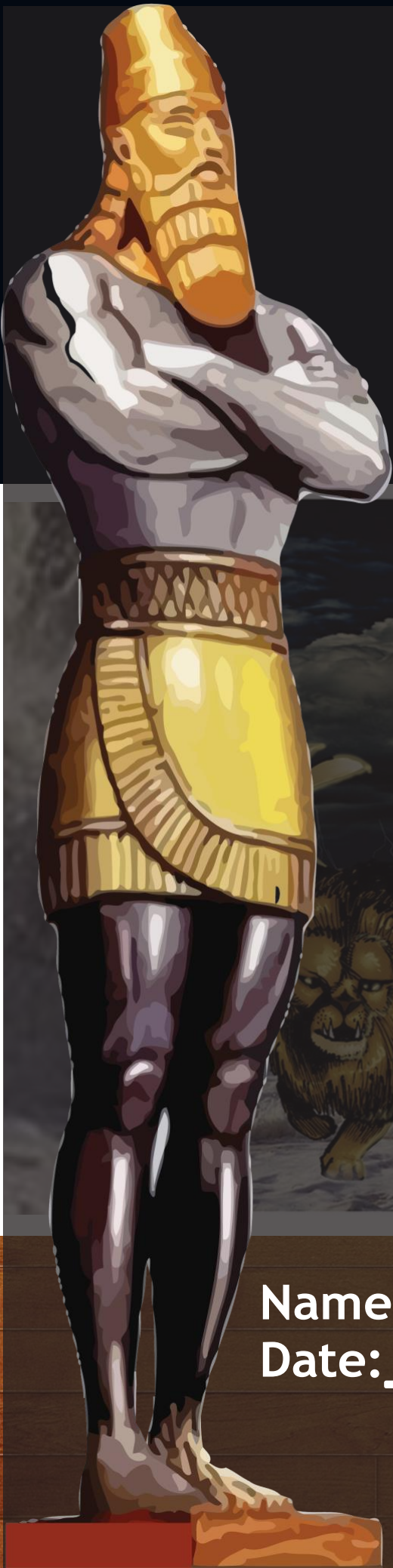




DANIEL STUDY GUIDE



Name: _____

Date: _____

Compiled by ELDER NOEL CHITATE



*'When ye therefore shall see the abomination Of desolation, spoken Of by
Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth,
let him understand:) 'Then let them which be in Judaea
flee into the mountains:' Matthew 24:15-16*

*'The light that Daniel received direct from God was given especially for
these last days. The visions he saw by the banks
Of the Ulai and the Hiddekel,
the great rivers Of Shinar, are now in process Of fulfillment,
and all the events foretold will soon have come to pass.
(Letter 57, 1896). {4 BC 1166.5}*

WHO WAS DANIEL? :- DANIEL 1

¹ In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.

² And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

³ And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes;

⁴ Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.

⁵ And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.

⁶ Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:

⁷ Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel the name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego.

⁸ 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.

⁹ Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

¹⁰ And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.

¹¹ Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

¹² Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

¹³ Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

¹⁴ So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

¹⁵ And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

¹⁶ Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

¹⁷ As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

¹⁸ Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

¹⁹ And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king.

²⁰ And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.

²¹ And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

Born in Palestine about 623 BC, Daniel belonged to a prominent Jewish family with royal connections. During the Babylonian siege and plunder of Jerusalem in 605 BC, the young prince was taken hostage, and with the cream of the city's youth, carried off to Babylon where he remained in exile for the rest of his life.

Why did God allow Daniel and his companions to be taken captive?

“Among the children of Israel who were carried captive to Babylon at the beginning of the seventy years' captivity were **Christian patriots, men who were as true as steel to principle**, who would not be corrupted by selfishness, but who would honor God at the loss of all things. **In the land of their captivity these men were to carry out God's purpose by giving to heathen nations the blessings that come through a knowledge of Jehovah.** They were to be His representatives. Never were they to compromise with idolaters; their faith and their name as worshipers of the living God they were to bear as a high honor. And this they did. **In prosperity and adversity they honored God, and God honored them.**

“The fact that these men, worshipers of Jehovah, were captives in Babylon, and that the vessels of God's house had been placed in the Temple of the Babylonish gods, was boastfully cited by the victors as evidence that their religion and customs were superior to the religion and customs of the Hebrews. Yet through the very humiliations that Israel's departure from Him had invited, God gave Babylon evidence of His supremacy, of the holiness of His requirements, and of the sure results of obedience. And this testimony He gave, as alone it could be given, through those who were loyal to Him.” *Prophets & Kings*, 479,480.

The king told Ashpenaz to take children in whom was no blemish, well favored, cunning in knowledge and understanding science. How does this apply to us? Is there any significance in our present life? Read carefully the following quotation from *The Youth's Instructor*.

“There is also a lesson for us to learn in the demand the king of Babylon made for perfection in the youth who should stand in his courts. They must be without blemish, well favored, skilful in wisdom, cunning in knowledge, and understanding science. If an idolatrous king should demand such excellence in those who were to stand before him, should not those who have a knowledge of the true God reach perfection of character and capability in his service? Those who expect one day to stand before the throne of the God of gods and Lord of lords, should live each day in such a way that the approval of God can rest upon them. They should seek daily to remove the blemishes in character that lead to sin, and bring into their lives the perfection of character that all must reveal who have a part in the kingdom of heaven.” *Youth's Instructor*, 10/29/1907.

Although these Hebrew boys were far from home and also captives, they showed results of true education. The Spirit of Prophecy says:

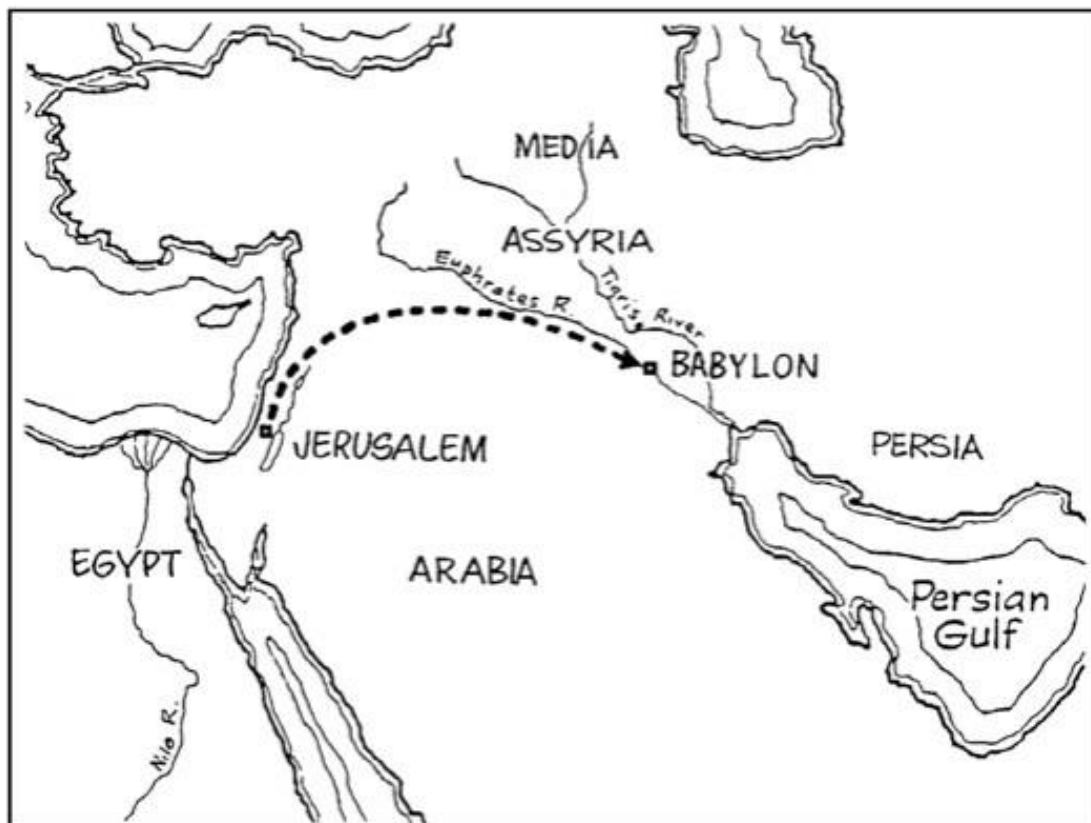
“It was their conscientious observance of the commands of Holy Scripture, that in the days of Jeremiah's ministry brought to Daniel and his fellows opportunities to exalt the true God before the nations of earth. The instruction these Hebrew children had received in the homes of their parents, made them strong in faith and constant in their service of the living God, the Creator of the heavens and the earth. When, early in the reign of Jehoiakim, Nebuchadnezzar for the first time besieged and captured Jerusalem, and carried away Daniel and his companions, with others

especially chosen for service in the court of Babylon, the faith of the Hebrew captives was tried to the utmost. But those who had learned to place their trust in the promises of God found these all-sufficient in every experience through which they were called to pass during their sojourn in a strange land. The Scriptures proved to them a guide and a stay.” *Prophets & Kings*, 428.

“Daniel and his companions enjoyed the benefits of correct training and education in early life, but these advantages alone would not have made them what they were. The time came when they must act for themselves—when their future depended upon their own course. Then they decided to be true to the lessons given them in childhood. The fear of God, which is the beginning of wisdom, was the foundation of their greatness. His Spirit strengthened every true purpose, every noble resolution.” *Child Guidance*, 166,167.

The city of Babylon, capital of the Babylonian Empire, was situated 1,500 kilometers east of Jerusalem and about 88 kilometers south of Baghdad, present-day capital of Iraq. Babylon’s remains are still visible today. The Lord gave Jehoiakim in the hands of Nebuchadnezzar because he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God. (2 Chron. 36:5,6,17.)

The route taken by Daniel into exile



The Hebrews boys were given new Babylonian names which had significance to the Babylonian gods. The king hoped to induce them to renounce the religion of their nation and to unite with the worship of the Babylonians gradually but it was to no avail.

“When they had arrived in Babylon, the king changed their names, **but he could not change their devotion to the living God.** They were members of a conquered race; and , when they appeared before Nebuchadnezzar, they realized that they were standing before the conqueror. **Yet they were unconquerable.**” *Anderson, UDP*, 67.

Anciently the name of a child stood for his character, and the names given to these children were

characteristic of what it was expected they would become. So Daniel means God is my judge or God's judge. He was given the name Belteshazzar, which means prince of Bel. Hannaiah means gift of the Lord and he was given the name Shadrach, which means servant of sin. Mishael means who is what God is and he was given the name Meshach, which means who is what Aku is. Azariah means whom Jehovah helps and his name was changed to Abednego which means servant to Nebo.

Not only were the Hebrew captives given new Babylonian names but they were also to be given the king's diet. Daniel and his companions purposed in their hearts that they will not defile themselves with the king's meat nor with the wine he drank. "By the example of Daniel and his fellows in Babylon, we see that it is impossible to reach the standard which the Lord would have his children reach, and practice an easy, accommodating kind of religion that leaves principle out, and is controlled by circumstances. Youth who would serve the God of heaven, cannot engage in worldly merriment, eat of enervating luxuries, or drink strong drink because it is set before them by the honored or wealthy men of the world, whom they fear to offend by refusing their favors. They may think that they have been especially honored, and that courtesy demands the acceptance of the favors proffered them; but loyalty to God must take the precedence, and fear to offend the Lord of heaven must control the Christian. The king of Babylon thought that he was bestowing great favors upon Daniel and his fellows; but they had respect unto God's commandments more than unto the favor of the king." *Youth's Instructor*, 10/25/1894.

QUESTION 1 (Daniel 1:1-6)

What was the name of the king who conquered Judah and took Daniel prisoner?

ANSWER:

QUESTION 2 (Isaiah 39:5-7; Jeremiah 25:1-11)

The overthrow of the Jewish nation by Babylon was foretold more than a century before either Daniel or Nebuchadnezzar were born. About 735 BC the prophet Isaiah predicted Babylon's raids on Jerusalem and the captivity in which Daniel was taken. What did Isaiah say? Read Isaiah 39:5-7

(a) Behold the days are coming when all that is in your house, and what your fathers have accumulated until this day, shall be carried to_____. and they shall take away some of your_____ and they shall be eunuchs (servants) in the palace of the king of_____." (Verses 6,7)

(b) Read Jeremiah 25:1-11. Why were the people of Judah taken captive?

ANSWER: (Jeremiah 25:7, 8)

(c) For how long were Daniel and his people to remain in captivity? ANSWER: (Jeremiah 25:11)

QUESTION 3 (Daniel 1:3-18)

On arrival at the capital, Daniel and three of his companions were given Babylonian names and drafted into the king's college for a three-year "re-education" course. (a) What were their new names? (Verse 7) ANSWER:

_____, _____, _____.

(b) Existence in Babylon was difficult for the young Judaeans exiles. What firm decision did Daniel make about the food and drink he was offered?

(Verse 8) ANSWER:

(c) Instead of accepting the king's provisions, Daniel requested that he and his friends be

allowed to eat vegetables and drink only water for a ten-day trial. Was their health adversely affected? (Verses 12-15)

Their countenances (faces) appeared _____ and _____ in flesh than all the young men. (Verse 15)

QUESTION 4 (Daniel 1:17)

God rewarded the four exiles for standing true to their principles, and for their faith and courage. He gave all of them knowledge and wisdom, as well as good health. But notice the special ability that He gave to Daniel. What was this gift? "And Daniel had understanding in all and _____." (Verse 17)

QUESTION 5 (Daniel 1:18-20)

At the end of training, Daniel and his three companions were brought face to face with Nebuchadnezzar. They must personally answer his searching QUESTIONS. How much better did the king find them than the astrologers and magicians of Babylon? (Verse 20)

Answer: _____.

To what special positions did Nebuchadnezzar appoint the four graduates? (verse 19)

ANSWER: _____

REVIEW QUIZ (True-T /False-F)

1. ____ Nebuchadnezzar launched three attacks on Jerusalem.
2. ____ He treated Daniel and his fellow captives badly.
3. ____ Judah was defeated because the nation rejected the warnings of the prophets.
4. ____ Daniel's name was changed to Belteshazzar.
5. ____ According to Jeremiah's prophecy, Judah was to remain in captivity for 70 years.
6. ____ Daniel and his companions were forced to eat the king's food.
7. ____ After three years' training, Daniel and his companions were found to be three times better than the wise men of Babylon.
8. ____ Daniel studied the art of prophecy in the school of Babylon's wise men.
9. ____ This was how he became a prophet.
10. ____ Daniel and his companions were forced to worship Idols.
11. ____ Daniel and his companions worshipped the Living God of Israel.

