, he was honest and upright. 40 | Youth Quarterly His faithfulness, honesty and integrity irritated them.

## ACTIVITY#2

List ten words to describe the kind of man and worker Daniel was. For each word you choose that no one else chose, score 10 points:

\_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_ . \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

No. of points: \_\_\_\_\_

## WEDNESDAY

"We can't bribe him," said one. "We can't intimidate him," said another.

"We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel," they all agreed. "He is scrupulously clean," they were all forced to admit.

"Ah, but we shall surely find fault against him concerning the law of his God".

"How is that? There is no law against anyone's religion."

"We shall make a law, forbidding anyone to worship any God for thirty days," said an artful counsellor.

"But you know that only the king can make such a law." retorted another.

“Well, you know king Darius is old and quite tired but he loves a little flattery,” the counsellor said. Darius will be all too happy to seal this law and enforce a decree where all shall ask of no God, except him, for the space of thirty days.”

Accordingly, the princes prepared the decree and presented it to Darius to sign.

“And you are saying. you've done in my honour?” asked a skeptical Darius. “O king, live forever. Your faithful servants thought that there is no king like our king, a god of gods is he. There is none wise as he. It is the least we could do, most noble Darius,” they flattered.

“Your honour and authority shall be greatly increased if men speak your name with great reverence and awe.”

Ignorant of the hidden motive of the princes, the king did not realise the hatred they had for Daniel, and, yielding to their flattery, he signed the decree.

## **THURSDAY**

---

The enemies of Daniel left the king's presence rejoicing over the trap they had seemingly laid for the servant of God. And of course, Satan was the real brains behind the plot all along.

For one, he hates freedom of conscience and religious liberty. He hated it then and he hates it the more now. Daniel was high in command and in the favour of the king and people, and Satan feared his influence would weaken his control over the rulers and the people of the nation.

Imagine Satan fearing a man! And indeed he needed to fear. For this man did not fear to stand alone with God against all the evil men and evil angels around him. It was the satanic agencies that stirred the princes to envy and jealousy; it was they who inspired the plan for Daniel's destruction.

When Daniel knew the decree was signed, he opened his windows three times a day, as usual towards Jerusalem and prayed. Why should he cease to pray now, when he most needed to pray? He would rather die first than give up communion with his God.

With calmness he performed his duties and at the time of prayer he went into his chamber, and with windows opened, he offered his petition to the God of heaven as usual.

For an entire day the spies watch him. Three times they saw him go into his bed chamber, and three times heard his voice up-lifted in earnest prayer to the God of heaven. Armed with the damaging information they went in before the king early the next morning.

### **ACTIVITY #3**

#### *Discussion*

1. When the decree is passed forbidding worship on Sabbath and enforcing worship only on Sunday, what will be the right position to take?

2. What lessons can be learnt from Daniel's experience?

*Come prepared to share in class.*

### **FRIDAY**

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“O King, has thou not signed a decree, that any man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, ‘save thee, o King, shall be cast into the den of lions? They reminded him.

“The thing is true, according to the laws of the Medes and Persians,” said Darius.

“That Daniel who is of the children of the captivity of Judah, they triumphantly exclaim, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou has signed.”



When the monarch heard these words he for the first time read their evil motives. Displeased with himself and distressed for his friend and faithful servant, he sought a way of escape for Daniel. But there was none; the laws of the Medes and Persians could not be change, not even by the king.

“Bring Daniel and throw him into the den of lion,” said the distraught king.

God did not prevent Daniel's enemies from succeeding in casting him into the lion's den. He knew He could count on Daniel. He would make the deliverance of his servant more marked and defeat the enemies of truth and righteousness.

Early the next morning, the king rushed to the den of lions and cried”

## ACTIVITY #4

*How did this episode end and how did God show his favour with Daniel's position in this conflict.*

## SABBATH

---

1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in your memory.*
3. *Come prepared to share in the Sabbath School lesson.*
4. *Here is a special gem for you to think on:*

### Gem:

Although he (Daniel) knew full well the consequences of his fidelity to God, his spirit faltered not. Before those who were plotting his ruin, he would not allow it even to appear that his connection with heaven was severed. In all cases where the king had a right to command, Daniel would obey; but neither the king nor his decree could make him sever from allegiance to the king of kings. Thus the prophet boldly yet quietly and humbly declared that no earthly power has a right to interpose between the soul and God.” Prophet and Kings p.542.

## LESSON 7

# The Great Judgment Scene

### KEY TEXT

*“Surely the Lord God will do nothing, but he revealeth his secrets unto his servants the prophets. “ Amos 3:7.*

### OBJECTIVES

1. Understand God’s purpose in giving the vision in Dan. 7.
2. Accurately recall the symbols and their meaning in Dan.7.
3. Appreciate the purpose of the investigative Judgement.
4. Enumerate the distinguishing marks of the little horn.
5. Trust God as the one who loves and cares for them.

### ADDITIONAL READING

*Daniel 7; Great Controversy p. 51 -54; 446, 479.*

### SUNDAY

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The seventh chapter of Daniel begins very simply and matter-of-factly. Yet it develops into one of the most beautiful prophecies found anywhere in the bible. It begins with some terrible and ravenous beast that preyed upon God’s people down through history. It ends with the wonderful judgment scene which vindicated God’s government, His people and His love, and shows God’s justice in consigning all these evil powers including the little horn power to the flames of hell. The Climax is the saints inheriting a kingdom which is everlasting.

Chapter 7 also serves as the dividing line between the first half and the second half of the book of Daniel.

By now it should be realized that the first six chapters deal with the

kingdom of Babylon in particular at the time when the prophet Daniel lived and served in the courts of Babylon. The seventh chapter onward to the twelfth, reveal the future of God's people, not only of the Jews, but God's true, Spiritual, people, remnant church. (Rev. 14: 12)

At the time of this vision, prophet Daniel was about eighty five years of age; he had therefore spent some sixty seven years in Babylon, holding high the light of God's truth and character, not only to Babylon but to the then known world.

This vision was the first of four that Daniel was to receive. While Daniel 2 and 7 are quiet similar, it is most useful to work out the differences.

### **For example:**

Daniel 2 was given to a pagan king

Daniel 7 was given to a man of God.

Daniel 2 portrays history of nature as man would view it, glorious and glamorous.

Daniel 7 portrays history of nature and man as God sees it, one rebellion after the next.

Daniel 2 reveals nations as they are outwardly in their supposed glory.

Daniel 7 reveals them as they are inwardly, wild, ungodly and self seeking.

Further, Daniel 7 reveals information about a wicked world ruler at the end of time, who disguised as a religious person, would really be blasphemous and tyrannical.

### **ACTIVITY #1**

Which view of man and the kingdoms of this world is correct, man's or God's.



