Thursday Morning Group 2021: The Book of Daniel

Program:

- 1. Introduction and Daniel 1: Despite appearances God is in control
- 2. Daniel 1, 2 & 3: The Wisdom of Faith
- 3. Daniel 4 & 5: God of Nations
- 4. Daniel 6 and Matthew's Passion Narrative: Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament
- 5. Daniel 7: The One like a Son of Man

Introduction

A book of intrigue

Two distinct parts

Court Narratives ch 1-6

- The Fiery Furnace
- The Golden Statue
- Daniel and the Lion's Den

Apocalyptic Visions ch 7-12

- The One like a Son of Man (7)
- Strange answers to prayer (9:24-27)
- Unusually precise prophecy (10-12)

But two languages that tie them together (Aramaic 2:4 - 7:28)

Prophecy or Wisdom?

- Christian Bible has Daniel with the Prophets
- Jewish Bible has Daniel with the Writings

Historical Issues

- The date of the siege
- Who is Darius the Mede?
- The King of the North's demise (prophecy after the fact?)

Problems that have been resolved

- The fiery furnace
- Belshazzar

When was Daniel written and who was it written for?

Big debate about when it was written, or at least it's final composition

Court Narratives set in 6th C BC, Visions also 6th C

Debate centres around questions of historic accuracy and "prophecy after the fact" (ch 11)

Themes of Daniel

- God's Sovereignty
- Wisdom
- Prayer

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http://www.thesecondcomingofchrist.org/dan11_timelines.htm Verse Timeline of the Persian Rulers, Daniel Chapter 11 ω N N N N N (Note: Several other kings of Persia follow Xerxes until Alexander's successful conquest) Seleucus Nicator Syria and the Middle East Lysimachus **Asia Minor** invaded Greece 335-323 B.C. Alexander Cambyses the Great Hystaspis **Smerdis** Pseudo-Xerxes Cyrus Darius Macedonia Cassander Dates as Ruler 522-486 B.C 530-522 B.C. 559-530 B.C. 356-323 B.C 465-425 B.C. 486-465 B.C. walls of Jerusalem Babylon taken Decree to rebuild Ptolemy Egypt 539 B.C. Notes 444 B.C. **Divided into Broken and Daniel 8:3-4** Great Horn, Daniel 8:5-8 Four Parts **Goat With Two Horns** Ram With