Daniel's Wise Choice

Decode the message by finding the letter for each number

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
21	10	12	23	2	4	1	19	5	15	25	20	18	26	9	13	22	6	11	16	24	17	3	7	8	14

A I E O E I I
 23 21 26 5 2 20 13 24 6 13 9 11 2 23 5 26 19 5 11
 E A A E O
 19 2 21 6 16 16 19 21 16 19 2 3 9 24 20 23
 O E I E I E I
 26 9 16 23 2 4 5 20 2 19 5 18 11 2 20 4 3 5 16 19
 E O I O O E I
 16 19 2 13 9 6 16 5 9 26 9 4 16 19 2 25 5 26 1 11
 E A , O I E I E
 18 2 21 16 26 9 6 3 5 16 19 16 19 2 3 5 26 2
 I E A :
 3 19 5 12 19 19 2 23 6 21 26 25

Strict compliance with the requirements of Heaven brings temporal as well as spiritual blessings. Unwavering in his allegiance to God, unyielding in his mastery of self, Daniel, by his noble dignity and unswerving integrity, while yet a young man, won the "favor and tender love" of the heathen officer in whose charge he had been placed. Daniel 1:9. The same characteristics marked his afterlife. He rose speedily to the position of prime minister of the kingdom of Babylon. Through the reign of successive monarchs, the downfall of the nation, and the establishment of another world empire, such were his wisdom and statesmanship, so perfect his tact, his courtesy, his genuine goodness of heart, his fidelity to principle, that even his enemies were forced to the confession that "they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful." PK 547

DANIEL 2: "THE MYSTERIOUS IMAGE"

¹And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, wherewith his spirit was troubled, and his sleep brake from him.

²Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to shew the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

³And the king said unto them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.

⁴Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in Syriack, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation.

⁵The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill.

⁶But if ye shew the dream, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and rewards and great honour: therefore shew me the dream, and the interpretation thereof.

⁷They answered again and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation of it.

⁸The king answered and said, I know of certainty that ye would gain the time, because ye see the thing is gone from me.

⁹But if ye will not make known unto me the dream, there is but one decree for you: for ye have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, till the time be changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I shall know that ye can shew me the interpretation thereof.

¹⁰The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that can shew the king's matter: therefore there is no king, lord, nor ruler, that asked such things at any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean.

¹¹And it is a rare thing that the king requireth, and there is none other that can shew it before the king, except the gods, whose dwelling is not with flesh.

¹²For this cause the king was angry and very furious, and commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon.

¹³And the decree went forth that the wise men should be slain; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be slain.

¹⁴Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the king's guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon:

¹⁵He answered and said to Arioch the king's captain, Why is the decree so hasty from the king? Then Arioch made the thing known to Daniel.

¹⁶Then Daniel went in, and desired of the king that he would give him time, and that he would shew the king the interpretation.

¹⁷Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:

¹⁸ That they would desire mercies of the God of heaven concerning this secret; that Daniel and his fellows should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon.

¹⁹ Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night vision. Then Daniel blessed the God of heaven.

²⁰ Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:

²¹ And he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding:

²² He revealeth the deep and secret things: he knoweth what is in the darkness, and the light dwelleth with him.

²³ I thank thee, and praise thee, O thou God of my fathers, who hast given me wisdom and might, and hast made known unto me now what we desired of thee: for thou hast now made known unto us the king's matter.

²⁴ Therefore Daniel went in unto Arioch, whom the king had ordained to destroy the wise men of Babylon: he went and said thus unto him; Destroy not the wise men of Babylon: bring me in before the king, and I will shew unto the king the interpretation.

²⁵ Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said thus unto him, I have found a man of the captives of Judah, that will make known unto the king the interpretation.

²⁶ The king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to make known unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof?

²⁷ Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise men, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king;

²⁸ But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;

²⁹ As for thee, O king, thy thoughts came into thy mind upon thy bed, what should come to pass hereafter: and he that revealeth secrets maketh known to thee what shall come to pass.

³⁰ But as for me, this secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, but for their sakes that shall make known the interpretation to the king, and that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart.

³¹ Thou, O king, sawest, and behold a great image. This great image, whose brightness was excellent, stood before thee; and the form thereof was terrible.

³² This image's head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass,

³³ His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

³⁴ Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

³⁵ Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

³⁶ This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king.

³⁷ Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory.

³⁸ And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold.

³⁹ And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth.

⁴⁰ And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

⁴¹ And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potters' clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay.

⁴² And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken.

⁴³ And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.

⁴⁴ And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

⁴⁵ Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

⁴⁶ Then the king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and commanded that they should offer an oblation and sweet odours unto him.

⁴⁷ The king answered unto Daniel, and 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.

⁴⁸ Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise men of Babylon.

⁴⁹ Then Daniel requested of the king, and he set Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel sat in the gate of the king.

Soon after Daniel's appointment to the royal staff, strife broke out in the palace. Nebuchadnezzar had a dream, which seemed to contain evil omens.

*"The Babylonians attached great importance to dreams, especially when given to a king. He was **Pontifex Maximus**—the leading priest of the gods of Babylon. A test of religions would ensue. The Babylonians had **boasted** that their gods were superior. Their victory over Israel had proved this. God had sent Israel to Babylon as a **witness** for Him." *Burnside, DPUF, 37.**

He called anxiously for his magicians, astrologers, sorcerers, and Chaldeans to explain the dream to him. "Tell your servants the dream and we will show the interpretation," replied the wise men. But the king had either forgotten his dream or wanted to test these "prophets". "Tell me what I saw in the dream and give me the meaning," he demanded.

The astrologers were stunned. “Impossible!” “Unreasonable!” they protested. “Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will give its interpretation.”

“The king knew that if they could really tell the interpretation, they could tell the dream as well. The Lord had in His providence given Nebuchadnezzar this dream, and had caused the particulars to be forgotten, while the fearful impression was left upon his mind, in order to expose the pretensions of the wise men of Babylon.” Sanctified Life, 34.

*Their hesitancy to comply immediately with his request may at first have aroused his suspicion that they had conspired together to take advantage of him. If the dream contained a communication concerning action to be taken at an auspicious moment, delay would result in tragic loss. **Certain communications through divinations demanded that action be undertaken at a precise moment, such as a particular conjunction of the planets.** The expressions, ‘gain the time,’ and ‘till the time be changed’ (vs.9), may have reference to such a supposed opportune moment.” 4SDABC, 768.*

*“Some have severely censured Nebuchadnezzar in this matter, as acting the part of a heartless, unreasonable tyrant. **But what did these magicians profess to be able to do?—To reveal hidden things, to foretell events, to make known mysteries entirely beyond human foresight and penetration, and to do this by the aid of supernatural agencies. There was therefore nothing unjust in Nebuchadnezzar’s demand that they should make known his dream. When they declared that none but the gods whose dwelling was not with flesh could make known the king’s matter, it was a tacit acknowledgment that they had no communication with these gods, and knew nothing beyond what human wisdom and discernment could reveal. ‘For this cause the king was angry and very furious.’***

“It was remarkable that Daniel and his companions, so lately pronounced by the king ten times better than all his magicians and astrologers, should not have been consulted in this matter. But there was a providence in this. Just as the dream was held from the king, so he was unaccountably restrained from appealing to Daniel for a solution of the mystery. Had he called Daniel at the first to make known the matter, the magicians would not have been brought to the test. But God would give the heathen systems of the Chaldeans the first chance. He would let them try and ignominiously fail, and then confess their utter incompetency, even under the penalty of death, that they might be the better prepared to acknowledge His intervention when He should finally manifest His power in behalf of His captive servants, and for the honor of His name.

“It appears that the first intimation Daniel had of the matter was the presence of the executioners, come for his arrest. His own life being thus at stake, he was led to seek the Lord with all his heart until He should work for the deliverance of His servants. Daniel gained his request of the king for time to consider the matter—a privilege which probably none of the magicians could have obtained, as the king had already accused them of preparing false and corrupt words, and of seeking to gain time for this very purpose.” Smith, DR, 32,33.

“ ‘Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions.’ Together they sought for wisdom from the Source of light and knowledge. Their faith was strong in the consciousness that God had placed them where they were, that they were doing His work and meeting the demands of duty. In times of perplexity and danger they had always turned to Him for guidance and

protection, and He had proved an ever-present help. Now with contrition of heart they submitted themselves anew to the Judge of the earth, pleading that He would grant them deliverance in this their time of special need. And they did not plead in vain. The God whom they had honored, now honored them. The Spirit of the Lord rested upon them, and to Daniel, ‘in a night vision,’ was revealed the king’s dream and its meaning.” *Prophets & Kings*, 493,494.

“Daniel was imbued with the Spirit of Jesus Christ, and he pleaded that the wise men of Babylon should not be destroyed. The followers of Christ do not possess the attributes of Satan, which make it a pleasure to grieve and afflict the creatures of God. They have the Spirit of their Master who said, **‘I am come to seek and to save that which was lost. I came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.’** Had Daniel possessed the same quality of religious zeal which is so quickly inflamed today in the churches, and men are led by it to afflict and oppress and destroy those who do not serve God after their prescribed plan, he would have said to Arioch, ‘These men who claim to be wise men are deceiving the king. They have not the knowledge they claim to have and should be destroyed. They dishonor the God of heaven, they serve idols, and their lives in no way do honor to God; let them die; but bring me in before the king and I will show unto the king the interpretation.’ The transforming grace of God was made manifest in His servant, and he pleaded most earnestly for the lives of the very men who afterwards in a secret, underhanded manner, made plans by which they thought to put an end to the life of Daniel. **These men became jealous of Daniel because he found favor with kings and nobles, and was honored as the greatest man in Babylon.**” 2 Manuscript Releases, 319.

“Daniel’s first plea was for the wise men of Babylon. Destroy them not, for the king’s secret is revealed, he implored. True, it was through no merit of theirs or their heathen systems of divination that this revelation was made. They were worthy of as much condemnation as before. But their own confession of utter impotence in the matter was humiliation enough for them, and Daniel was anxious that they should so far partake of the benefits shown him as to have their lives spared. **They were saved because there was a man of God among them. Thus it ever is. For the sake of Paul and Silas, all the prisoners with them were loosed. (Acts 16: 26.) For the sake of Paul, the lives of all that sailed with him were saved. (Acts 27: 24.) How often the wicked are benefited by the presence of the righteous!** Well would be if they would remember the obligations under which they are thus placed.

“What saves the world today? For whose sake is it still spared?—**For the sake of the few righteous persons who are yet left.** Remove these, and how long would the wicked be suffered to run their guilty career?—No longer than the antediluvians were suffered after Noah had entered the ark, or the Sodomites after Lot had departed from their polluted and polluting presence. **If only ten righteous persons could have been found in Sodom, the multitude of its wicked inhabitants would for their sakes have been spared.** Yet the wicked will despise, ridicule, and oppress the very ones on whose account it is that they are still permitted the enjoyment of life and all its blessings.” Smith, DR, 35,36.

QUESTION 1 (Daniel 2:1-9)

His anger rising, what threat did Nebuchadnezzar make?

“If ye will not make known unto me the dream, with the interpretation thereof, ye shall be

and your houses shall be made a _____.” (Verse 5)

QUESTION 2 (Daniel 2:10,11)

What admission did the frightened magicians make about their inability to reveal the unknown?

"There is not a _____ upon the _____ that can shew the king's matter." (Verse 10)

QUESTION 3 (Daniel 2:12,13)

Nebuchadnezzar was furious! The Babylonian wise men claimed to have supernatural insights into the unknown, and they had failed him. What decree did he issue?

For answer choose: (a), (b), or (c)

- (a) A death decree upon all the wise men of Babylon
- (b) A decree to implore special help from his god, Marduk
- (c) A decree to destroy all his advisers except Daniel

QUESTION 4 (Daniel 2:13-16)

When Daniel learned that his life and the lives of all the wise men were in peril, he went straight to the king. What request did he put before him? (Verse 16)

ANSWER: Daniel went in, and desired of the _____ that he would give him _____.

QUESTION 5 (Daniel 2:17-18)

On returning to his house after his encounter with Nebuchadnezzar, what did Daniel do?

For answer circle: (a), (b), (c), or (d)

- (a) Tried to think of a plan to escape from the city
- (b) Blamed God for the trouble he and his friends were in
- (c) Suffered a nervous breakdown
- (d) Organized a prayer group to seek help from God

QUESTION 6 (Daniel 2:19)

How did God answer the prayers of the four Hebrews?

"Then was the secret revealed unto Daniel in a night _____."

Then what did Daniel say to God? "I _____ Thee, and _____ Thee, O thou God of my fathers!" (Verse 23)

QUESTION 7 (Daniel 2:24-31)

When brought before the king again, who did Daniel tell him was the author of the dream?

(Verse 28) "There is a _____ in _____ that revealeth.

What was the dream's purpose?

"(God) maketh known to King Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the _____."

WHAT HAD THE KING SEEN? (Verse 31) A _____.

QUESTION 8 (Daniel 2:31-35)

After reading these verses, can you name the various metals of the image?

HEAD _____
CHEST AND ARMS _____

BELLY AND THIGHS _____
LEGS _____
FEET _____

QUESTION 9

Who was represented by the gold head? (verse 37) ANSWER: King_____.

Over which empire was he ruler? (Daniel 1:1) ANSWER:_____.

So the head of gold represented Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom, Babylon (605-538 BC).

QUESTION 10

Notice the other parts of the image. Daniel 2:39, 40

THE CHEST AND ARMS OF_____.

THE BELLY AND THIGHS OF_____.

THE LEGS OF_____.

Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar that these three metals represented three kingdoms that would follow Babylon. According to history, which three kingdoms were they?

THE SILVER:	MEDO-PERSIA	Conquered Babylon, 538 BC
THE BRONZE:	GREECE	Defeated Medo-Persia, 331 BC
THE IRON:	ROME	Overcame Greece by 168 BC

QUESTION 11 (Daniel 2:33; 41-43)

Next look at the feet. Of what odd mixture were the feet and toes made up?

