

The Book of Daniel

Introduction – Chapter 3

Author and Date

What does the longstanding tradition of both Jewish and Christian antiquity tell us concerning the authorship and dating of the book of Daniel?

Title

What does the Hebrew word Daniel mean? Where does the Book of Daniel fit in both the Jewish and Christian canon?

Structure

What are the three principal divisions of the Book of Daniel?

Literary Background

What are the various languages that the Book of Daniel are written in? What is the literary genre of the Book?

Themes

What are the two main themes of the Book?

Christian Perspective

How does Christian Revelation relate to the Book of Daniel?

(Read 1:1-7) What is the Babylonian Exile? (Note 1:1-7)

Who is Nebuchadnezzar? (Note 1:1)

What are the vessels? (Note 1:2)

What is the language of the Chaldeans? (Note 1:4)

Why did Daniel and his companions have their names changed? (Note 1:7)

(Read 1:8) Why did Daniel refuse to eat the food the king provided? (Note 1:8)

(Read 1:9-21) How long was Daniel at service to the King? (Note 1:21)

How does Daniel's rise to power parallel the story of Joseph? (Note 2:1-49)

(Read 2:1-2) Who are the Chaldeans? (Note 2:2)

(Read 2:3-16) (Read 2:25-30) Where is the origin of Daniel's wisdom? (Note 2:30)

(Read 2:31-45) What is the meaning of the dream? (Note 2:31-45)

What is the great mountain? (Note 2:35)

Topical Essay: The four kingdoms in Daniel

What does the Book of Daniel have to say about the politics of the Near East in the first millennium B.C.?

(Read 3:1-7) How tall is the statue of gold? (Note 3:1)

How large was the Babylonian empire? (Note 3:4)

Was there separation of Church and State in Babylon? (Note 3:5)

How did the Babylonians execute criminals? (Note 3:6)

(Read 3:8-12) Does Daniel experience religious persecution? (Note 3:12)

Does the Book of Daniel contain deuterocanonical sections? (Note 3:1-68)

What subject does Azariah's prayer deal with? (Note 3:3-22)

(Read 3:9) Who are the lawless enemies? (Note 3:9)

(Read 3:15) What happened to the Davidic monarchy? (Note 3:15)

What is the format and lyrics of the Song of the Three Young Men? (Note 3:28-68)

(Read 3:35) What are all the works of the Lord? (Note 3:35)

(Read 3:19-25) What happened to Daniel and his companions when they were thrown in the fire? (Note 3:25)

(Read 3:26-30) Does the king convert based on the witnessed miracle? (Note 3:29)