## MONDAY

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It was night Daniel was dreaming. The scene he gazed on was turbulent and terrifying. Water filled his view and it was swept and tossed lashed by the violence of the four winds.

Suddenly his eyes were arrested by the explosion of water as four huge monstrous beasts broke through the surface, one after the other as if in a parade.

Now in prophecy, language is quite symbolic, that is, the: writer uses symbols and figures which must be, correctly interpreted in order to arrive at the correct understanding of the prophecy. So far you have met three symbols.

### ACTIVITY #2

*Water, wind and beast. Check the following text and write the meaning of the symbols.*

<b>SYMBOL</b>	<b>TEXT</b>	<b>MEANING</b>
Water	Rev.17:15	_____
Wind	7: 1-3	_____
Beast	Rev. Daniel 7: 17	_____

## TUESDAY

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In his animal parade, the first beast to appear was a massive lion, one unlike any Daniel had ever seen. This was followed by other strange looking beasts, but the strangest of all was the fourth.

### ACTIVITY #3

*Read Daniel 7: 3 - 8,17.*

1. Name the four beast Daniel saw.
2. Name the kingdom they represent.
3. Write one strange thing about each beast as seen by Daniel.
4. Write the corresponding symbol of Daniel 2. 5.

Beasts	Strange Features	Represented Kingdom	Symbol in Daniel 2
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

In the vision, the animals did not leave the scene but remained as the succeeding ones arose. This is an important point to notice, what is the importance? As each kingdom was succeeded by another, its influence lingered and became incorporated into the other. Babylon's pride and evil-religion remained to pollute the Medo-Persian kingdom; Medo-Persian cruelty remained and corrupted the otherwise cultured Greek civilisation.

Greek education and etiquette remained to add culture and refinement to the otherwise crude Roman kingdom.

## WEDNESDAY

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Neither lions nor leopards have wings, nor do bears walk around with ribs in their mouth. As for the fourth beast, it was unlike anything known to man and horror of horrors it devoured and broke in pieces and trample the people of God with its feet. On its head were horns and one horn which uprooted three to make room for itself, had eyes and mouth and it could speak. What a terror!

Each peculiar feature arrested Daniel's attention.

### ACTIVITY #4

*Re-read Daniel 7: 4 - 7.*

*What do you think each feature suggested about each animal:*

#### 1. The two wings of the lion (Hab: 1: 6 - 8)

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#### 2. The bear with three ribs in mouth (Isa 13: 17 - 18)

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#### 3.(a) The four heads and wings of the leopard (Dan. 8: 21-22)

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#### b) The four wings of the leopard (Dan 7: 6)

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#### 4. The ten horns of the dragon (Dan. 7: 24)

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History itself verifies both the existence of these four kingdoms and their kings. It also confirms the nature of these beast kingdoms as shown to Daniel in his night vision.

For example, history shows that the lion was the national symbol of Babylon; that Medo-Persia was a cruel kingdom; that Alexander, the first king of the united Greek empire conquered nations with a speed that defied the imagination; that the fourth kingdom, Rome, was divided into the ten kingdoms of Europe.

## THURSDAY

---

You would have notice that Daniel's vision angel passed swiftly over the first three kingdoms, lightly touching them. When it came to the fourth, a beast "dreadful and terrible," and strong exceeding," Daniel was

Youth Quarterly | 49 troubled and asked the angel to explain that power. The angel returned to Daniel to explain the power. The angel returned to Daniel to explain it in minute detail. We too must seek to understand this beast in minute detail, especially the pompous little horn that blasphemed against God.

### ACTIVITY # 5

#### SEARCH

*Read Daniel 7:24-25 and write the characteristics of the little horn.*

- 1.He shall \_\_\_\_\_ three kings.
- 2.He shall \_\_\_\_\_ of the Most High.
- 3.He shall \_\_\_\_\_ of the Most High.
- 4.He shall \_\_\_\_\_

5.He shall dominate (how long)? \_\_\_\_\_

Read Daniel 7:7 and write in the characteristics of this beast.

S		R		N	*	E		C		E		I		G		Y
A																
P																
D																
*																
B		E		K	*	I		*	P		E		E			
E																
I																
U																
	R		A		*	I		O		*	T		E		H	

**FRIDAY**

The scenes of the four beasts and in particular the behaviour of the fourth beast and the little horn overwhelmed Daniel. God in His love and mercy shifted the scene, from wicked rulers to the glorious heavenly sanctuary and the judgement scene. (Read Dan. 7:9-14).

What can we learn from the judgement scene of Daniel 17:914?

*We learn that:*

1. God is in control
2. God who loves us and died for us is Advocate.
3. God keeps unerring record of all the evil of wicked nations and individuals.
4. Every individual and nation will be judged by their deeds recorded in heaven's books.
5. The terrible beast will come to an end and be destroyed in the fires of hell.
6. Jesus will take the kingdom of this world.
7. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom.
8. The saints shall inherit the kingdom.

## **SABBATH**

---

1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in your memo*
3. *Come prepared to share in the Sabbath School lesson.*
4. *Here's a special gem for you to think on:*

### **Gem:**

**“While earthly kingdoms rule by the ascendancy of physical power, Christ is to banish every carnal weapon, every instrument of coercion. His kingdom was to be established to uplift and ennoble fallen humanity.” 7A Vol. 4 p. 181.**



## LESSON 8

# Daniel Sees the Judgment

### KEY TEXT

*“And he said unto me, unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. “ Daniel 8: 14.*

### OBJECTIVES

1. Correlate Daniel 8:1-13 with Daniel 2, 7:1-13
2. Identify the little horn of Daniel 8.
3. Explain what is meant by the cleansing of the sanctuary.

### IN DEPTH

*Daniel 8, Great Controversy p. 409; Prophet and Kings p. 554.*

### SUNDAY

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The eighth chapter of Daniel introduces us to the second vision of Daniel. This vision took place at Shushan 551 BC two years after the one recorded in Daniel 7.

This chapter reviews the history of kingdom number two and three, and predicts the persecution of God's people by pagan Rome and papal Rome.

The chapters ends with the remarkable prophecy of the cleansing of the sanctuary in heaven. This prophecy is further amplified in Daniel 9.

## ACTIVITY #1

*Find out what such terms as follows means.*

1. Pagan : \_\_\_\_\_
2. Papal : \_\_\_\_\_
3. Persecuted : \_\_\_\_\_
4. B.C. : \_\_\_\_\_

## MONDAY

---

In this vision Daniel first sees a ram. This ram was pushing northward and southward and west-ward. It had two horns as most rams do, but what was startling was that the horn that came up last grew much higher than the first.

No one could stand before him; this ram did as it pleased. When he attacked another animal, there was no one who could deliver out of his hand. What a prized ram!