“ Part of_____and part of_____.” (Verse 33)

What did Daniel say the mixture of iron and clay meant? “The kingdom shall be _____.” (Verse 41)

The break up of the Roman Empire took place in western Rome between the fourth and sixth centuries AD, when distant barbarian tribes overran the empire. In time, their descendants developed into various nations in Europe. Eastern Rome continued until the fall of Constantinople to the Turks in 1453.

QUESTION 12(Daniel 2:43)

What did Daniel predict about future attempts to unite these divided nations? “They will not _____one to another.”

“Even as iron is not _____ with clay.”

Many attempts have been made throughout history to reunite the Roman Empire, only to fail.

FACTS ABOUT PAGAN ROME’S BREAK UP AND ATTEMPTS TO REUNITE EUROPE

From the head of gold to the feet of iron and clay, the image prophecy has been fulfilled to the very letter. 2,500 years of history have proved Daniel totally accurate.

“Attempts to unite into one great empire the various nations that grew out of the fourth empire have ended in failure. Temporarily certain sections have been united, but the union has not proved peaceful or permanent.

“There have also been many political alliances among the nations. Farseeing statesmen have tried in various ways to bring about a federation of nations that would operate successfully, but all such attempts have proved disappointing.

“The prophecy does not specifically declare that there could not be a temporary union of various elements, through force of arms or political domination. It does declare, however, that the constituent nations, should such a union be attempted or effected, would not become organically fused, and that they would remain mutually suspicious and unfriendly. A federation created on such a foundation is doomed to crumble. The temporary success of some dictator or nation must, therefore, not be labeled a failure of Daniel’s prophecy. **In the end Satan will actually be able to achieve a temporary union of all nations** (Rev. 17:12-18; cf. Rev. 16:14; GC 624), but the federation will be brief, and in a short time **the elements composing this union will turn on one another.**” 4SDABC, 775,776.

QUESTION 13 (Daniel 2:34)

What happened to the image in the closing scene of the vision?

“Thou sawest till that a _____ was cut out without hands, which smote the _____ upon his _____ that were of iron and clay, and _____ them to pieces.”

QUESTION 14 (Daniel 2:44)

“And in the days of these kings shall the _____ of heaven set up _____, which shall never be destroyed.

QUESTION 15 (Daniel 2:19-23, 26-28, 36-45)

Who was the real interpreter of the king’s dream?

Please read these verses carefully before answering. Also read 2 Peter 1:20.
Mark the correct statements below.

- ☐ Daniel conjured up the dream and its interpretation out of his own mind.
- ☐ God revealed some of the details to Daniel but left him to work out the rest.
- ☐ Daniel had inborn psychic powers by which he forecast these coming events.
- ☐ Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar that he had no more wisdom within him to reveal the future than any other person living.
- ☐ Every part of the dream and the interpretation were revealed by God.

THE IMAGE INTERPRETED

<u>SYMBOL</u>		<u>MEANING</u>
HEAD OF		(BC605-538)
BREAST OF		(BC538-331)
THIGHS OF		(BC331-168)
LEGS OF		(BC168-AD476)
FEET OF		(AD476-)
AND		
THE _____		
"CUT OUT		
WITHOUT		
HANDS"		



Write the names of the metals in the left column and the names of the kingdoms they represent in the right column.

"The image revealed to Nebuchadnezzar, while representing the deterioration of the kingdoms of the earth in power and glory, also fitly represents the deterioration of religion and morality among the people of these kingdoms. As nations forget God, in like proportion they become weak morally. Babylon passed away because in her prosperity she forgot God, and ascribed the glory of her prosperity to human achievement. The Medo-Persian kingdom was visited by the wrath of heaven because in this kingdom God's law was trampled under foot. The fear of the Lord found no place in the hearts of the people. The prevailing influences in Medo-Persia were wickedness, blasphemy, and corruption. The kingdoms that followed were even more base and corrupt. They deteriorated because they cast off their allegiance to God. As they forgot Him, they sank lower and still lower in the scale of moral value (YI Sept. 22, 1903).

" We have come to a time when God's sacred work is represented by the feet of the image in which the iron was mixed with the miry clay. God has a people, a chosen people, whose discernment must be sanctified, who must not become unholy by laying upon the foundation wood, hay, and stubble. Every soul who is loyal to the commandments of God will see that the distinguishing feature of our faith is the seventh-day Sabbath. If the government would honour the Sabbath as God has commanded, it would stand in the strength of God and in defence of the faith once delivered to the saints. But statesmen will uphold the spurious sabbath, and will mingle their religious faith with the observance of this child of the papacy, placing it above the Sabbath which the Lord has sanctified and blessed, setting it apart for man to keep holy, as a

sign between Him and His people to a thousand generations. The mingling of churchcraft and statecraft is represented by the iron and the clay. This union is weakening all the power of the churches. This investing the church with the power of the state will bring evil results. Men have almost passed the point of God's forbearance. They have invested their strength in politics, and have united with the papacy. But the time will come when God will punish those who have made void His law, and their evil work will recoil upon themselves" (MS 63, 1899).

Great light shone forth from Daniel and his companions. Glorious things were spoken of Zion, the city of the Lord. Thus the Lord designs that spiritual light shall shine from His faithful watchmen in these last days. If the saints in the Old Testament bore such a decided testimony of loyalty, how should God's people today, having the accumulated light of centuries, shine forth, when the prophecies of the Old Testament shed their veiled glory into the future (Letter 32, 1899)! {4BC 1169.4}

"From the rise and fall of nations as made plain in the books of Daniel and the Revelation, we need to learn how worthless is mere outward and worldly glory. Babylon, with all its power and magnificence, the like of which our world has never since beheld—power and magnificence which to the people of that day seemed so stable and enduring—how completely has it passed away! As 'the flower of the grass,' it has perished. James 1:10. So perished the Medo-Persian kingdom, and the kingdoms of Grecia and Rome. And so perishes all that has not God for its foundation. Only that which is bound up with His purpose, and expresses His character, can endure. His principles are the only steadfast things our world knows.

"A careful study of the working out of God's purpose in the history of nations and in the revelation of things to come, will help us to estimate at their true value things seen and things unseen, and to learn what is the true aim of life. Thus, viewing the things of time in the light of eternity, we may, like Daniel and his fellows, live for that which is true and noble and enduring. And learning in this life the principles of the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour, that blessed kingdom which is to endure for ever and ever, we may be prepared at His coming to enter with Him into its possession." Prophets & Kings, 548.

DANIEL 3:- “THE FIERY FURNACE”

¹ Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

² Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

³ Then the princes, the governors, and captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up; and they stood before the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up.

⁴ Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O people, nations, and languages,

⁵ That at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king hath set up:

⁶ And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

⁷ Therefore at that time, when all the people heard the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and all kinds of musick, all the people, the nations, and the languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

⁸ Wherefore at that time certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews.

⁹ They spake and said to the king Nebuchadnezzar, O king, live for ever.

¹⁰ Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, shall fall down and worship the golden image:

¹¹ And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth, that he should be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

¹² There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego; these men, O king, have not regarded thee: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

¹³ Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded to bring Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. Then they brought these men before the king.

¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar spake and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?

¹⁵ Now if ye be ready that at what time ye hear the sound of the cornet, flute, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and dulcimer, and all kinds of musick, ye fall down and worship the image which I have made; well: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace; and who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?

¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter.

¹⁷ If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.

¹⁸ But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

¹⁹ Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: therefore he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

²⁰ And he commanded the most mighty men that were in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast them into the burning fiery furnace.

²¹ Then these men were bound in their coats, their hosen, and their hats, and their other garments, and were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

²² Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flames of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

²³ And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning fiery furnace.

²⁴ Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonished, and rose up in haste, and spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.

²⁵ He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.

²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the mouth of the burning fiery furnace, and spake, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the most high God, come forth, and come hither. Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, came forth of the midst of the fire.

²⁷ And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

²⁸ Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his servants that trusted in him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God.

²⁹ Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort.

³⁰ Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon.

Nebuchadnezzar was so impressed by the image in his dream that he decided to build one like it for himself. But instead of gold, silver, bronze, iron, and clay as in the dream, every centimeter of the idol was to be of gold! You see, despite Daniel's interpretation of the image, Nebuchadnezzar had ideas of his own about the future. He evidently decided that his kingdom was going to stand forever! No silver, bronze, iron, or clay kingdoms, such as in his dream, would replace his Babylon! Babylon was the "eternal city" and he was the king. In one of his inscriptions he wrote: "I erected [there] a stela (showing) me (as) everlasting king." (Ancient Near Eastern Texts, Page 307)

"We may well believe that this image had some reference to the dream of the king as described in the previous chapter. In that dream the head was of gold, representing Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom. That was succeeded by metals of inferior quality, denoting a succession of kingdoms. Nebuchadnezzar was doubtless

gratified that his kingdom should be represented by gold; but that it should ever be succeeded by another kingdom was not so pleasing. **Therefore, instead of having simply the head of his image of gold, he made it all of gold, to denote that his kingdom should not give way to another kingdom, but be perpetual.**" *Smith, DR, 71.*

"Those who are willing to be taught, may learn a lesson from the conduct of the king of Babylon. As the enemy sought to make God-given light serve his own purposes, by leading the king to work for his own glory instead of working for the glory of God, so he works today to pervert truth in order to hinder God's purposes. All false religion has its origin in a corruption of the true. **When unmixed with evil, truth is a mighty power to save; but if we allow the enemy to work through us, if by the light given us we seek to exalt self, even this truth may become a power for evil.** *Signs, 4/29/1897.*

From his rich store of treasure, Nebuchadnezzar caused to be made a great golden image, similar in its general features to that which had been seen in vision, save in the one particular of the material of which it was composed. Accustomed as they were to magnificent representations of their heathen deities, the Chaldeans had never before produced anything so imposing and majestic as this resplendent statue, threescore cubits in height and six cubits in breadth. And it is not surprising that in a land where idol worship was of universal prevalence, the beautiful and priceless image in the plain of Dura, representing the glory of Babylon and its magnificence and power, should be consecrated as an object of worship. This was accordingly provided for, and a decree went forth that on the day of the dedication all should show their supreme loyalty to the Babylonian power by bowing before the image." *Prophets & Kings, 505,506.*

When the image was finished, the king arranged an elaborate religious ceremony. He sent word out to all his officials throughout the empire to attend. As they assembled on the Plain of Dura, the image towering above them must have presented a spectacular sight.

"A severe test came to ... these youth when Nebuchadnezzar issued a proclamation, calling upon **all the officers of the kingdom** to assemble at the dedication of the great image, and at the sound of the musical instruments, to bow down and worship it. Should any fail of doing this, they were immediately to be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace. The worship of this image had been brought about by the wise men of Babylon in order to make the Hebrew youth join in their idolatrous worship. **They were beautiful singers, and the Chaldeans wanted them to forget their God and accept the worship of the Babylonian idols.**" *My Life Today, 68.*

"To bow down when in prayer to God is the proper attitude to occupy. This act of worship was required of the three Hebrew captives in Babylon. But such an act was homage to be rendered to God alone--the Sovereign of the world, the Ruler of the universe; and these three Hebrews refused to give such honor to any idol even though composed of pure gold. In doing so, they would, to all intents and purposes, be bowing to the king of Babylon. Refusing to do as the king had commanded, they suffered the penalty, and were cast into the burning fiery furnace. But Christ came in person and walked with them through the fire, and they received no harm." {2SM 312.6}

"Today the reverse happens: God's followers very often don't kneel to worship God in public worship anymore. Instead, they stand." *PJ.*

"As Nebuchadnezzar tried to force his subjects to obey his mandates, so men will try to force us to disregard the Word of God. They will endeavor to compel us to render homage to man-made statutes; but in God's strength we are to refuse to dishonor Him. The laws of earthly kingdoms are to be obeyed only when they do not conflict with the laws of God. When

governments are tyrannical and overbearing, when they trample on God's law, their laws are contemptible in His sight. **And when they try to control the minds and consciences of those whom Christ died to make free, God's children are to show their loyalty to him by refusing to disobey his commandments.**" *Signs*, 5/13/1897.

"The authorities of this world will rise up in their pride and power to make laws to restrict religious liberty. They will assume a right that is God's alone, and, like Nebuchadnezzar, will think that they can force the conscience, which only God can control. Even now they are making a beginning, and this they will carry forward till they reach a boundary over which they cannot step. Then God will interpose in behalf of his loyal, commandment-keeping people." *R&H*, 12/20/1898.

"Thou shalt 'fall down and worship the golden image' was the command of the King. 'Thou shall not bow down to any graven image' was the command of God. The mandate of modern Babylon will be death. God's penalty for sin is eternal death. **Hebrews had to choose between two death sentences, the first or 'second death'.**" *Burnside*, *DPUF*, 75.

Those who refused to bow down to the golden image were to be thrown into a fiery furnace. What was it like?

"The fiery furnace was probably a brick-kiln. ...These kilns are ordinarily cone-shaped structures built of bricks. The unbaked bricks to be fired line the inner walls. An opening on one side of the wall permits fuel to be thrown into the interior. Fuel consists of a mixture of crude oil and chaff. A tremendous heat is thus produced, and through the opening the observer can see the fired bricks heated to a white glow." *4SDABC*, 782,783.

It was clear that this was a false religion and from the devil because "Truth constrains, but never compels. A religion that relies on force is of the devil and not of God." *Burnside*, *DPUF*, 77.

We must be very careful of what we listen to. Just like Nebuchadnezzar who used music to exert his agendas, Satan also uses music today as a way to attract and ensnare souls. Ellen White speaks of this in the book *Testimonies to the Church* volume 1.

"Music is the idol which many professed Sabbathkeeping Christians worship. Satan has no objection to music if he can make that a channel through which to gain access to the minds of the youth. Anything will suit his purpose that will divert the mind from God and engage the time which should be devoted to His service. He works through the means which will exert the strongest influence to hold the largest numbers in a pleasing infatuation, while they are paralyzed by his power. When turned to good account, music is a blessing; but it is often made one of Satan's most attractive agencies to ensnare souls. When abused, it leads the unconsecrated to pride, vanity, and folly. When allowed to take the place of devotion and prayer, it is a terrible curse." *1 Testimonies*, 506.

