

Discipleship University Bible Reading Guide

Hebrew Prophets II: Daniel 5-12, Ezra 1-2

(For class to be held on January 6, 2018)

Read Daniel 8 – The Ram and the Goat, and the 2300 days

1. From evidence in Dan. 8 alone, how do we know that the Ram is Media and Persia and the Goat is Greece? _____ . What do the 4 horns match up with in Dan. 7? _____
2. What does the exceeding great horn represent? _____ . How is it consistent with Dan. 7 that this Great horn appears to represent two powers? _____ . What two verses were fulfilled by the Roman crucifixion of Christ? ____ + ____.
3. What was supposed to happen at the end of 2300 days? Or what does the cleansing of the sanctuary mean? _____ . What two verses clearly indicate that this vision (the 2300 days part) will finish in the time of the end? ____ + ____ . What part of the vision did Daniel not understand and found very troubling? _____

Read Daniel 5 – The Fall of Babylon

1. What was promised to the man who could interpret the handwriting on the wall? _____ . When the wise men couldn't interpret the writing, who reminded King Belshazzar of Daniel? _____ .
2. Why does Daniel recount when Nebuchadnezzar became like a wild beast? _____ . For what specific action did Daniel rebuke Belshazzar, saying that this showed his heart was lifted up against the Lord of heaven? _____
3. What was done with Daniel when he interpreted the handwriting? _____ . Why was making Daniel a king actually a worthless gesture? _____ . Who took over Babylon that very night? _____

*****Suggested Reading, *Prophets and Kings*, Chapter 43, pages 522-538**

Read Daniel 6 – The Den of Lions

1. What was not to be done for 30 days or the violator would be put in the lion's den? _____ . Why was the king displeased with himself when he got the report of Daniel praying to the God of heaven? _____ . Why couldn't the king prevent Daniel being put in the lion's den? _____
2. What application does this story have for people living in the last days? _____ . How do we know that it wasn't true that lions didn't eat Daniel because they weren't hungry? _____

*****Suggested Reading, *Prophets and Kings*, Chapter 44, pages 539-548**

Read Daniel 9 – Daniel's prayer and the 490 years of Jewish Probation

1. What prophecy of Jeremiah was Daniel considering as he began his prayer? _____

- Why did Daniel recount Israel's unfaithfulness and plead for forgiveness for his people in this prayer? What was Daniel so concerned about at this time especially? _____
- Who came to explain things to Daniel? _____. According to verse 23, a previous vision is about to be explained. What vision would that be? _____. What part of that vision did Daniel not understand? _____.
- Of what must the 70 weeks be a part (determined/cut off)? _____. How does verse 24 answer Daniel's prayer? How much time would the Jews get to fulfill their purpose and be ready to receive the Messiah? _____
- What would mark the starting point for this time prophecy? _____. What would happen after 69 weeks in the middle of the 70th week? _____

Read Daniel 10-12 – Daniel's Vision of the Kings of the North and South to the Last Days

- Who did Daniel meet in 10:5-9 (see Rev. 1:13-16 for help)? _____. It becomes clear in the following verses that the individual that touches him and helps him up in verse 10 is different from the one who came to him in verses 5-9. Who do you think this is? _____. What was the prince of the kingdom of Persia (Cyrus) supposed to do but wouldn't for the past 21 days (think about Daniel's main concern)? _____. Who came to personally deal with Cyrus (see also 2 Chronicles 36:22-23)? _____
- Who is the mighty king in 11:3? _____. How does verse 4 fit the Greek Empire? _____
_____. Why does verse 20 fit the time of Rome and the birth of Jesus? _____
- Who is the prince of the covenant who was broken in verse 22? _____. What characteristic of the papacy do you see in verse 33? _____. What trait of the papacy do you see in verse 36? _____. 37? _____
_____. 39? _____
- When is the "time of the end" in verse 40 (see Dan. 12:6-7)? _____.
Note: The king of the south pushing at him in vs. 40 is the deadly wound of Rev. 13:3. Verses 40-45 are considered by most people to be unfulfilled prophecy. This passage flows into 12:1-2 which describes the close of probation and the second coming. What do you think that Dan. 11:40-45 is all about?
- What words mean the close of human probation in Daniel 12:1? _____. How does verse 2 connect to the second coming of Christ? _____. For how long was the book of Daniel to be sealed? _____. Why are verses 6-7 a key to unlocking Bible prophecy? _____. What are the lengths of the final two prophecies in verses 11-12? _____
_____. Do you know what these mean?

Read 2 Chronicles 36:22-23 and Ezra 1-2 – The Jews Allowed to Organize to Return to Judah

- Who decided to authorize the building of a new temple in Jerusalem? _____. What prophecy was fulfilled by this proclamation? _____. What did Cyrus call for in Ezra 1:3? _____. What was returned to the Jews to take back to Jerusalem? _____.
- For what purpose was the long list of people given in Ezra 2:1-63? _____
_____. How many people departed from the province of Babylon? _____
_____. Who led the expedition back to Judah? _____