## SEARCH #1

1. Which kingdom did the ram represent? Proof text in Daniel 8 verse

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What did the two horns represent? Proof text in Daniel 8 Verse

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What feature of the bear corresponds to the unequal horn in Daniel 8:3; 7: 15.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## HISTORICAL NOTE

Darius who was the king of the Medo Persian Empire which succeeded the kingdom of Babylon in 539 - 537 B.C. (Dan. 5: 30, 31) was an old man at the time of conquest. He ruled for two years and was succeeded by Cyrus, Commander of the army and whom some believe to, have been Darius' grandson.

After Darius' death, Cyrus who took over as king became very important as the Persian element of the kingdom. He became showy and very dominant. In fact, it was the Persian rulers who conquered, westward, northward and southward.

## TUESDAY

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As Daniel watched the parade of the ram, his attention was suddenly arrested by a he-goat. This he-goat came in from the west, the direction opposite the ram. It moved in so fast that the prophecy said, it "touched not the ground." Daniel 8:5.

## SEARCH #2

1. What kingdom was represented by the he-goat? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proof text Daniel 8 verse \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who/what did the one notable horn represent? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Proof text Daniel 8 verse \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What feature of the goat corresponds to that of the leopard in Dan. 7? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## HISTORICAL NOTE

Alexander showed remarkable qualities of leadership while yet a lad. As a general of his army, he led by example and once he decided on an objective; nothing could turn him back.

He always seemed to know what to do and it was this that inspired his men. Thus the strength of his army did not lie in numbers but in his great courage, decisiveness and tactic on the battle field.

These are qualifications for the christian soldiers to consider, especially in the last days.

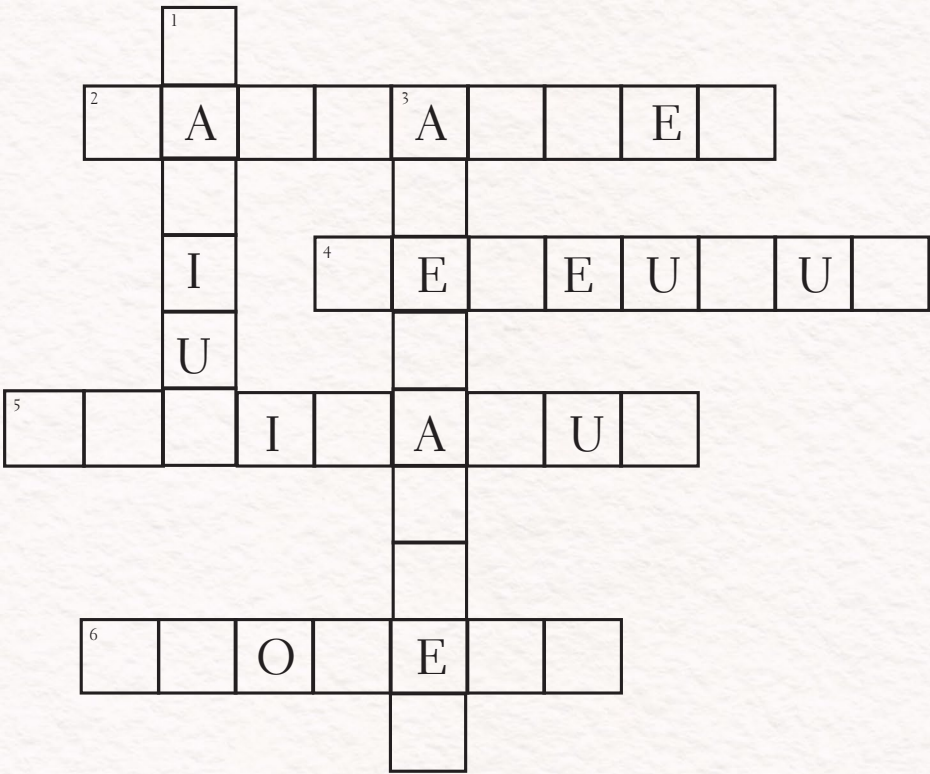
## WEDNESDAY

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Daniel became more engrossed as he saw the he-goat, youthful and nimble tested the air and spotted the parading ram. What a suspenseful picture this must have been. Daniel watched the drama unfold as the he-goat as it were flew over the land, towards, the ram, who a moment ago had been parading. The ram went out in fine style to meet the he-goat. There must have a violent clash time and time again, as the he-goat plunged its single horn into the vitals of the helpless ram. The bible says, "there was none who could deliver the ram out of his hands." The thrill of victory! The anguish of defeat When the dust cleared the ram laid broken and dead on the ground. The kingdom that had shown wonderful strength, collapsed and fell. She had passed her probation and filled up the cup of her iniquity. God had given 'Persia every advantage, but finally Persia turned from God and fell victim to Greece, even as Babylon had fallen victim to her. The he-goat itself grew fat, but when he had grown to a quick size and strong, the great horn was broken.

To Daniel's amazement, four horns grew out of the broken one. One facing the north, another to the south, and the others east and west. To Daniel's utter amazement and alarm, out of one of the four

horns, the western one, sprang a little horn. (This will be the subject of tomorrow's lesson).



1. First ruler of Medo-Persian Empire.
2. Alexander's general who occupied the Western Empire.
3. Notable Greek king and conqueror.
4. Alexander's general who had occupied the Eastern empire.
5. Alexander's general who had occupied the Northern empire.
6. Notable King of Egypt.

## HISTORICAL NOTE

Alexander died at age thirty three of a violent fever brought on by a drunken stupor in May or June 323 B.C. He was in the pride of his life, strong and vigorous and at the height of his career. Thus it truly came to pass as Daniel had foretold, "when he was strong, the great horn was broken." Furthermore, having died without leaving an heir, his four great generals-were left to divide the empire among themselves. These were the four horns seen to arise from the broken one. How accurate the prophecy!

## THURSDAY

---

"Out of one of them came forth a little horn which waxed exceedingly great."

The picture of a little horn appears both in chapter 7 and 8 of Daniel. Who or what is he representative of? Note that this is the only power that the word exceedingly great is applied.

## ACTIVITY #3

*Read Daniel 8: 9 - 14 and complete the statements.*

*What characteristics did Daniel notice about the little horn:-*

1. It came out of \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 9)
2. It waxed exceeding great toward \_\_\_\_\_
3. It waxed to the heaven and \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 9)  
(the proof that the horn arose in the west) verse 10; (see Rev. 1: 20).
4. It magnify itself to \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 11)
5. It took \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 11)
6. It cast \_\_\_\_\_ (verse 12)



## HISTORICAL NOTE

**Both history and Daniel's prophecy show that:**

1. Greece was succeeded by Rome (Dan. 2: 7).
2. Rome arose in the western half of the four Grecian empire (Dan. 8: 9).
3. Rome persecuted and martyred millions of christians and their leaders. (horn and stars), Dan. 12: 1,2.
4. Rome crucified Christ (Act 4: 21, 26).