"On that eventful day the powers of darkness seemed to be gaining a signal triumph; the worship of the golden image bade fair to become connected permanently with the established forms of idolatry recognized as the state religion of the land. Satan hoped thereby to defeat God's purpose of making the presence of captive Israel in Babylon a means of blessing to all the nations of heathendom.

"But God decreed otherwise. Not all had bowed the knee to the idolatrous symbol of human power. In the midst of the worshipping multitude there were three men who were firmly resolved not thus to dishonor the God of heaven. Their God was King of kings and Lord of lords; they would bow to none other." *Prophets & Kings*, 506.

"To Nebuchadnezzar, flushed with triumph, was brought the word that among his subjects

there were some who dared disobey his mandate. Certain of the wise men, jealous of the honors that had been bestowed upon the faithful companions of Daniel, now reported to the king their flagrant violation of his wishes. [Verses 9,12 quoted].” Prophets & Kings, 506,507.

The three Hebrew boys disregarded the King’s command and “To Nebuchadnezzar, flushed with triumph, was brought the word that among his subjects there were some who dared disobey his mandate. Certain of the wise men, jealous of the honors that had been bestowed upon the faithful companions of Daniel, now reported to the king their flagrant violation of his wishes. [Verses 9,12 quoted].” Prophets & Kings, 506,507.

“The Chaldeans who accused the Jews were probably the sect of philosophers who went by that name, and who were still smarting under their failure to interpret the king’s dream of Daniel 2. They were eager to seize upon any pretext to accuse the Jews before the king, and either disgrace or destroy them. They worked upon the king’s prejudice by strong insinuations of their ingratitude. Thou hast set them over the affairs of Babylon, and yet they have disregarded thee, they said. Where Daniel was upon this occasion, is not known. He was probably absent on some business of the empire. But why should Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, since they knew they could not worship the image, be present on this occasion? Was it not because they were willing to comply with the king’s requirements as far as they could without compromising their religious principles? **The king required them to be present. With this requirement they could comply, and they did. He required them to worship the image. This their religion forbade, and this they refused to do.**” Smith, DR, 72

Upon hearing that the Hebrew boys refused to bow down to the golden image, “The king commanded that the men be brought before him. ‘Is it true,’ he inquired, ‘do not ye serve my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up?’ He endeavored by threats to induce them to unite with the multitude. Pointing to the fiery furnace, he reminded them of the punishment awaiting them if they should persist in their refusal to obey his will. But firmly the Hebrews testified to their allegiance to the God of heaven, and their faith in His power to deliver. **The act of bowing to the image was understood by all to be an act of worship. Such homage they could render to God alone.**” Prophets & Kings, 507.

“As the three Hebrews stood before the king, he was convinced that they possessed something the other wise men of his kingdom did not have. They had been faithful in the performance of every duty. He would give them another trial. If only they would signify their willingness **to unite with the multitude** in worshiping the image, all would be well with them; ‘but if ye worship not,’ he added, ‘ye shall be cast the same hour into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.’ Then with his hand stretched upward in defiance, he demanded, ‘Who is that God that shall deliver you out of my hands?’” Prophets & Kings, 507.

“In vain were the king’s threats. He could not turn these noble men from their allegiance to the great Ruler of nations. They had learned from the history of their fathers that disobedience to God is dishonor, disaster, and ruin; that the fear of the Lord is not only the beginning of wisdom but the foundation of all true prosperity. They look with calmness upon the fiery furnace and the idolatrous throng. **They have trusted in God, and He will not fail them now.** Their answer is respectful, but decided: ‘Be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up’ (Daniel 3:18). Sanctified Life, 37

“With all the force he could command, he ordered that the furnace be heated seven times hotter than its wont, and commanded the most mighty men to bind the youth, and cast them into the furnace. He felt that it required more than ordinary power to deal with these noble men. His mind was strongly impressed that something unusual would interpose

in their behalf, and his strongest men were ordered to deal with them.” Signs, 5/6/1897.

“But the Lord did not forget His own. As His witnesses were cast into the furnace, the Saviour revealed Himself to them in person, and together they walked in the midst of the fire. In the presence of the Lord of heat and cold, the flames lost their power to consume.” Prophets & Kings, 508,509.

QUESTION 1 (Daniel 3:1)

What were the two outstanding features of this image?

“Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of _____, whose _____ was threescore (60) cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits.” (90-100 feet high). (Notice $60 \times 6 = 360$ which is a prophetic year.

QUESTION 2 (Daniel 3:2-5)

As the ceremony opened, what was everyone present ordered to do? (for answer circle a, b, or c)

- (a) dance for joy
- (b) start singing the national anthem
- (c) fall down and worship the image when the music sounded.

QUESTION 3 (Daniel 3:6)

What was the penalty for disobeying Nebuchadnezzar’s command to worship the image? “And whoso falleth not down and worshippeth shall the same hour be cast into the _____ of a burning fiery.....”

QUESTION 4 (Daniel 3:7-12)

When the band struck up, thousands fell to the ground before the idol. No wonder! To refuse meant death by burning. But not everyone obeyed. Informers were quick to report to the king that three prominent people had not bowed down. Who were they? “There are certain _____ whom thou hast set over the affairs of the province of Babylon: _____, _____, and They serve not your gods, nor worship the golden image, which thou hast set up.”

QUESTION 5 (Daniel 3:13- 15)

What statement by Nebuchadnezzar makes it clear that he was challenging the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego in all this?

“And who is that _____ that shall deliver you out of _____ hands?” (Verse 15)

QUESTION 6 ((Daniel 3:19-21)

Infuriated by their reply, what did Nebuchadnezzar order his guards to do?

ANSWER: “Bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to _____ them into the burning _____ furnace.”

QUESTION 7 (Daniel 3:22-25)

As the king looked into the furnace, expecting to see the captives incinerated, he could not believe his eyes. What did he see?

“Lo, I see _____ men loose, walking in the midst of the _____, and they have no _____;”

The soldiers who threw the three men into the furnace were themselves killed by the searing heat. Yet their victims, who were right in the fire, survived unharmed. What had

saved them so miraculously? Was it the presence of the fourth man?

“Here also we have an apt illustration that the same fire that is death to the wicked is life to the righteous. While the fire of the furnace destroyed the might men of Babylon, the faithful followers of God were unharmed in its very midst. So it shall be in the final reckoning. ‘Our God is a consuming fire’ (Heb. 12:29). Consuming not to all, however. ‘Who among us shall dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us shall dwell with everlasting burnings? He that walketh righteously.... Thine eyes shall see the king in His beauty....’ (Isa. 33:14.)” *Light Bearers, UOD-4.*

“Every circumstance revealed the direct power of God. The Hebrews were bound in all their garments, but came out with not even the smell of fire upon them. The mightiest men in the army were chosen to cast them in, but the fire burned them before they came in contact with it. But upon the Hebrews it had not effect, although they were in the very midst of its flames. **It is evident that the fire was under the control of some supernatural intelligence, for while it consumed the cords with which they were bound, so that they were free to walk about in the midst of the fire, it did not even singe their garments.** They did not spring out of the fire as soon as free, but remained in it; for the king had put them into the furnace of fire as in the delights and luxuries of the palace. **Let us in all our trials, afflictions, persecutions, and straitened places, but have the ‘form of the fourth’ with us and it is enough.**” *Smith, DR, 74,75*

“Oh, it is a great thing to be right with God, the soul in harmony with its Maker, so that, amid the contagion of evil example, which by its deceitful appearance would lure the soul from duty, angels may be sent to your rescue! But bear in mind, if you invite temptation, you will not have divine aid to keep you from being overcome. **The three worthies endured the fiery furnace, for Jesus walked with them in the fiery flame. If they had, of themselves, walked into the fire, they would have been consumed. Thus will it be with you. If you do not walk deliberately into temptation, God will sustain you when the temptation comes.**” *3 Testimonies, 47*

QUESTION 8 (Daniel 3:25)

Who did Nebuchadnezzar say the fourth was like?

ANSWER: “and the form of the fourth is like the _____ of God.”

Nebuchadnezzar had just been boasting that the Hebrews’ God could not save the three out of his hand. So he did know about the one God of the Hebrews. That is why, when he saw them alive with the fourth man in the flames, he declared in amazement: “Blessed be the _____ of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent his angel, and delivered his _____.”

QUESTION 9 (Daniel 3:26)

As Nebuchadnezzar called to the men in the furnace to come out, by what title did he refer to their God? “The _____ God.”

QUESTION 10 (Daniel 3:27)

Did the Babylonian officials find any effects of fire on the three Hebrews?

“Nor was an _____ of their head singed, neither were their _____ changed, nor the _____ of fire had passed on them.”

QUESTION 11 (Daniel 3:28, 29)

What sudden change came over Nebuchadnezzar because of this amazing experience?
What decree did he make?

"Therefore I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak any thing amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be _____ in pieces, and their houses shall be made a _____: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort."

The king decreed that, henceforth, any remark made against the God of the Jews would bring sudden death to the offender. In his ignorance the king thought he was doing God a favour by making this decree. But was he? Has God given rulers the task of enforcing worship or religious belief upon their subjects? Yes: ____ No: ____

How wonderful that the divine "fourth man" should go into the flames to be with these three courageous men! He did not stop the guards from throwing them in, but went in with them. Did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego lose out by being loyal to God?
Yes: ____ No: ____

How did Nebuchadnezzar know that the form of the fourth was like the Son of God?
He had heard of the Son of God from the Hebrew captives that were in his kingdom.

They had brought the knowledge of the living God who ruleth all things (RH May 3, 1892).

"How did that heathen king know what the Son of God was like? The Hebrew captives filling positions of trust in Babylon had in life and character represented before him the truth. When asked for a reason of their faith, they had given it without hesitation. Plainly and simply they had presented the principles of righteousness, thus teaching those around them of the God whom they worshiped. They had told of Christ, the Redeemer to come; and in the form of the fourth in the midst of the fire the king recognized the Son of God." *Prophets & Kings*, 509.

LINKS WITH REVELATION 13:

"By many, the Sabbath of the fourth commandment is made void, being treated as a thing of naught; while the spurious sabbath, the child of the papacy, is exalted. In the place of God's laws, are elevated the laws of the man of sin,--laws that are to be received and regarded as the wonderful golden image of Nebuchadnezzar was by the Babylonians. Forming this great image, Nebuchadnezzar commanded that it should receive universal homage from all, both great and small, high and low, rich and poor (MS 24, 1891)." {4BC 1169.5}

"Already preparations are advancing, and movements are in progress, which will result in making an image to the beast. Events will be brought about in the earth's history that will fulfil the predictions of prophecy for these last days" (RH April 23, 1889).

"The Lord has shown me clearly that the image of the beast will be formed before probation closes; for it is to be the great test for the people of God, by which their eternal destiny will be decided. . . . [Revelation 13:11-17 quoted.] . . .

" This is the test that the people of God must have before they are sealed. All who proved their loyalty to God by observing His law, and refusing to accept a spurious sabbath, will rank under the banner of the Lord God Jehovah, and will receive the seal of the living God. Those who yield the truth of heavenly origin and accept the Sunday sabbath, will receive the mark of the beast (Letter 11, 1890)." {7BC 976.3}

“ When the Protestant churches shall unite with the secular power to sustain a false religion, for opposing which their ancestors endured the fiercest persecution; when the state shall use its power to enforce the decrees and sustain the institutions of the church--then will Protestant America have formed an image to the papacy, and there will be a national apostasy which will end only in national ruin” (ST March 22, 1910). {7BC 976.4}

“ ‘In the life of every man and nation there comes a time to decide,’ said Lowell. God grant that our daily decisions will prepare us for the supreme test of life. ...The more fundamental the duty, the less room is there for uncertainty. When duty is clearly defined, there should be promptness in obedience with no parleying with temptation. Delay in executing a decision of conscience always weakens the decision. Hesitating obedience to a known duty is a sign of indifference and cowardice.” *Bunch, BOD, 41,43.*

As in the days of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, so in the closing period 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. In the midst of the time of trouble--trouble such as has not been since there was a nation--His chosen ones will stand unmoved. Satan with all the hosts of evil cannot destroy the weakest of God’s saints. Angels that excel in strength will protect them, and in their behalf Jehovah will reveal Himself as a “God of gods,” able to save to the uttermost those who have put their trust in Him. {PK 513.1}

“We are to recognize human government as an ordinance of divine appointment, and teach obedience to it as a sacred duty, within its legitimate sphere. **But when its claims conflict with the claims of God, we must obey God rather than men. God’s word must be recognized as above all human legislation.** A ‘Thus saith the Lord’ is not to be set aside for a ‘**Thus saith the church**’ or a ‘Thus saith the state.’ The crown of Christ is to be lifted above the diadems of earthly potentates.

“We are not required to defy authorities. Our words, whether spoken or written, should be carefully considered, lest we place ourselves on record as uttering that which would make us appear antagonistic to law and order. We are not to say or do anything that would unnecessarily close up our way. We are to go forward in Christ’s name, advocating the truths committed to us. **If we are forbidden by men to do this work, then we may say, as did the apostles,** ‘Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.’” *Acts of the Apostles, 69.*

In the book Upward Look, what transpired in the fiery furnace is linked to what will happen at the second coming of Christ.

*“In the day of His coming, the last great trumpet is heard, and there is a terrible shaking of earth and heaven. The whole earth, from the loftiest mountains to the deepest mines, will hear. **Everything will be penetrated by fire. The tainted atmosphere will be cleansed by fire.** The fire having fulfilled its mission, the dead that have been laid away in the grave will come forth—some to the resurrection of life, to be caught up to meet their Lord in the air, and some to behold the coming of Him whom they have despised and whom they now recognize as the Judge of all the earth.*

*“**All the righteous are untouched by the flames. They can walk through the fire, as Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego walked in the midst of the furnace heated seven times hotter than it was wont to be heated. The Hebrew worthies could not be consumed, because the form of the fourth, the Son of God, was with them. So in the***

day of the coming of the Lord, smoke and flame will be powerless to harm the righteous. Those who are united with the Lord will escape unscathed. Earthquakes, hurricanes, flame, and flood cannot injure those who are prepared to meet their Saviour in peace. But those who rejected our Saviour, and scourged and crucified Him, will be among those who will be raised from the dead to behold His coming in the clouds of heaven, attended by the heavenly host—ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands....” Upward Look, 261.

