

OUTLINE FOR STUDY FOR BOOK OF DANIEL

I. INTRODUCTION.

- a. Book was originally written in 2 languages.
 - i. Dan. 2:4b-7:28 in Aramaic—remainder in Hebrew.
 - ii. Aramaic became common language of Hebrews during Babylonian captivity and after return from captivity—was still their language at time of Jesus.
- b. Book covers period from 606 BC to 536 BC (or later) Daniel 1:1 and 10:1.

II. BACKGROUND.

- a. Who was Daniel?
 - i. Born of noble family & was among the 1st captives taken to Babylon (606 BC).
 - ii. Deeply spiritual man and maintained his integrity during trying times.
 - iii. Prayed to God during captivity despite consequences. (Daniel, chapter 6)
 - iv. Highly respected for “unique” power. (Dan. 2:27-30)
 - v. Served in high, government posts for 70 yrs., under 3 kings and in 2 empires.

III. “KEY-NOTES” OF BOOK OF DANIEL.

- a. Key message: “God is universal sovereign of all”.
- b. Key verses: Dan. 2:20-22 and 4:17, 25 and 32.
- c. Key phrases:
 - i. “There is a God in heaven”—Dan. 2:28
 - ii. “The most high rules in the Kingdoms of men”—Dan. 4:17, 25 & 32.

IV. MAJOR LESSONS/ISSUES IN BOOK OF DANIEL.

- a. **“FAITHFULNESS UNDER DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES”.**
 - i. Bible examples of such faithfulness:
 - 1. Joseph, Joshua & Caleb.
 - 2. “Heroes” of faith in Hebrews 11.
 - ii. Outstanding examples in Book of Daniel:
 - 1. Fiery furnace ordeal of Daniel 3.
 - 2. Den of lions escape in Daniel 6.
 - iii. Standing steadfast in our Bible beliefs at times is difficult.
- b. **FOUR EARTHLY KINGDOMS AND HEAVEN’S ETERNAL KINGDOM.**
 - i. Daniel 2:36-45—records King Nebuchadnezzar’s dream about an image of 4 substances and “Daniel’s” interpretation.
 - 1. 4 empires represented:
 - a. Gold=Babylonian. b. Silver=Medo-Persian c. Brass=Greek and d. Iron=Roman.
 - 2. In days of 4th kingdom, God would set-up an eternal Kingdom.
 - ii. Daniel 7—presents a vision of 4 beasts and “Daniel’s” interpretation.
 - iii. Daniel 8—presents the “vision of the ram and he-goat” which focused on the 3rd and 4th empires mentioned in the other visions.

V. CONCLUSION.