But the little horn was not just another empire like Greece or Persia. When Barbarian sacked the Roman empire in 476 RC., the church at Rome inherited the power and authority and place of the Roman empire in history. Between 476 and 538 it uprooted three of the ten (1) horns. (see Dan. 7: 8,24). It laboured for its place among the nations of Europe; a place which, it held between 538 AD and 1798 (1260 years); or "time, times and dividing of time (Dan 7: 25)

A time = 1 year; times = 2 years;	dividing or half a time = Y2 year (i.e. 3 1/2 years)
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**In prophecy 1 day = 1 year (see Num. 14: 34) : 3 1/2 years = 3 1/2 years or (360 + 720 + 180) = 1260 days/years.**

## FRIDAY

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In Dan. 8: 13 a question was asked, "how long shall the sanctuary and the host be trodden under foot." That is, how long would Satan and the false religion, persecute God's people, His truth, His temple and High Priestly ministry?

The answer came back "unto two thousand and three hundred days, then shall the sanctuary be cleanse."

This is, at the end of this period, Christ high priestly ministry in heaven would be brought back to people's minds. They would understand the work and Christ would begin cleansing the sanctuary and people in the act of final atonement. This is the work that the early Adventists called to the people's attention in 1843-1844.

What is this sanctuary and what is involved in its cleansing? (see lesson 9 and 10, Quarter 1, 1997. We Worship You).

## SEARCH

*Find and record the proof text for the following.*

1. There is a sanctuary/tabernacle in heaven. Heb. 8: \_\_\_\_\_
2. God has build that tabernacle. Heb. 8: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Our bodies are temples/sanctuaries. I Cor. 6: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Christ ministers in the true heavenly sanctuary Heb. 9: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Cleansing of sanctuary began in 1844 .. Dan. 8: \_\_\_\_\_
6. Heavenly sanctuary is cleansed by the blood of Christ Heb.9:

The earthly sanctuary build by Moses and temples built by Solomon and Herod were cleansed each year. Once a year the high priest entered the most holy place and offered atonement for himself and the people and for the tabernacle. This act of atonement removed in figure, sin from the people and tabernacle and so cleansed them.

In the heavenly sanctuary, our High Priest entered the most holy place once (Heb. 9: 26) to do the same work for us and the sanctuary making final atonement and final cleansing for us.

This work begin in 1844 (Dan. 8: 14). When it is finished, He will 'Come for his cleansed, waiting people.

Just as the Jews on the day of atonement confessed all their sin and.

put them all away before the high priest left the temple, so are we to confess, put away all sin, put an end to sin in our lives. Then the High Priest will blot out all our sin and write pardon beside our names.

The work of final atonement or cleansing began in 1844. (Dan. 8: 14). When it is finished Jesus will come.

## SABBATH

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1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in your memory.*
3. *Come prepared to share in the Sabbath School lesson.*
4. *Here's a special gem for you to think on:*

### **Gem:**

**“While the investigative judgement is going forward in heaven, while the sins of the penitent believers are being removed from the sanctuary, there is to be a special work of purification, of putting away of sin among God’s people on earth.” R & H, Jan. 17, 1907, p. 8.**



## LESSON 9

# The History of the Jews

### KEY TEXT

*“To the Lord our God belong mercies and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against him.” Daniel 9:9.*

### OBJECTIVES

1. Recognise the aspects of permitting prayer.
2. Learn that God does nothing but through the prayers of his people.
3. Understand the components of the 70 weeks of Daniel 9.
4. Reconstruct a chart of 2300 days including the 70 weeks.
5. Prove the starting date of the 2300 days/70 weeks from the Bible.

### IN DEPTH

*Daniel 8: 14; 9: 1- 27, 7 A Vo IA p. 1172; Prophet and Kings pp. 554,555, 698,699.*

### SUNDAY

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Daniel chapter 9, begins with Daniel praying for his people, the Jews. Daniel was not only a renowned statesman, and an astute, businessman, but he was above all else a student of the word of God and a shepherd of his people who were exiled in Babylon.

Amidst all the clamour of court life and the clash of empires, Daniel took time for study and reflection on God's mercies and promises to his people. So in the very first year of Darius' reign, Daniel through prayer and the study of the prophecies of Jeremiah, came to understand that the seventy years of captivity for the Jews were almost at an end.

Daniel however did not say, “well, the Lord has promised that He would cause us to return home at the end of the 70 years, so I'll fold my hands, and let Him do so.”

No! Daniel understood the principles that "God does nothing save through the prayers of his people," and that "God cannot act for His people if they are indifferent and too indolent: to persevere in prayer for fulfillment of these promises.

## MONDAY

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While Daniel was yet praying, angel Gabriel who stands in God's presence and who Daniel had seen before, now returned. Gabriel had left off speaking to Daniel in chapter 8:20 but returned to give Daniel skill and understanding about that said vision.

### DISCUSSION

1. Why did Daniel faint (Dan. 8:25-27) \_\_\_\_\_

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2. Why did Gabriel return (Dan. 9: 21) to speak to Daniel? \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Who is this king, whose work caused Daniel to faint? \_\_\_\_\_

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In Daniel 8: 14, in answer to a question asked by a "saint", Gabriel gave Daniel the answer "unto two thousand three hundred days, then shall the sanctuary be cleansed." This king (Dan. 8:23-26) would destroy God's people by peace and would even stand up against Prince and princes, even Jesus. As Daniel looked upon the work of this king he had fainted. On reviving he or no one else could understand the vision.

## TUESDAY

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In response to his prayer in Daniel 9 which took place some thirteen years after the vision in Daniel 8, the angel Gabriel returns to give him skill and understanding in the vision. God does nothing before its time. He always acts in the fullness of time. Thirteen years had passed, but as soon as God saw Daniel bend his knees and spirit in prayer in regards to end of the Jews captivity. He commissioned Gabriel to fly swiftly to give understanding to Daniel that he might understand God's plan for them as a people.

There must be countless light years between God's throne and earth. But Gabriel covered the distance in record time. He reached Daniel before he had finished praying.

### SEARCH

1. With what endearing term did Gabriel address Daniel? (Dan.9:23).  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. By whom was he "greatly beloved"? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Why do you think Daniel was so greatly beloved? (Give one reason). \_\_\_\_\_
4. Are you greatly beloved by heaven? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Give one reason for your answer to question \_\_\_\_\_

## WEDNESDAY

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Angel Gabriel did not waste time. In one verse and with no more than forty nine words (7 x 7) , he gave the divine history of the Jews.