Letter Tiles with a Message

Rearrange the tiles to learn why the Hebrew Boys would not worship the Image.

o t h	a l t	n i m	m a k e
a l t	t h e m	u n t	n o t
a g e	u s h	r v e	n y g
5 .	e e a	u s h	. .
d o w n	b o w	t h y	t o
r a v e	r s e	t h e m	s e l f
x . 2	: " E	" T h o	, n o
0 : 4 ,	n o t	. T h o	

REVIEW QUIZ (T/F)

T / F Daniel was one of the men thrown into the furnace.

T / F Nebuchadnezzar had only the head of his image made of gold, same as his dream

T / F The king saw three figures walking in the flames

T / F The three men who refused to worship Nebuchadnezzar's image tried to bargain for their lives.

T / F The rescue of the three men from the fire caused the king to believe that everyone should worship the true God.

T / F Nebuchadnezzar acted right when he decreed the death penalty upon anyone who spoke against God.

DANIEL 4:- “THE MAD KING”

⁴ Nebuchadnezzar the king, unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

² I thought it good to shew the signs and wonders that the high God hath wrought toward me.

³ How great are his signs! and how mighty are his wonders! his kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and his dominion is from generation to generation.

⁴ I Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace:

⁵ I saw a dream which made me afraid, and the thoughts upon my bed and the visions of my head troubled me.

⁶ Therefore made I a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known unto me the interpretation of the dream.

⁷ Then came in the magicians, the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers: and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof.

⁸ But at the last Daniel came in before me, whose name was Belteshazzar, according to the name of my God, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods: and before him I told the dream, saying,

⁹ O Belteshazzar, master of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in thee, and no secret troubleth thee, tell me the visions of my dream that I have seen, and the interpretation thereof.

¹⁰ Thus were the visions of mine head in my bed; I saw, and behold a tree in the midst of the earth, and the height thereof was great.

¹¹ The tree grew, and was strong, and the height thereof reached unto heaven, and the sight thereof to the end of all the earth:

¹² The leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all: the beasts of the field had shadow under it, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it.

¹³ I saw in the visions of my head upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven;

¹⁴ He cried aloud, and said thus, Hew down the tree, and cut off his branches, shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the beasts get away from under it, and the fowls from his branches:

¹⁵ Nevertheless leave the stump of his roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts in the grass of the earth:

¹⁶ Let his heart be changed from man's, and let a beast's heart be given unto him; and let seven times pass over him.

¹⁷ This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

¹⁸ This dream I king Nebuchadnezzar have seen. Now thou, O Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation thereof, forasmuch as all the wise men of my kingdom are not able to make known unto me the interpretation: but thou art able; for the spirit of the holy gods is in thee.

¹⁹ Then Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, was astonished for one hour, and his thoughts troubled him. The king spake, and said, Belteshazzar, let not the dream, or the interpretation thereof, trouble thee. Belteshazzar answered and said, My lord, the dream be to them that hate thee, and the interpretation thereof to thine enemies.

²⁰ The tree that thou sawest, which grew, and was strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the sight thereof to all the earth;

²¹ Whose leaves were fair, and the fruit thereof much, and in it was meat for all; under which the beasts of the field dwelt, and upon whose branches the fowls of the heaven had their habitation:

²² It is thou, O king, that art grown and become strong: for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth.

²³ And whereas the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and saying, Hew the tree down, and destroy it; yet leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass, in the tender grass of the field; and let it be wet with the dew of heaven, and let his portion be with the beasts of the field, till seven times pass over him;

²⁴ This is the interpretation, O king, and this is the decree of the most High, which is come upon my lord the king:

²⁵ That they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field, and they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and they shall wet thee with the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, till thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

²⁶ And whereas they commanded to leave the stump of the tree roots; thy kingdom shall be sure unto thee, after that thou shalt have known that the heavens do rule.

²⁷ Wherefore, O king, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor; if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity.

²⁸ All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar.

²⁹ At the end of twelve months he walked in the palace of the kingdom of Babylon.

³⁰ The king spake, and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honour of my majesty?

³¹ While the word was in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee.

³² And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will.

³³ The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' feathers, and his nails like birds' claws.

³⁴ And at the end of the days I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned unto me, and I blessed the most High, and I praised and honoured him that liveth for ever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation:

³⁵ And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

³⁶ At the same time my reason returned unto me; and for the glory of my kingdom, mine honour and brightness returned unto me; and my counsellors and my lords sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and excellent majesty was added unto me.

³⁷ Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

Twenty, thirty, or even more years could have passed since the drama of the fiery furnace. During this time Daniel and his three friends had continued to hold high positions in the government of Babylon. Nebuchadnezzar's prestige and power had grown with each passing year. His fame as a builder and military commander had spread far and wide throughout the ancient world. Monuments found in Iraq and Lebanon still bear his name today.

God had tried to reach Nebuchadnezzar's conscience through the image dream and the miraculous rescue of the three Hebrews from the furnace. But the king had not fully responded. It seems that he had defeated all his enemies except the worse- himself- his own pride!

"Thinking that his kingdom should be more extensive and powerful than any that would follow, **he made great additions to the city of Babylon, and gave himself up to a life of pleasure and self-glorification.** Of this time he himself says: 'I Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in mine house, and flourishing in my palace.'" *Youth's Instructor, 10/11/1904.*

"Having conquered the world, Nebuchadnezzar was at rest in his house, when one night he dreamed a dream. Success had followed him wherever he turned. At his feet bowed the representatives of all nations. Into his coffers flowed the wealth of the east and the west, and the north and the south. About him was clustered the wit and the learning of the age. Libraries were at his command, and art flourished. Why should not King Nebuchadnezzar flourish in his kingdom?" *Haskell, SDP 51.*

"Because Nebuchadnezzar did not continue to walk in the light he had received from heaven, he lost the holy impressions that had been made upon his mind. **But God, in his mercy, gave the king another dream, to save him, if possible, from appropriating to himself the glory that belonged to the Supreme Ruler.**" *Youth's Instructor, 11/1/1904.*

Nebuchadnezzar narrated his dream to the wise men of Babylon and for the second time, failed the king.

"A still greater humiliation than that narrated in the second chapter was brought upon the magicians. **At that time they boasted that if they only knew the dream they could make known the interpretation.** Upon this occasion Nebuchadnezzar distinctly remembered the dream and related it to them, but his magicians ignominiously failed him again. They could not make known the interpretation, and once again the king turned to the prophet of God." *Smith, DR, 81.*

"Once more in this idolatrous nation, testimony was to be borne to the fact that **only those who love and fear God can understand the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven.** The king in his perplexity sent for his servant Daniel, a man esteemed for his **integrity and constancy and for his unrivaled wisdom.**" *Prophets & Kings, 516.*

*“The meaning was explained to him. The person signified, was to be put down from honour, and to be deprived of the use of his reason seven years. This is surely the sorest of all temporal judgments. Whatever outward affliction God is pleased to lay upon us, we have cause to bear it patiently, **and to be thankful that he continues the use of our reason, and the peace of our consciences.** Yet if the Lord should see fit by such means to keep a sinner from multiplying crimes, or a believer from dishonoring his name, **even the dreadful prevention would be far preferable to the evil conduct.**” Matthew Henry, Commentary on Daniel 4.*

“There was yet time for repentance, and had the king heeded this counsel, it would have saved him from the great humiliation which came upon him. But when men’s hearts are set, the message to change, though given by an angel from heaven, remains unheeded. Consequently, ‘all this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar.’ A year of probation was granted the king after this solemn warning had been given.” Haskell, SDP, 57.

*“For a time the impression of the warning and the counsel of the prophet was strong upon Nebuchadnezzar; **but the heart that is not transformed by the grace of God soon loses the impressions of the Holy Spirit.** Self-indulgence and ambition had not yet been eradicated from the king’s heart, and later on these traits reappeared. Notwithstanding the instruction so graciously given him, and the warnings of past experience, **Nebuchadnezzar again allowed himself to be controlled by a spirit of jealousy against the kingdoms that were to follow.** His rule, which heretofore had been to a great degree just and merciful, **became oppressive. Hardening his heart, he used his God-given talents for self-glorification, exalting himself above the God who had given him life and power.***

*“For months the judgment of God lingered. **But instead of being led to repentance by this forbearance, the king indulged his pride until he lost confidence in the interpretation of the dream, and jested at his former fears.**” Prophets & Kings, 519.*

*“The king did not heed the message of Daniel. **For twelve months** he was tested and proved of God, to see if he would humble his proud heart, **and the witness was with him when he came in and when he went out;** and at the end of the twelve months he walked in his palace in the kingdom of Babylon. ‘The king spake, and said, [verses 30-32 quoted].’ Youth’s Instructor, 11/9/1893*

*“The custom of offering praise to men is one that results in great evil. **One praises another, and thus men are led to feel that glory and honor belong to them. They begin to feel as did Nebuchadnezzar when he walked around the palaces of his kingdom, exclaiming, ‘Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for the house of the kingdom by the might of my power, and for the honor of my majesty?’** God had warned the king of his danger in thus taking the glory to himself, but he did not heed the warning, and God sent his threatened judgment upon him, and Nebuchadnezzar was humbled. After he had learned his lesson, and had given honor to God, he was restored to his kingly state and power. Giving praise to men lifts them up in their own estimation, and they forget that their ability is of God, an entrusted capital put in their charge to be used for the glory of the Giver. Men are tested in the use of this earthly capital to see if they may be entrusted with the heavenly riches. When we are in a right condition before God, we shall realize that a great sacrifice has been made in our behalf, and we shall see our own human frailty and weakness, and offer praise to God, instead of to man. All the praise belongs to God.” R&H, 6/9/1891.*

God gave Nebuchadnezzar a second dream which he could not understand. What effect did this dream have upon him? "I saw a dream which made me _____."

Filled with fear, Nebuchadnezzar again sent for his magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers. But, like first dream, they hadn't the slightest idea as to what it meant. At last Daniel entered the audience chamber.

QUESTION 2 (Daniel 4:6-9)

What did Nebuchadnezzar say distinguished Daniel from the other wise men? "In whom is the _____ of the Holy Gods."

QUESTION 3 (Daniel 4:10-17)

In his dream, Nebuchadnezzar saw a great tree. Can you picture it? So tall and magnificent!

(a) What happened to the tree?

A "watcher" from heaven gave the order to _____ down the tree.

The _____ of his _____ were to be left in the earth. (verse 15)

(b) What details of the dream show that the tree was symbolic of some man? The "heart of man" was to be changed to the "heart of a _____". (c) For how long was this change to last?

Let _____ times pass over him. A 'Time' in Prophecy means a _____.

QUESTION 4 (Daniel 4:20-22)

When Daniel understood the dream, he was greatly troubled. For a while he could not speak. The news was bad! But after the king had urged him to tell all, Daniel faithfully revealed the terrible truth.

Which man did Daniel say the tree represented? "It is _____, O king."

QUESTION 5 (Daniel 4:25)

For what purpose was the dream given? "To let living know that "the Most High _____ in the kingdom of men."

QUESTION 6 (Daniel 4:26)

What part of the dream said Nebuchadnezzar would be restored to his throne? "And whereas they commanded to leave the _____ of the tree _____; thy _____ shall be sure unto thee." (verse 26)

Daniel's deep concern for the king is shown in verse 27. He urged Nebuchadnezzar to break off his _____ and show mercy to the _____. By changing his ways, the king might avert the troubles that were predicted.

QUESTION 7 (Daniel 4:28-30)

Just twelve months after Daniel's warning, what boastful words came from the king's lips? "The king spake, and said, 'Is not this great _____, that I have built for the house of the _____ the might

of _____ power, and for the honour of _____ majesty?'"

QUESTION 8 (Daniel 4:31-33)

Even while the king was speaking, a voice from heaven pronounced, "O Nebuchadnezzar, to _____ it is spoken; the kingdom is departed from _____."

An unusual fragment of a tablet from Babylon, now in the British Museum, was published in 1975. It is considered possible that it refers to Nebuchadnezzar's mental illness. The inscription says, "life appeared of no value to" him, "he does not show love to son and daughter", and "family and clan do not exist" for him any longer. (A K Grayson, Babylonian Historical-Literary Texts, Toronto, 1975, pages 88-92)

QUESTION 9 (Daniel 4:36)

At the end of the seven years, did God keep the promise
He had made to Nebuchadnezzar in the dream? (see verse 26)
YES / NO (circle your answer)

QUESTION 10 (Read Daniel 4:34-37)

Did Nebuchadnezzar change his attitude toward
God? Had his pride and arrogance now gone? YES / NO (circle your answer)

QUESTION 11 (Daniel 4:1,2,37)

Notice what he said after returning to his throne.
"Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, _____ and extol and honour the _____ of
_____, all whose works are _____, and His ways
judgment: and those that walk in _____ He is able to abase."

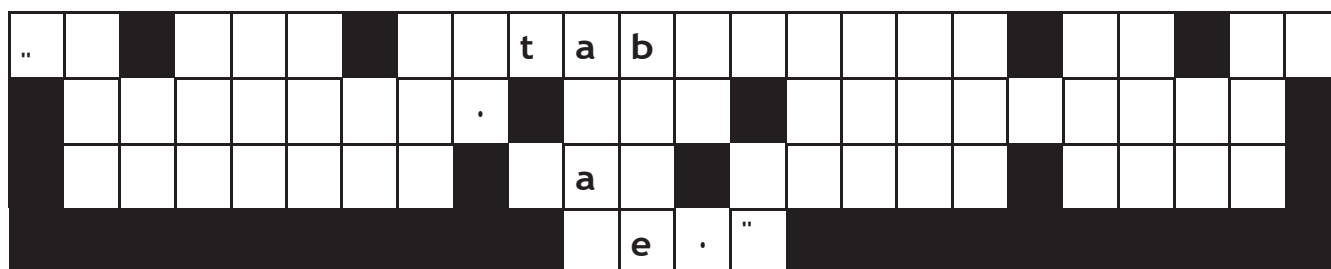
REVIEW QUIZ: Fill in the blank spaces by selecting words from this list:

seven	holy	stump	ten	seeds
image	days	roots	tree	years
after	spirit	before		

- 1) The king of Babylon recognized that Daniel had the _____ with him.
- 2) In this prophetic dream the king was represented as a _____.
- 3) The expression "seven times" means seven _____.
- 4) The fact that the king was to be restored to the throne of Babylon was represented in the dream by the _____.
- 5) The king wrote the record of the dream and its consequences _____ his years of insanity.

Find what happened to to the King after the 7 Years by using the letters directly

below each of the blank squares. Each letter is used once.



k n a s m

e x e e u n m

m a w g s t y

m n l i d h c d l n n t

l i j e d o e s w a s d a s d e d l i e t o y

DANIEL 5:- “BABYLON FALLS”

¹ Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand.

² Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which was in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein.

³ Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which was at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them.

⁴ They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone.

⁵ In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote.

⁶ Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another.

⁷ The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. And the king spake, and said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.

⁸ Then came in all the king's wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof.

⁹ Then was king Belshazzar greatly troubled, and his countenance was changed in him, and his lords were astonished.

¹⁰ Now the queen by reason of the words of the king and his lords came into the banquet house: and the queen spake and said, O king, live for ever: let not thy thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy countenance be changed:

¹¹ There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, I say, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, and soothsayers;

¹² Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation.

¹³ Then was Daniel brought in before the king. And the king spake and said unto Daniel, Art thou that Daniel, which art of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry?

¹⁴ I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods is in thee, and that light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee.

¹⁵ And now the wise men, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known unto me the interpretation thereof: but they could not shew the interpretation of the thing:

¹⁶ And I have heard of thee, that thou canst make interpretations, and dissolve doubts: now if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about thy neck, and shalt be the third ruler in the kingdom.

¹⁷ Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation.

¹⁸ O thou king, the most high God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and glory, and honour:

¹⁹ And for the majesty that he gave him, all people, nations, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he kept alive; and whom he would he set up; and whom he would he put down.

²⁰ But when his heart was lifted up, and his mind hardened in pride, he was deposed from his kingly throne, and they took his glory from him:

²¹ And he was driven from the sons of men; and his heart was made like the beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses: they fed him with grass like oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the most high God ruled in the kingdom of men, and that he appointeth over it whomsoever he will.

²² And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this;

²³ But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath is, and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified:

²⁴ Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written.

²⁵ And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN.

²⁶ This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it.

²⁷ TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting.

²⁸ PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.

²⁹ Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom.

³⁰ In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain.

³¹ And Darius the Median took the kingdom, being about threescore and two years old.

THE MYSTERY OF BELSHAZZAR

This chapter introduces us to another ruler – Belshazzar, the last King of Babylon. His name meant “Bel protect the king.” (Bel was another name for the god Marduk.)

Until recent times, complete mystery surrounded Belshazzar. Unlike the famous Nebuchadnezzar, his name had never been found outside Daniels writings. As well, all the ancient historians listed Nabonidus as Babylon’s last king. So critics concluded that the story of Belshazzar was simply a myth.

THE SOLUTION

In 1854, Sir Henry Rawlinson deciphered the name “Belshazzar” on a clay cylinder,

unearthed from the ruins of ancient Ur in Iraq. The inscription was a prayer of Nabonidus to his god Bel for himself and his son “Belshazzar.”

Since then, more than five hundred other tablets containing Belshazzar’s name have been found. From them his whole life history can be virtually reconstructed.

Why was Belshazzar, and not Nabonidus on the throne when Babylon fell? The answer is simple. When Belshazzar was about 30 years old, Nabonidus went into retirement at Tema in Arabia, leaving his son to rule the empire. Today, the Bible’s claims about Belshazzar as the last king of Babylon can no longer be doubted.

BABYLON’S FADING GLORY

The king made a great feast and commanded that vessels from the temple of God should be brought to him so that they would drink wine therein.

“That this festival had some reference to former victories over the Jews may be inferred from the fact that when the king began to be heated with his wine, he called for the sacred vessels which had been taken from Jerusalem. He would most likely use them to celebrate the victory by which they were obtained. Probably no other king had carried his impiety to such length as this. **And while they drank wine from vessels dedicated to the true God, they praised their gods of gold, silver, brass, iron, wood, and stone.** Perhaps, as we have noted in comments on Daniel 3:29, they celebrated the superior power of their gods over the God of the Jews, from whose vessels they now drank to their heathen deities.” *Smith, DR, 89,90.*

But Belshazzar was a failure both as a king and as a soldier. Fond of luxury, he succeeded only in bringing his empire to ruin.

This weakening of Babylon’s leadership was noticed by the watchful Persians, Medes, and Elamites, over whom Babylon had ruled for 70 years. Under the command of their dynamic leader, Cyrus the Great, they began to push into Babylon’s territory.

So deceived was Belshazzar by the old myth of “Babylon the Eternal” and so blind to the Persian military threat, that at the most dangerous time possible, he invited thousands of his lords and ladies to the inner citadel for a night of drunken revelry. That same night, the armies of Cyrus closed in and King Belshazzar, The prince who knew the best, but chose the worst, perished.

“Little did Belshazzar think that there was a heavenly Witness to his idolatrous revelry; that a divine Watcher, unrecognized, looked upon the scene of profanation, heard the sacrilegious mirth, beheld the idolatry. But soon the uninvited Guest made His presence felt. When the revelry was at its height a bloodless hand came forth and traced upon the walls of the palace characters that gleamed like fire—words which, though unknown to the vast throng, were a portent of doom to the now **conscience-stricken** king and his guests.

“Hushed was the boisterous mirth, while men and women, seized with nameless terror, watched the hand slowly tracing the mysterious characters. Before them passed, as in panoramic view, the deeds of their evil lives; they seemed to be arraigned before the judgment bar of the eternal God, whose power they had just defied. Where but a few moments before had been hilarity and blasphemous witticism, were pallid faces and cries of fear. When God makes men fear, they cannot hide the intensity of their terror.” *Prophets & Kings, 524.*

"A Watcher, who was unrecognized, but whose presence was a power of condemnation, looked on this scene of profanation. Soon the unseen and uninvited Guest made His presence felt. At the moment when the sacrilegious revelry was at its height, a bloodless hand came forth, and wrote words of doom on the wall of the banqueting hall. Burning words followed the movements of the hand. "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin," was written in letters of flame. Few were the characters traced by that hand on the wall facing the king, but they showed that the power of God was there. Belshazzar was afraid. His conscience was awakened. The fear and suspicion that always follow the course of the guilty seized him. When God makes men fear, they cannot hide the intensity of their terror. Alarm seized the great men of the kingdom. Their blasphemous disrespect of sacred things was changed in a moment. A frantic terror overcame all self-control. In vain the king tried to read the burning letters. He had found a power too strong for him. He could not read the writing (YI May 19, 1898). {4BC 1171.1}

"In all the gatherings of young and old, there is present an uninvited guest, a witness from heaven, as there was a witness at the sacrilegious feast of Belshazzar. Could those who dishonor God by their words and actions, behold the writing in the record, their countenances would change, as surely as did the countenance of the king when he saw the part of the bloodless hand that wrote on the wall of his palace. You may think that you are sinning in secret, or you may be entirely indifferent to the matter; but for all that, every dishonoring word spoken against God will bring its sure reward."
Youth's Instructor, 11/9/1893.

"The angels that were present at Belshazzar's idolatrous revelry stand beside you as you dishonor your Redeemer. Sadly they turn away, grieved that you should thus crucify him afresh, and put him to open shame." R&H, 11/24/1904.

QUESTION 1 (Daniel 5:1-3)

Feeling safe and secure behind the city walls, what did Belshazzar command to be brought to the banqueting hall?

(Belshazzar) gave the command to bring the gold and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken from the _____, Which had been in Jerusalem."

QUESTION 2 (Daniel 5:4,5)

What frightening event interrupted the celebrations? "In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's _____, and wrote over against the _____ upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace."

QUESTION 3 (Daniel 5:5-9)

What facts show that the message on the wall could not have been written by a human being? "In the same hour came forth _____ of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaister of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the _____ of the _____ that wrote.

A WISE WOMAN TO THE RESCUE

"In vain the king tried to read the burning letters. But here was a secret he could not fathom, a power he could neither understand nor gainsay. In despair he turned to the wise men of his realm for help. His wild cry rang out in the assembly, calling upon the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers to read the writing. 'Whosoever shall read this writing,' he

promised, 'and show me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom.' But of no avail was his appeal to his trusted advisers, with offers of rich awards. Heavenly wisdom cannot be bought or sold. 'All the king's wise men ...could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation thereof.' They were no more able to read the mysterious characters than had been the wise men of a former generation to interpret the dreams of Nebuchadnezzar."

Prophets & Kings, 527

Trembling with terror, Belshazzar shouted for somebody to bring in the astrologers, but they were unable to understand the writing, just as Nebuchadnezzar's wise men had been unable to interpret his dreams fifty years before. Then **"The queen mother remembered Daniel, who, over half a century before,** had made known to King Nebuchadnezzar the dream of the great image and its interpretation." *Prophets & Kings, 527,528.*

"Daniel reviewed the past, bringing before Belshazzar the light which he had received from the history and judgment of Nebuchadnezzar. God had given his grandfather a kingdom, majesty, glory, and honor; but instead of feeling gratitude to God, Nebuchadnezzar had taken the glory to himself, and his mind was lifted up and his heart hardened. God deposed him from his throne, and took his glory from him. Daniel faithfully repeated the story of Nebuchadnezzar's renown and degradation, and set forth the mercy of God in granting him another opportunity of acknowledging God as the Supreme Ruler in heaven and earth, the One to whom kings and nations owed allegiance. [Verses 22,23 quoted.]

"...The hand of God will awaken the sinner as it did Belshazzar, but with many it will be too late to repent. The ruler of Babylon had riches and honor, and in his haughty self-indulgence he had lifted himself up against the God of heaven and earth. He had trusted in his own arm, not supposing that any would dare to say, 'Why doest thou this?' But as the mysterious hand traced letters on the wall of his palace, Belshazzar was awed and silenced. In a moment he was completely shorn of his strength, and humbled as a child. He realized that he was at the mercy of One greater than himself. **He had been making sport of sacred things.** Now his conscience was awakened. He realized that he had had the privilege of knowing and doing the will of God. **The history of his grandfather stood out as vividly before him as the writing on the wall.**" *Youth's Instructor, May 19, 1898.*

"Turning to the Heaven-sent message on the wall, the prophet read, 'Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin.' **The hand that had traced the characters was no longer visible, but these four words were still gleaming forth with terrible distinctness;** and now with bated breath the people listened while the aged prophet declared: [Verses 26-28 quoted.]

"In that last night of mad folly, Belshazzar and his lords had filled up the measure of their guilt and the guilt of the Chaldean kingdom. **No longer could God's restraining hand ward off the impending evil. Through manifold providences, God had sought to teach them reverence for His law. 'We would have healed Babylon,' He declared of those whose judgment was now reaching unto heaven, 'but she is not healed.'** Jeremiah 51:9. Because of the strange perversity of the human heart, God had at last found it necessary to pass the irrevocable sentence. Belshazzar was to fall, and his kingdom was to pass into other hands." *Prophets & Kings, 530.*

"God is weighing our characters, our conduct, and our motives in the balances of the sanctuary. It will be a fearful thing to be pronounced wanting in love and obedience by our Redeemer, who died upon the cross to draw our hearts unto Him. God has bestowed upon us great and precious gifts. He has given us light and a knowledge of His will, so that we need not err or walk in darkness. **To be weighed in the balance and**

found wanting in the day of final settlement and rewards will be a fearful thing, a terrible mistake which can never be corrected. Young friends, shall the book of God be searched in vain for your names?" *3 Testimonies, 370.*

QUESTION 4 (Daniel 5:10,11)

When the queen heard about the trouble she hurried into the banquet hall. What wise suggestion did she make to the king?

"There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the _____ of the Holy _____."

What was the man's name? (verse 12) _____.

QUESTION 5 (Daniel 5:13-16)

When Daniel was brought before the king, what did Belshazzar promise to give him if he could interpret the writing on the wall? Thou shalt be _____ with scarlet"

"have a _____ of _____ around your neck" "and shall be the third in the kingdom"

QUESTION 6 (Daniel 5:17)

Was Daniel interested in making money or receiving honours out of his work as a prophet? What reply did he make to the king?

"Let thy _____ be to thyself, and give thy _____ to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation." (Verse 17)

QUESTION 7 (Daniel 5:18-21)

Daniel was not in a hurry to explain the writing on the wall. First, he wanted to remind Belshazzar about his failure to learn from God's dealings with Nebuchadnezzar, whom he said was "driven from the sons of _____; and his heart was made like the _____."

QUESTION 8 (Daniel 22-24)

What did Daniel say was the reason for the writing on the wall? "And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not _____ thine heart, though thou

knewest all this; But hast lifted up thyself against the _____ of _____."

QUESTION 9 (Daniel 5:23)

What three things had Belshazzar done that were most offensive to God?

Lifted up thy _____.

Drunk _____ in the temple vessels.

Praised the _____ of silver, gold, brass, iron, wood, and stone.

QUESTION 10 (Daniel 5:23,24)

Who did Daniel say was responsible for the writing on the wall?

QUESTION 11 (Daniel 5:25-29)

What did Daniel say was the meaning of the mysterious words?

MENE God hath numbered thy kingdom, and _____ it.

TEKEL Thou art weighed in the _____, and art found wanting.

PERES or UPHARSIN Thy kingdom is _____, and given to the Medes and Persians.

QUESTION 12 (Daniel 5:30)

How long did it take for judgment to come upon Belshazzar? (Circle your answer)

- (a) less than 24 hours (c) a year
(b) a month (d) ten years

QUESTION 13 (Daniel 5:31)

Who received the kingdom after the death of Belshazzar? ANSWER: _____.

REVIEW QUIZ (T/F)

1. ____ Belshazzar held a drunken orgy in which he openly challenged God by drinking from the sacred vessels of God's sanctuary.
2. ____ A supernatural hand wrote on Belshazzar's palace wall to announce the end of the Babylonian kingdom.
3. ____ It took less than 24 hours for the prophecy of Belshazzar's death to be fulfilled.
4. ____ The kingdom of Babylon fell to the Medes and Persians.
5. ____ Daniel was not able to make clear to Belshazzar exactly why the kingdom was being taken from him.