## ACTIVITY #1

1. How much time would be given to the Jews?

70 weeks = 70 x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_ days

In prophecy (Numbers 14:34; Eze: 4:6) a day is equal to a year.

70 weeks \_\_\_\_\_ days = \_\_\_\_\_ years

**2. What five things did God expect of his people, the Jews to do in these 70 years?**

i \_\_\_\_\_

ii \_\_\_\_\_

iii \_\_\_\_\_

iv \_\_\_\_\_

v \_\_\_\_\_

God loved His people. He had big plans for them but they must be willing to comply with His terms if these big plans were to benefit them.

Through Daniel He gave them a deadline and specific instructions as what to do if they were to remain in His favour. In order to recognise the Messiah when He came, and to share in the benefits of His coming, they would have to do as instructed.

## THURSDAY

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That His people may not be deceived; that they would know the Messiah and the time of his coming, God kindly gave them through Daniel, unmistakable milestones. These sign posts acted as milestones and beacons along the route till the time of the Messiah's first advent. In fact these are undeniable proofs that Jesus of Nazareth

is the Christ. Daniel 9: 25 states “know ye therefore” i.e. be assured; know for sure. In other words the date of the promulgation of the commandment to restore and rebuild Jerusalem would serve as the first marker or the starting date for both the reckoning of the 70 years of the Jewish probation and the start of the 2,300 days.

Thus:

70 weeks cut off Or 490 years (70 x 7)

1810 years left (2300 - 490)

---

2300 day /years

It is important to note that the word “determined in verse 24 really means “cut off. In other words the 70 years are cut off from something and what else could it be but the 2300 day (Dan.9:2223). ‘

## **FRIDAY**

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But what does this prophecy about the Jews have to do with us, today? EVERYTHING!

Let us understand as Daniel did and so succeed where the Jews failed.

First, the starting date of the 2300 days/70 weeks was 457 B.C. According to Ezra 6: 14 King Artaxerxes gave the third of ,three commands to rebuild and restore Jerusalem. This was in the autumn of 457 B.C. when Ezra was a scribe in the Medo- Persia Court of Artaxerxes.

Two former decrees had been made, one by King Cyrus (537 B.C.) who conquered Babylon in 539 B.C. (see Ezra 1:1-3). The other was made by Darius a Persian king in 519 B.c. These, two decrees resulted in work on the rebuilding of the temple. (see Ezra 6:1-3, 11, 12).

“70 WEEKS ARE DECREED {“CUT OFF”} UPON THY PEOPLE”  
490 YEARS

B.C. 457	B.C. 408	A.D. 21	A.D. 31	A.D. 34
		+		
		3½	3½	
70 WEEKS, OR 49 YEARS	3 SCORE & 2 (62) WEEKS OR 434 YEARS	1 WEEK, OR 7 YEARS		

A chart of the “seventy weeks” which were decreed to God’s people. Christ’s advent prophecy true

Jesus Christ is unmistakably the sent of God, the Messiah. He came right on time. He was baptized on time and was offered up for our sins on time.

## SABBATH

1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in your memory.*
3. *Come prepared to share in the Sabbath School lesson.*
4. *Here’s a special gem for you to think on*

### Gem:

“The true followers of Christ do not wait for truth to become popular. Being convinced of their duty, they deliberately accept the cross and thus remove the greatest obstacle to the reception of truth .... We should choose the right because it is right, and leave the consequences to God.” G.C. (1884 ed) p. 293.



# PARALLELES IN DANIEL'S VISIONS - 2

DANIEL 2	DANIEL 7	DANIEL 8	DANIEL 9
BABYLON Gold head	BABYLON Lion		
PERSIA* Silver chest	PERISA* Bear: one shoulder higher	PERSIA* Ram: one horn higher	DECREE, 457 B.C. To restore Jerusalem
GREECE** Brass thighs	GREECE** Leopard: with four heads	GREECE** Goat: one horn becomes four	70 weeks (457 B.C. – A.D. 34)
ROMAN EMPIRE Iron legs	ROMAN EMPIRE Monster	ROMAN EMPIRE Little horn from the west	Baptism/anointing, A.D. 27 Cruxifixion, A.D. 31 New "Israel," A.D. 34
EUROPE AS DIVIDED ROME Iron and clay feet and toes	EUROPE AS DIVIDED ROME Ten horns on monster A.D. 538		DESOLATING SACRILEGE The destroyer prince destroys temple and Jerusalem A.D. 70
extension of Roman iron from legs into feet symbolizes continuation in Europe of characteristic Roman concepts	ROMAN CHURCH Little horn on monster	ROMAN CHURCH Little horn	DESOLATING SACRILEGE The destroyer prince
1260 DAYS (538-1798)	Persecutes saints speaks vs. God	Tramples host and heavenly tamid	Desolates saints and sanctuary
1798	1798	1844	
NEW KINGDOM Stone becomes a mountain	JUDGEMENT SITS Son of Man comes to Ancient of Days	SANCTUARY "RESTORED" Day of Atonement pre-advent Day of Judgement	DESOLATING SACRILEGE Destroyed completely
	NEW KINGDOM Son of Man gives dominion to saints		

\*For the early years after Cyrus conquered Babylon, "Persia" may be considered an abbreviation for "Medo-Persian Empire."  
 \*\*"Greece" is an abbreviation for Alexander's "Greco-Macedonian Empire" and for the group of "Helisnistic" or "Macedonian," kingdoms that developed out of it. Says, M. Cary, A History of the Greek World, p.10: "Alexander conquered for Greece rather than for Macedon. Helisnistic history is therefore essentially an extension of Greek history..."

## LESSON 10

# God's Angels Care for Us

### KEY TEXT:

*“And he said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong.” Dan. 10:19.*

### OBJECTIVES:

1. *Realise how intensely Daniel was concerned about the history of God's people.*
2. *Recognise the love and compassion of Jesus in visiting His aging -servant,*
3. *Understand the purpose of Gabriel's visit to Daniel.*
4. *Identify examples of angels holding conversation with other men and women.*

### HELPS:

*Daniel 10; PK p. 572; GC p. 471; 4A p. 183*

### SUNDAY

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In the third year of Cyrus King of Persia, Daniel was given the last of five visions. This vision was awesome; it was a revelation concerning future world empires as they relate to the people of God down through history. More specifically a ally of the church as she goes through tough times in the last days of earth's history. At the end Michael, the commander of God's people will stand up and save His people. In Daniel 8, this vision caused Daniel much concern and hence much meditation and prayer. God had been good. He had cared for Daniel in every crisis, answering his prayer, and using him to bless his generation.