Belshazzar's Feast

Words in each line are merged together. Find the original words.
Hint: The letters that make up each word are still in their original order.

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The advent of the army of Cyrus before the walls of Babylon was to the Jews a sign that

their deliverance from captivity was drawing nigh. More than a century before the birth of Cyrus, Inspiration had mentioned him by name, and had caused a record to be made of the actual work he should do in taking the city of Babylon unawares, and in preparing the way for the release of the children of the captivity. Through Isaiah the word had been spoken: "Thus saith the Lord to His anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; " Isaiah 45:1-3.

In the unexpected entry of the army of the Persian conqueror into the heart of the Babylonian capital by way of the channel of the river whose waters had been turned aside, and through the inner gates that in careless security had been left open and unprotected, the Jews had abundant evidence of the literal fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy concerning the sudden overthrow of their oppressors. And this should have been to them an unmistakable sign that God was shaping the affairs of nations in their behalf; for inseparably linked with the prophecy outlining the manner of Babylon's capture and fall were the words: "Cyrus, he is My shepherd, and shall perform all My pleasure: even saying to Jerusalem, Thou shalt be built; and to the temple, Thy foundation shall be laid." "I have raised him up in righteousness, and I will direct all his ways: he shall build My city, and he shall let go My captives, not for price nor reward, saith the Lord of hosts." Isaiah 44:28; 45:13. {PK 552.1}

Sabbath Treated Like Belshazzar Treated Vessels.—

"On every page of God's word the injunction to obedience is plainly written, and yet how often his commands are lightly regarded or wholly set aside! The command for the observance of the holy Sabbath of the Lord is placed in the very bosom of the Decalogue, and is so plain that none need err as to its import, **and yet it is treated with as great profanation as were the sacred vessels at the feast of Belshazzar.** God sanctified and blessed the seventh day, setting it apart to be observed as holy time. **Yet the Sabbath of the Lord has been used as a common working day, while a day which possesses no sanctity whatever has been put in the place of God's sanctified day.** The religious world has accepted error for truth, and many who claim to be the children of the light are the children of darkness. **The condemnation of those who trample upon God's holy Sabbath, and exalt a Sabbath instituted by the man of sin,** will not come because they have conscientiously observed the first day of the week, **but because they neglected opportunities for searching the Scriptures and learning, not what man has said, not what the ministers say, not what the fathers have said, but what saith the infinite God?** What day has God specified as his holy day? What did he command men to honor when he spoke with an audible voice from Sinai? That voice is to be obeyed above every other; **the edicts of kings and nations are void before a command of God.** The Lord of hosts commands our obedience." *Signs*, 7/27/1891.

"The condemnation that will fall upon the nations of the earth in this day **will be because of their rejection of light, and will be similar to that which fell upon the kings of Babylon;** it will be because they have failed to make the most of present light, present opportunities for knowing what is truth and righteousness. Our condemnation in the judgment will not result from the fact that we have lived in error, but from the fact that **we have neglected heaven-sent opportunities for discovering truth.** The means of becoming conversant with the truth are within the reach of all; but, like the indulgent, selfish king, we give more attention to the things that charm the ear, and please the eye, and gratify the palate, than to the things that enrich the mind, the divine treasures of truth. It is through the truth that we may answer the great question, 'What must I do to be saved?'

"On every page of God's word the injunction to obedience is plainly written, and yet how often his commands are lightly regarded or wholly set aside! **The command for the**

observance of the holy Sabbath of the Lord is placed in the very bosom of the Decalogue, and is so plain that none need err as to its import, and yet it is treated with as great profanation as were the sacred vessels at the feast of Belshazzar. God sanctified and blessed the seventh day, setting it apart to be observed as holy time. Yet the Sabbath of the Lord has been used as a common working day, while a day which possesses no sanctity whatever has been put in the place of God's sanctified day. The religious world has accepted error for truth, and many who claim to be the children of the light are the children of darkness. The condemnation of those who trample upon God's holy Sabbath, and exalt a Sabbath instituted by the man of sin, will not come because they have conscientiously observed the first day of the week, but because they neglected opportunities for searching the Scriptures and learning, not what man has said, not what the ministers say, not what the fathers have said, but what saith the infinite God? What day has God specified as his holy day? What did he command men to honor when he spoke with an audible voice from Sinai? That voice is to be obeyed above every other; the edicts of kings and nations are void before a command of God. The Lord of hosts commands our obedience.

"If ministers would search their Bibles, they would know what saith the Scriptures; but the voices of false shepherds cry, 'Lo here! or, lo there!' but we are safe only in following Him who said, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life.' The Lord declares, 'To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them.'" *Signs*, 7/27/1891.

DANIEL 6:- “IN THE LION’S DEN”

¹ It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom;

² And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage.

³ Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

⁴ Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

⁵ Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.

⁶ Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever.

⁷ All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.

⁸ Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

⁹ Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.

¹⁰ Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

¹¹ Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.

¹² Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

¹³ Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

¹⁴ Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

¹⁵ Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.

¹⁶ Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

¹⁷ And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

¹⁸ Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him.

¹⁹ Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

²⁰ And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

²¹ Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

²² My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

²³ Then was the king exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

²⁴ And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

²⁵ Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

²⁶ I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

²⁷ He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.

²⁸ So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

In Babylon's last night God's hand was over Daniel and life was spared. The fact that he was now ruler in the kingdom next to Belshazzar would have drawn attention to him as special. The Persians must have heard about his outstanding wisdom and excellent spirit.

"Daniel was doubtless advanced to this high position because of the excellent spirit and fidelity manifest in his work. As a great man in the empire of Babylon, Daniel might have been regarded an enemy by Darius, and have been banished or otherwise put out of the way. Or as a captive from a nation then in ruins, he might have been despised and set at naught. But to the credit of Darius be it said, Daniel was preferred over all the others, because the discerning king saw in him an excellent spirit. The king thought to set him over the whole realm." Smith, DR, 98.

"Only by faithfulness in the little things can the soul be trained to act with fidelity under larger responsibilities. God brought Daniel and his fellows into connection with the great men of Babylon, that these heathen men might become acquainted with the principles of true religion. In the midst of a nation of idolaters, Daniel was to represent the character of God. How did he become fitted for a position of so great trust and honor? It was his faithfulness in the little things that gave complexion to his whole life. He honored

God in the smallest duties, and the Lord co-operated with him.” Christ’s Object Lessons, 356.

Cyrus himself, now the ruler of their entire empire, could have known about Isaiah’s prophecy. One hundred and fifty years before Babylon’s fall, Isaiah had actually named Cyrus as Babylon’s future conqueror. (see Isaiah 44:28 to 45:5). When Darius appointed his governors, he made Daniel prime minister. This did not please the heathen priests and officials and it was decided to do away with Daniel.

“Under the reign of Darius, Daniel was exalted to a position of great honor, because the king saw in him an ‘excellent spirit.’ But when the leading men of the kingdom saw Daniel thus favored, they became jealous of him, and soon envied and hated him. His course of unbending integrity was in marked contrast to their own lives. **The more upright and righteous he was, the more they hated him.** Long they sought to find something whereby he might be condemned. It angered them to think that they could lay nothing to his charge. But he was prime minister of the kingdom, and they knew they would have to prove any charge they brought against him.

“Daniel’s position was not an enviable one. **He stood at the head of a dishonest, prevaricating, godless cabinet, whose members watched him with keen, jealous eyes, to find some flaw in his conduct.** They kept spies on his track, to see if they could not in this way find something against him.” *Youth’s Instructor, 11/1/1900.*

“Daniel’s position was not an enviable one. He stood at the head of a dishonest, prevaricating, godless cabinet, whose members watched him with keen, jealous eyes, to find some flaw in his conduct. They kept spies on his track, to see if they could not in this way find something against him. Satan suggested to these men a plan whereby they might get rid of Daniel. Use his religion as a means of condemning him, the enemy said. “Daniel was a man of prayer. Three times a day he knelt before the Lord; **and Satan told his enemies that his destruction must be compassed on this ground.**” *Youth’s Instructor, 11/1/1900.*

“Daniel’s enemies discovered that **he was never to be found worshiping in any of the temples of Babylon, nor did he take part in any heathen religious ceremonies.** Undoubtedly they had noticed that he was absent from his office every Sabbath, the day of weekly rest prescribed in ‘the law of his God.’ They doubtless reasoned that his set times for prayer interfered with the discharge of his official duties.” *4SDABC, 811.*

*These presidents and princes assembled and consulted together then “**A scheme was now devised to accomplish his [Daniel’s] destruction.** His enemies assembled at the palace and besought the king to pass a decree that no person in the whole realm should ask anything of either God or man, except of Darius the king, for the space of thirty days, and that any violation of this edict should be punished by casting the offender into the den of lions. The king knew nothing of the hatred of these men toward Daniel, and did not suspect that the decree would in any way injure him. **Through flattery they made the monarch believe it would be greatly to his honor to pass such an edict.** With a smile of satanic triumph upon their faces, they come forth from the presence of the king, and rejoice together over the snare which they have laid for the servant of God.” Sanctified Life, 43.*

QUESTION 1 (Daniel 6:1, 2.)

What changes in government by Darius led to the threat on Daniel’s life?

“It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty _____, which

should be over the whole kingdom; 2 And over these three _____; of whom Daniel was _____."

QUESTION 2 (Daniel 6:2)

Who was head of the three governors? _____.

QUESTION 3 (Daniel 6:3)

Why did the king promote Daniel to the position of supreme governor?

"Because an excellent _____ was in him."

QUESTION 4 (Daniel 6:4)

How successful were Daniel's enemies when they tried to discredit him? They could find no charge or fault, because "he was _____."

QUESTION 5 (Daniel 6:5.)

Then what did they decide was the only way to catch him? "We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the _____ of his _____."

QUESTION 6 (Daniel 6:6-9)

Read about the plans made by Daniel's enemies, then mark the following statements TRUE (T) or FALSE (F).

1. _____ The plan was to get the king to make a decree.
2. _____ No request (petition) was to be made to any "god" or person other than the king.
3. _____ The ban on prayer was for a period of 50 days.
4. _____ Anyone found guilty of breaking the ban would be executed by hanging.
5. _____ The law of the "Medes and Persians" could be changed, only if ten or more people signed a petition.
6. _____ The law of the "Medes and Persians" could not be changed even by the king.

"In the Medo-Persian empire the principle of government was different from that of Babylon. ... **The Medo-Persian government was an absolute monarchy also. There, also, the word of the king was the law: but with this all-important difference from Babylon, that when once the word of the king had gone forth as the law, that law could not be changed nor reversed even by the king himself.** The king himself was bound, even against himself, by his own word or decree that had once become the law. The government of Medo-Persia, therefore, was a government of *law*; its principle was *the supremacy of THE LAW*."

"The plotters were ready with their plea of the supremacy and integrity of 'the law'; **and to urge arguments that it was 'not a question of religion, but of the law;'** that to countenance disregard and violation of 'the law' was simply to undermine all the government and make an open bid for a reign of anarchy, and for the very dissolution of society itself: that they were exceedingly sorry that such an excellent man as Daniel should be thus involved, yet to allow such open disregard of 'the law' by one of such high standing and reputation would be only all the worse; because this very fact of the high standing and wide reputation of the one who so openly disregarded 'the law' would be only the more encouragement to all people to do the same, etc., etc." *Jones, IIR, 22,23,27,28.*

"The king's vanity was flattered. Not for a moment did he think that Daniel, his beloved and honored servant, would in any way be affected by the law. He signed the decree, and with it in their possession, the presidents and princes went forth from his presence, evil triumph depicted on their countenances. **They deemed that the man they hated was now in their power.**" *Youth's Instructor, 11/1/1900.*

"The king was flattered by this proposition, and as he did not understand the motive that

prompted it, he signed the desired decree, and made it a law. **Did these men think because they had deceived Darius that they had deceived the Lord also?**" *Signs*, 11/4/1889.

*"The prophet's enemies counted on Daniel's firm adherence to principle for the success of their plan. **And they were not mistaken in their estimate of his character.** He quickly read their malignant purpose in framing the decree, but he did not change his course in a single particular. Why should he cease to pray now, when he most needed to pray? Rather would he relinquish life itself, than his hope of help in God. With calmness he performed his duties as chief of the princes; and at the hour of prayer he went to his chamber, and with his windows open toward Jerusalem, in accordance with his usual custom, he offered his petition to the God of heaven. He did not try to conceal his act. Although he 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 swerve 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. Surrounded by idolaters, he was a faithful witness to this truth. His dauntless adherence to right was a bright light in the moral darkness of that heathen court. Daniel stands before the world today a worthy example of Christian fearlessness and fidelity." *Prophets & Kings*, 540-542.*

*"Daniel's history is a remarkable one. He carried out his faith and principles against great opposition. He was condemned to death because he would not abate one jot of his allegiance to God even in the face of the king's decree. It might, at this day, be called over-righteousness to go, as was his wont, **three times a day and kneel before the open window for prayer** while he knew that prying eyes were observing him and that his enemies were ready to accuse him of disloyalty to the king; but Daniel would allow no earthly power to come in between him and his God, even with the prospect of death in the den of lions.*

*"...Nothing is gained by cowardice or by fearing to let it be known that we are God's commandment-keeping people. **Hiding our light, as if ashamed of our faith, will result only in disaster. God will leave us to our own weakness.** May the Lord forbid that we should refuse to let our light shine forth in any place to which He may call us. If we venture to go forth of ourselves, following our own ideas, our own plans, and leave Jesus behind, we need not expect to gain fortitude, courage, or spiritual strength. God has had moral heroes, and He has them now—**those who are not ashamed of being His peculiar people.** Their wills and plans are all subordinate to the law of God. The love of Jesus has led them not to count their lives dear unto themselves. Their work has been to catch the light from the word of God and to let it shine forth in clear, steady rays to the world. 'Fidelity to God' is their motto." *5 Testimonies*, 527,528.*

QUESTION 7 (Daniel 6:10)

Although Daniel knew about the plot to kill him, did he change his actions? Yes: ____ No: ____

QUESTION 8 (Daniel 6:11)

Who waited outside Daniel's window to catch him breaking the newly signed law? "Then these _____ assembled and found Daniel _____."