But now a new crisis had developed again. Work on the temple in Jerusalem so recently restarted by order of Cyrus, had stopped. Characteristically, Daniel fell to his knees. He prayed instead of despairing and complaining.

So great was his concern that Daniel finds himself by the river Hidekel after prayer and fasting for three full weeks.

**ACTIVITY:**

*Find the names of 15 persons/or groups who fasted by circling the letter. Names run in all directions. When you are finished, copy the unused letters which form a message found in Joe12: 15.*

T	S	E	I	R	P	S	P	A	N
P	S	R	R	D	L	E	C	S	N
A	H	R	E	H	T	S	E	E	I
U	T	A	I		H	L	H	H	N
L	N	F	R	A	P	E	S	C	E
D	H	N	N	I	M	U	Y	R	V
I	O	O	C	I	S	A	S	V	I
V	J	S	A	E	F	E	A	H	T
A	I	H	J	A	R	Z	E	C	E
D	A	N	I	E	L	S	T	S	S

Hidden Message: \_\_\_\_\_



## MONDAY

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Dan. 10:5 -10 As a result of Daniel's prayer and fasting a being visited him.

Whenever God's people prayer intensely with specific things in mind concerning God's work and people, there is increase activity of angels in terms of visits to earth, whether to the people of God or to those with whom the people of God have to deal.

But in this vision the glorious being whom Daniel saw was not merely an angel, it was Jesus, the Son of God Himself. We know this by comparing the description here with those in Rev. 1:13-16.

### ACTIVITY:

1. What effect did Jesus' presence have on Daniel's companions?  
(10:7) \_\_\_\_\_

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2. What effect did it have on Daniel? (10:8) \_\_\_\_\_

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Jesus' glory and purity had a humbling, subduing, overpowering effect upon Daniel and his companions. What does this tell us about our pride and feelings of self-importance?

3. How do you think you would fare in the presence of an angel of God? \_\_\_\_\_

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4. Do you think that an angel will ever visit you? \_\_\_\_\_

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5. Do you know of others whom an angel visited?

**(a) Name 2 in Old Testament**

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

**(b) Name 2 in New Testament**

(i) \_\_\_\_\_

(ii) \_\_\_\_\_

**TUESDAY**

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Daniel 10:11

What an appellation! "A man greatly beloved. "Despite the sinfulness of man heaven still love and care for men here below. There is yet in the land those like Daniel who seek to honour and glorify God in all they do or say. It is such ones whom heaven treasures because they are vindicating God's character in this great controversy between Christ and Satan.

Those who show that God's law can be kept in all circumstances will be loved of heaven.

**SEARCH:**

*Find in the book of Isaiah, between Chapters 40:25 - 41: 10 another man of whom a similar expression was made.*

**How many times between Daniel 9 and 10 is this appellation applied to Daniel? (Give the texts).**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Dear reader can those expressions be said of you today?

## WEDNESDAY

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Dan. 10:12-14

Daniel was praying and fasting for 3 weeks about the vision mentioned in verse 14, which was none other than the vision of Daniel 8 and explained more fully in 9. Yet the angel told him that his prayer was heard from day one (1).

### ACTIVITY:

*Discuss why it took so long for the angel to come to Daniel in answer to pray which was heard of God from day one (1 )*

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### SEARCH: Isa.65:24

1. Is God still serious about such a promise?
2. Dear reader did you call upon God today in prayer?
3. Did God hear and answer your prayer?
4. Is there anything that would stop God from hearing one's prayer?



Read Ps. 66:18 \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**THURSDAY**

---

Daniel 10:15-19

**TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL**

Overwhelmed by the thought that the people of God must suffer for so long and the work of the cleansing of the sanctuary must be for 2300 days - years, Daniel became dumb, weak and sorrowful:

Thank God who sends his angels to touch such ones and strengthen them for any emergency, crisis or disappointment. All of us dear reader, need to be strengthened daily if we are to stand in the strength of God and be able to withstand the pressures of life, this nature, the world and Satan himself. We serve a big God who has all power; may we so submit our lives to Him that we may find grace and strength in he time of need, which is every moment of every day.

**ACTIVITY:**

*Name four things which you may do today that God will use to strengthen you.*

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_

## FRIDAY

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Dan. 10:20,21

A RHETORICAL QUESTION intended to stop Daniel from being fearful.

This was also to reassure Daniel that he had come for a good purpose and that he Daniel could rest assured that God would take care of the

king of Persia, Grecia and all others so as to see His plans and purpose fulfilled in the earth as it is in heaven, though it might seem to human eyes that it is taking long or not coming to pass.

How good is God to let Daniel in on what He, Gabriel and Christ only knew.

Read Amos 3:7

. Do not worry, learn to put everything into God's hand. Sister E.G. White

- "worry is blind and cannot discern the future. "

### ACTIVITY:

Ps. 90:4; 2 Peter 3:8

*Write these two verses on the lines provided below.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

## **SABBATH**

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1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in your memory.*
3. *Come prepared to share in Sabbath School class.*

### **GEM:**

**“The ministration of holy angels, as presented in the Scriptures, is a truth most comforting and precious to every follower of Christ.” GC p. 551.**

**“His angels are appointed to watch over us, and if we put ourselves under their guardianship, then in every time of danger they will be at our right hand ... “ COL p. 341.**



## LESSON 11

# God & the Nations

### KEY TEXT:

*“And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.” Dan. 11:35.*

### OBJECTIVES:

1. Understand the principles behind the rise and fall of nations.
2. Explain terms like “King of North,” “King of South,” the “glorious land,” “prince of the Covenant,” “the holy covenant,” “the daily sacrifice,” “abomination that maketh desolate.”
3. Know that God is aware of all the minute details of nations and individuals.

### HELPS:

*Dan. 11; PK p. 556.*

### SUNDAY

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Dan. Chapters 10, 11, 12 form a complete package of which Chapter 10 is an introduction and Chapter 11 a continuation. In Chapter 10: we were introduced to Michael, who, according to Dan. 10:21, contends by Gabriel's side against those earthly powers that opposed God's work in the earth. Chapter 11, begins with Gabriel recounting his work in the reign of Darius to get Daniel's people, the Jews return to Jerusalem. It was for this reason that Darius had been born (Dan. 6:25, 26).

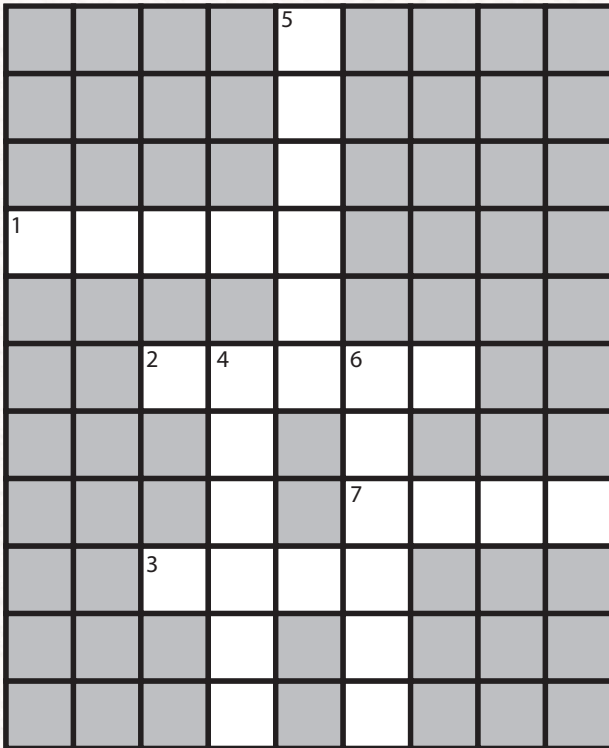
The vision of Daniel begins with the kingdom of Persia for the kingdom of Babylon had cease to exist for some five years at the time of this vision.

One main difference you need to note between the vision of Daniel 11 and the other visions in Daniel, is that this vision talks quite often about individual “kings” and people. In other visions “King” means “kingdom” but here “king” often means “king. “

One other important point of note is the term King of the South and King of the North. At first these terms literally refers to Kings of Syria and Egypt, countries lying North and South of Jerusalem.

**ACTIVITY:**

*Answer the following to complete the crossword.*



1. Country to North of Jerusalem.
2. Kingdom that represents atheism.
3. God's people.
4. The kingdom that was divided into four parts
5. The power that rule Western Europe for 1260 years
6. Kingdom at time of 5th vision.
7. The iron monarchy.

## MONDAY

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Read Dan. 11:1-3

In the 11th chapter of Daniel we see nations rise and nations fall until a power rise on the scene that is both political and religious in nature. It is this power that we shall examine most thoroughly but before we do such, let's look at the earlier powers.

In verse 2 we are introduced to four kings. that shall rise in Persia. The first three are Cambyses son of Cyrus; Smerdis, an impostor and Darius Hystaspes. The fourth which shall be for richer than they all is Xerxes, son of Darius Hystaspes an husband of the famed Queen Esther of the Jews. He was determined to crush the Greeks and organised an army of 5,283,220 men. He fought Greece successfully but was later overthrown by the same.

*The questions may now be asked.*

**1. Why did you think God gave this prediction about Persia?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**2. Did God's prediction come to past? If Yes why?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**3. How do you see God as pertaining to the future?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Did God arbitrarily make these events come to pass?** \_\_\_\_\_

**If yes, why?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**If no, why not?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



As we go through this week lesson we shall have these recurring questions answered.

## SEARCH

Isa. 46:9,10; MB. 100

*Write these two verses on the lines provided below.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

## TUESDAY

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Daniel 11 :3-13

Verses 3-13 of Daniel 11 bring us in a nutshell to the rise and fall of the power that shall succeed Persia. This power is none other than Greece.

Verse 3 tells us of a mighty king that shall stand up and rule with great dominion. This is the famous Alexander the Great.

After his death his dominion was divided into 4 parts, not to his posterity but by his four leading generals, namely, Cassander, Lysimachus, Seleucus and Ptolemy. These in turn conquered each other as Lysimachus conquered Cassander's dominion and Seleucus conquered Lysimachus. This left Ptolemy in the South and Seleucus in the North. From henceforth there is war between the King of the North and the King of the South.

*The questions may now be asked.*

**1. Why did you think God gave this prediction about Greece?**

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2. Did God's prediction come to pass? If Yes why?

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3. How do you see God as pertaining to the future?

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4. Did God arbitrarily make these events come to pass?

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If yes, why?

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If no, why not?

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**SEARCH:**

Rev. 22:6

*Write this verse on the lines provided below.*

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## WEDNESDAY

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Daniel 11:14

Verse 14. After many seditions and conspiracies against the King of the South a power rose to her defence which was to make impact on the Political and Ecclesiastical scene until the end of time. This power is none other than Rome who eventually devastated the King of the North and all her allies after she had defeated Deopas who was in service of Egypt.

Pompey, the Roman general came against the King of the North (Antiochus Asiaticus) and defeated him; came against the Jews and consumed them. From here on it is Rome, Rome, Rome, all the way with the Ceasars.

So complete was Rome success that in the days of Caesar Augustus "A decree went out that all the world should be taxed." (See Luke 2: 1).

### SEARCH:

How did this tax affect the birth of Jesus? Luke 2: 1-20.

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How did Daniel in (Dan.2:40; 7:7) describe Rome of the\_\_\_\_\_

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## ACTIVITY

Micah 5:2

*Can you say how this prophecy confirms God's omniscience?*

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## THURSDAY

Daniel 11 :22

It was Rome under Tiberius Caesar who caused the "Prince of the Covenant," that is, Jesus, to be put to death as brought to view in Dan.11:22.

The Jewish leaders had charged that Jesus excited sedition which was very common in the day of Jesus among the Jews and during the reign of the Ceasars generally. This they did that Pilate might ratify the death sentence on Jesus.

Pilate saw through this scheme. He did not believe that Jesus had plotted against the Government; yet he refused to release Him.

## ACTIVITY

*Did you and I, the Jewish Sanhedrin or Pilate the Roman Governor, cause Jesus to be crucified?*

## SEARCH

D. A. pp 725-727

## WILL YOU LET GOD DOWN?

## SEARCH

Rev. 3:5

Write out text on the lines provided.

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## FRIDAY

Daniel was not clear concerning what he saw and heard and so he asked the question, **“O my lord what shall be the end of these things?”** The response: **“Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.”** Dan. 12:9. Also, **“But go thou thy way till the end be: for thou shalt rest, and stand in thy lot at the end of the days.”** At the end of the prophetic days in 1844 when judgment began at the house of God (1 Peter 4:7), Daniel was to rest and stand in his lot as he would be found faithful to God and accounted worthy to a place in the kingdom of God. And when the end of all things shall be and the trump of God shall sound and the dead in Christ shall rise, 1 Thess. 4:16,17,; Daniel shall come forth from his rest to be among the faithful of all ages.

*Are you planning and preparing to be among the redeemed of; ages?*

**SEARCH:**

*John 14:1-3 (Write on the lines below).*

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**SABBATH**

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1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in your memory.*
3. *Come prepared to share in Sabbath School class.*

**GEM:**

**“The Lord God omnipotent reigneth. All kings, all nations, a His, under His rule and government. His resources are infinite ‘The king’s heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will”**



## LESSON 12

# Jesus Stands up for His People

### KEY TEXT

*At that time, shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth up for the children of the people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, everyone that shall be found written in the book.” Dan. 12: 1.*

### OBJECTIVES:

1. 1. Sense something of the awful prospect of the Time of Trouble.
2. 2. Experience the comfort that comes from putting trust in Jesus.
3. 3. Commit their souls to Jesus that their names may be found in the book.

### HELPS:

*Daniel 12; and G.C. 481, 613, 637,356; PK p. 547; 4A p. 184*

### **(SABBATH EVENING)**

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Daniel Chapter 12 forms both a glorious and awful climax to the career of the people of this world and to history. Glorious for those whose names are in the Book of life; but awful for those who fight against Jesus and the armies of heaven.

We are now in the very end of the end of time. Events in our world with world leaders at their wits end, not knowing what to do, yet trying every possible human solution show clearly that the end is at hand. In particular the present talk of world unity, and more specifically Protestant

- Roman Catholic merger, quiet agitation on Sunday Sacredness and papal supremacy, all indicate that we have come to the close of earth's history.

## ACTIVITY:

Make a list of some of the modern signs of the time (Problems that mankind seems to have no answers to). \_\_\_\_\_

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Before we get to Dan. 12 let us conclude on Dan. 11.

## SUNDAY

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Daniel 11 :40,42,43

A characteristic of Egypt, is her denial of the God of the universe. Pharaoh once asked in response to a message brought by Moses in the name of the Lord, "Who is Jehovah, that I should hearken unto His voice to let Israel go?" Ex. 5:2. A.R.V. This is atheism.

In Dan. 11 :40 we have this power the king of the south coming back at the king of the north (Papacy) or Great Babylon and the king of the north conquering with all the might, power and riches at her disposal. So overwhelming is her victory over the King of the South that her associates in atheism is taken with her.

The bible tells us that we now live in the period when atheism reigns but the papacy and false religions is steadily regaining control. This overwhelming victory will be completely fulfilled when the second best of Rev. 13: 11-18 cause all to receive the mark, name and number of the first beast. But "tidings out of the East and out of the North shall trouble him." (ie. King of the North) Dan. 11 :44. " ..... yet he shall come to his end and none shall help him." Dan. 11:45.

Dear youth, we are on the verge of these times as the papacy is being resurrected, even as Apostate Protestantism pushes for a

false Sabbath which a small remnant will not bow down to. Are you prepared for this crisis? Search the Great Controversy pp. 269-270.

**ACTIVITY:**

1. Who is the king of the north?

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2. Who is the king of the south?

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3. Who is the king of the East? (See Rev. 16:12, 17:14; 19:11-16).

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4. Briefly describe atheism.

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**MONDAY**

Dan.11:41

The papacy with the backing of civil authority or governments of the United Nations shall enter into the realm of the conscience which is the domain of God and the individual only. As a result of this, many people in Adventism through bribes, persuasion, honour, fame, fine, force imprisonment and treat of death will yield to the powers that



be and give up the faith of Jesus Christ.

Adventism as an organization will be sold out. Even now signals of the omega appear as she compromises fundamental doctrines such as the nature of Christ, Sanctuary Truths and eventually the Sabbath.

Thank God (as brought to view in the latter part of the verse) a few shall escape out of his hands

**SEARCH:**

*Great Controversy pp. 591-592.*

**TUESDAY**

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Dan.11:44

“Tidings out of the East,” the place where the wise men came from; “Tidings out of the North,” the place where Satan aspire to reach shall trouble him. The glorious message of the Third Angel, joined by the Fourth of Rev. 18:1-4 with its added announcements, shall enlighten the whole world and give to every man the privilege to know the truth from error, and make a conscientious choice for or against God.

Are you dear reader so familiar with the truth of the Third Angel's message that God can so use you in that fearful yet exciting time?

**SEARCH:**

*Great Controversy pp. 611-612.*

**ACTIVITY:**

Ask your parent/elder to name for you some fundamental doctrines of Adventism.

## WEDNESDAY

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Daniel 12:1

For six thousand years from Adam down to the last generation the battle between the forces of good and evil has been waging for the minds and souls of mankind. This is now ended as Michael the great prince, which standeth for the children of Daniel's people has made the announcement with a loud voice, "It is done."

Minds are made up for or against God. The Third Angel's message has closed. The destiny of all mankind is sealed and God makes the solemn announcement: "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still; and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and

He that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still." Every case has been decided for life or death. Christ has made the atonement Rev. 22:11 for His people and blotted out their sins. The number of his subjects is made up; the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, is about to be given to the heirs of salvation, and Jesus is to reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

### **SEARCH:**

Search not the pages of a book, but the recesses of your heart dear reader and know if you are prepared for such a solemn event at the close of probation. Today if you will hear God's voice harden not your heart.

## THURSDAY

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"But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and from, and knowledge shall be increase." Daniel 12:4.

Ever since 1798 this text has been fulfilling to the people of God as

they with us behold the vast increase of knowledge and traffic but more so the opening of the seal book as the things Daniel long to understand, is made more clearly revealed to us now living in the time of the end.

We are now living in the time when "they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever." Yes dear Junior, the wise who shine like the firmament and the stars are to do so for ever and ever. This is not a time for giving up your faith in God because your peers are doing it. The wise are only wise as they hold to the end, the faith of Jesus Christ.

My pray and God's desire is that your faith fail not.

**SEARCH:**

Rev. 14:12 (Write on the lines)

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**FRIDAY**

Dan.12:10

Daniel saw a desolating power doing away with the daily Dan 8: 11, 13; 11 :31; 12: 11. He also saw that this desolating power (Papal Rome) would continue for a time, times and an half(1260 years) Dan. 12:7. John also saw this same desolating power continuing for the same time period Rev. 12:6,14; 13:5.

Daniel also saw that as a result of this desolating power many shall be purified and made white and tried. Dan. 12: 10.

From Rev. 13:3, 12, we learn that this power must return and that all the world wondered after the beast. We also learn from Rev. 13:



16,17 that no man will be able to buy or sell except he had a 17.eight hand or forehead or have the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Dear Junior it which Daniel and John saw and prophesied brings to view a terrible crisis for the people of God in which they will be tested and tried to the utmost, but purified and made white. What a state to be found in.

Dear Junior it is your privilege to be numbered among these purified and made white through sufferings for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

## **SABBATH**

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1. *Review your lesson.*
2. *Fix the key text in your memory.*
3. *Come prepared to share in Sabbath School class.*

### **GEM:**

**“We are living in the most solemn time of this world’s history. The destiny of earth’s teeming multitudes is about to be decided. Our own future well-being and also the salvation of other souls depend upon the course which we now pursue. We need to be guided by the Spirit of truth. Every follower of Christ should earnestly inquire: “Lord, what will Thou have me to do?”**