QUESTION 9 (Daniel 6:12,13)

Read the report that was taken back to the king. Notice that while most of the report was true, one part was totally false. Underline the part that was a lie.

"Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day."

“His adversaries watch him an entire day. Three times he has repaired to his chamber, and three times the voice of earnest intercession has been heard. The next morning the complaint is made to the king that Daniel, one of the captives of Judah, has set at defiance his decree. When the monarch heard these words, his eyes were at once opened to see the snare that had been set. He was sorely displeased with himself for having passed such a decree, and labored till the going down of the sun to devise a plan by which Daniel might be delivered. But the prophet’s enemies had anticipated this, and they came before the king with these words: ‘Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.’” *Sanctified Life, 44.*

*“Daniel was cast into the den of lions. But he had good company in that den of wild beasts; for the ‘**angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them.**’ God sent his angel, and closed the mouths of the hungry lions, that they should not hurt him.” Bible Echo, March 1, 1893.*

*“God did not prevent Daniel’s enemies from casting him into the lions’ den; He permitted evil angels and wicked men thus far to accomplish their purpose; **but it was that He might make the deliverance of His servant more marked,** and the defeat of the enemies of truth and righteousness more complete. ‘Surely the wrath of man shall praise Thee’ (Psa. 76:10), the psalmist has testified. **Through the courage of this one man who chose to follow right rather than policy, Satan was to be defeated, and the name of God was to be exalted and honored.**” Prophets & Kings, 543,544.*

QUESTION 10 (Daniel 6:14)

How do we know whether the king cared about Daniel and whether he recognized Daniel’s right to freely worship God?

“Then the king, when he heard these _____, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to _____ him: and he laboured till the going down of the _____ to deliver him.”

QUESTION 11 (Read Daniel 6:15,16)

Darius would have done anything to rescue Daniel. But the supposed unchangeableness of Persian law, finally forced the king to take action against him. How was Daniel, “the lawbreaker”, to be punished?

So the king gave the command and they brought Daniel and cast him into the _____ of _____.

QUESTION 12 (Daniel 6:16)

What showed that Darius had some hope that God might save Daniel?

“Now the king spake saying unto Daniel, Thy _____ whom thou servest continually, he will _____ thee.”

QUESTION 13 (Daniel 6:17)

A stone was brought and laid upon the _____ of the den.

The king _____ it with his own signet ring and with the _____ of his lords.

QUESTION 14 (Daniel 6:18,19)

Was the king troubled over what he had done?

Check the true statements which answer this QUESTION.

____ The king ate a big supper.

____ He did not want to listen to his usual evening music program.

____ He could not sleep.

____ He prayed all night to the “gods”.

____ He slept in late in the morning.

“Full of satanic exultation, **Daniel’s enemies returned to their homes. They drank freely of wine, and congratulated themselves on their success** in putting out of the way one whom they could not bribe to forsake the path of integrity.

“Not so did Darius pass the night. Daniel’s testimony had made a deep impression on his mind. He had some knowledge of the dealing of God with the people of Israel, and Daniel’s conduct sent home to his heart the conviction, that the God of the Hebrews was the true God. He was filled with remorse for having signed the decree brought to him. His conscience was awakened, and he passed a sleepless and troubled night. **The chamber of royalty was one of sorrow and prayer. All music was hushed. All amusements were laid aside. No comforters were admitted. During that sleepless night the king thought as he had never thought before.”** *Youth’s Instructor, 11/1/1900.*

“Early the next morning, hoping and yet despairing, condemning himself, **and praying to him whom he began to recognize as the true God,** Darius went to the lions’ den, and cried aloud: ‘O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?’

“With intense anxiety he waited for an answer, and unspeakable thankfulness filled his heart as a voice came up from below: ‘O king, live forever. My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions’ mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.’ *Youth’s Instructor, 11/1/1900.*

“The course of the king after Daniel had been cast into the den of lions attests his genuine interest in the prophet’s behalf, and the severe condemnation he felt for his own course in the matter. At dawn he repaired to the den of hungry and ravenous beasts. **Daniel was alive, and his response to the monarch’s salutation was no reproach for his having yielded to his evil counselors.** In terms of respect and honor he said, ‘O king, live forever.’ Afterward he reminded the king, in a manner which he must have keenly felt, but to which he could take no exception, **that before him he had done no wrong. Because of his innocency, God, whom he served continually, had sent His angel and had shut the lions’ mouths.**

“Here, then, stood Daniel, preserved by a power higher than any power of earth. His cause was vindicated, his innocency declared. ‘No manner of hurt was found upon him, **because he believed in his God.**” *Smith, DR, 102,103.*

QUESTION 15 (Daniel 6:20)

As Darius hurried anxiously to the mouth of the den at daybreak, what QUESTION did he ask? “O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy _____, whom thou servest continually, to _____ thee from the lions?”

QUESTION 16 (Daniel 6:21,22)

What good news echoed up from the den?

“My God hath sent His _____ and hath shut the lions’ mouths.”

QUESTION 17 (Daniel 6:24)

How did the king bring justice upon those who had plotted to destroy Daniel?

“Why, then, were Daniel’s accusers brought and cast in? They probably attributed the preservation of Daniel, not to any miracle in his behalf, but to the fact that the lions chanced at that time not to be hungry. The king may have said, ‘In that case they will no more attack you than him, so we will test the matter by putting you in.’ The lions were hungry enough when not restrained by divine intervention, and these men were torn to pieces before they reached the bottom of the den. Thus was Daniel doubly vindicated, and the words of Solomon were strikingly fulfilled: **‘The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh in his stead.’ Proverbs 11:8.**” *Smith, DR 103.*

“Unjust attack upon the innocent has often brought ruin to the attackers. Haman attempted to destroy Mordecai and was himself destroyed. The envious wise men tried to rid themselves of the three Hebrews, but they were defeated and the Hebrews exalted. **Likewise the enemies of Daniel suffered the cruel fate they had planned for him** while he was elevated and greatly honored by the king.” *Bunch, BOD, 83.*

“They have prepared a net for my steps; my soul is bowed down: they have digged a pit before me, into the midst whereof they are fallen *themselves*. Selah.” **Psalm 57:6.**

“Daniel’s deliverance resulted in another proclamation’s being sent out through the empire in favor of the true God, the God of Israel. All men were commanded to fear and tremble before Him. The plot which Daniel’s enemies had designed to prove his ruin, resulted only in his advancement. In this case, and in the experience of the three Hebrews in the fiery furnace, the approval of God is placed on two great lines of duty—the refusal to yield to any known sin, and the refusal to omit any known duty. From these instances the people of God in all ages may derive encouragement.

“The decree of the king sets forth the character of the true God: He is the Creator; all others are without life in themselves. He is steadfast forever; all others are helpless and unavailing. He has a kingdom; for He made and governs all. His kingdom shall not be destroyed; all others come to an end. His dominion is without end; no human power can prevail against it. He delivers those who are in bondage. He rescues His servants from their enemies when they call upon Him for help. He works wonders in the heavens and signs upon the earth. And to complete all, He has delivered Daniel, giving before our eyes the fullest proof of His power and goodness in rescuing His servant from the power of the lions. How excellent a eulogy of the great God and His faithful servant! Thus closes the historical part of the book of Daniel.” *Smith, DR, 103.*

Daniel’s test is similar to that of those living in the last days.

“I presented events to transpire in the near future which will test the people of God, bringing them where they will be required to make such decisions as Daniel made when the decree went forth that all who for the next thirty days should offer a petition to any save the king, should be thrown into the lion’s den. Had Daniel obeyed the decree, he would have dishonored God; but he was true to principle, and the Lord delivered him. It is Satan’s constant aim to exalt himself and his inventions, and to dishonor God. He is not satisfied unless he has the supremacy. It is not the purpose and work of God to compel men’s consciences; but Satan pushes his advantages.” *Review & Herald, 1/29/1884*

“From the story of Daniel’s deliverance we may learn that in seasons of trial and

gloom God's children should be just what they were when their prospects were bright with hope and their surroundings all that they could desire. Daniel in the lions' den was the same Daniel who stood before the king as chief among the ministers of state and as a prophet of the Most High. A man whose heart is stayed upon God will be the same in the hour of his greatest trial as he is in prosperity, when the light and favor of God and of man beam upon him. Faith reaches to the unseen, and grasps eternal realities.

"Heaven is very near those who suffer for righteousness' sake. Christ identifies His interests with the interests of His faithful people; He suffers in the person of His saints, and whoever touches His chosen ones touches Him. The power that is near to deliver from physical harm or distress is also near to save from the greater evil, making it possible for the servant of God to maintain his integrity under all circumstances, and to triumph through divine grace." *Prophets & Kings*, 545.

DANIEL 7: “DREAM BEASTS”

¹ In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, and told the sum of the matters.

² Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

³ And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another.

⁴ The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

⁵ And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

⁶ After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

⁷ After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.

⁸ I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

⁹ I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

¹⁰ A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

¹¹ I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

¹² As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.

¹³ I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

¹⁴ And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

¹⁵ I Daniel was grieved in my spirit in the midst of my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

¹⁶ I came near unto one of them that stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me, and made me know the interpretation of the things.

¹⁷ These great beasts, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth.

¹⁸ But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

¹⁹ Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast, which was diverse from all the others, exceeding dreadful, whose teeth were of iron, and his nails of brass; which devoured, brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with his feet;

²⁰ And of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other which came up, and before whom three fell; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows.

²¹ I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

²² Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

²³ Thus he said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces.

²⁴ And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings.

²⁵ And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

²⁶ But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end.

²⁷ And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

²⁸ Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance changed in me: but I kept the matter in my heart.

To Daniel was given a vision of fierce beasts, representing the powers of the earth. But the ensign of the Messiah's kingdom is a lamb. 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 (Letter 32, 1899). {4BC 1171.5}

QUESTION 1 (Read Daniel 7:1-7)

In a night vision Daniel sees "the great sea" lashed by winds. As he watches, four fantastic animals rise out of the water. What animals did they resemble?

- 1) The first was like a _____, and had eagle's _____.
- 2) The second, like a _____.
- 3) Then another, like a _____ which had four _____.
- 4) Then a fourth beast, _____ and _____ that had _____ horns.

QUESTION 2 (Daniel 7:16, 17)

What did the heavenly messenger in the vision say the four beasts represented?

Four _____ or _____ (Verse 23)

These four kingdoms of Daniel 7 are the same as the four kingdoms of Daniel 2.

BABYLON – MEDO-PERSIA – GREECE – ROME.

QUESTION 3 (Daniel 7:7, 24) The fourth beast, representing Rome, had ten horns. What did the ten horns represent? “The ten horns are ten _____ that shall _____.”

Use the following chart to match the symbols of Daniel 7 (four beast and ten horns) with the symbols of Daniel 2 (four metals and feet of iron and clay). Write the names of the kingdoms in each panel.

DANIEL 2 Four Metals		DANIEL 7 Four Beasts	
Symbol	Kingdom	Symbol	Kingdom
Gold: _____ (verse 37,38)		Lion: _____ (verse 4)	
Silver: _____ (verse 39)		Bear: _____ (verse 5)	
Brass: _____ (verse 39)		Leopard: _____ (verse 6)	
Iron: _____ (verse 40)		Fourth Beast: _____ (verse 7, 19, 23)	
Iron and clay _____ (verses 41-43)		Ten horns: _____ (verses 7,8, 20, 24)	

What facts help us identify the little horn kingdom?

It arises “from”, or “out of ” the fourth beast (ROME)	Verse 23, 24
Comes up “ among” the ten horns (EUROPE)	Verses 8, 24
Comes up “after” the ten	Verses 8, 24
Is “different” from the other horns	Verses 24
Is little but looks “greater” than the other ten	Verses 8, 20
“Plucks out ” “subdues” three of the ten	Verse 20, 24

This is what took place after the break-up of the Roman Empire. A “different” kingdom did

arise “among” and “after” the European divisions. It did “pluck out” three others and did come become “greater” than the rest. The kingdom ruled with surprising power over the kings and peoples of Europe and other lands. It grew up in the city of Rome during the declining years of the emperors. Its rule was not only political but religious as well.

“The ten parts into which Rome was to be divided should meet the following specifications:

“They must be separate, independent kingdoms.

“They must be established within the bounds of the Roman Empire.

“They must be established at the time of the fall of the empire.

“They must possess a certain degree of permanency.

“...Various writers on prophecy have prepared various lists of kingdoms into which Rome was divided. These lists agree on most items, but there are slight differences. The differences are due mainly to the state of flux that things were in as Rome came to its end. Kingdoms arose and kingdoms disappeared. Tribes located in one region today were elsewhere tomorrow. In a number of instances smaller groups of invading barbarians united into larger groups. Other small groups continued to carry on independently of their fellows, but hardly enjoyed the strength or stability to warrant the title of kingdoms. The history of the period is so involved and there was so much of change that it is no easy task to set forth any specific list of ten kingdoms into which Rome was divided.

“...The list of A.T. Jones is probably as satisfactory as any list of ten tribes which established themselves on the territory of western Rome between the years 350 and 476 AD. Their years and the territory in which they ultimately settled is as follows:

351 AD	Alemanni	Germany
351 AD	Franks	France
406 AD	Burgundians	Switzerland
406 AD	Suevi	Portugal
406 AD	Vandals	Africa
408 AD	Visigoths	Spain
449 AD	Saxons	Britain
453 AD	Ostrogoths	Italy
453 AD	Lombards	Italy
476 AD	Heruli	Italy ”

Thiele, OSID, 62,63.

QUESTION 4 (Daniel 7:25)

What did the angel say the little horn power would do regarding (a) God, (b) His people and, (c) His laws?

“He shall speak great _____ against the Most High.”

“He shall _____ he saints of the Most High.”

“and think to change times and _____.”

QUESTION 5 (Daniel 7:25)

For what time period would the little horn rule with special power?

“And they shall be given into his hand until a _____ and _____ and the dividing

of_____.”

What do the “time, times, and half a time” mean? Revelation, the companion book of Daniel, provides us with valuable clues. “Then the woman fled into the wilderness ... that they should feed her there one thousand and two hundred and sixty days.” Revelation 12:6.

QUESTION 6 (Ezekiel 4:4-6)

God in prophecy uses one day as a symbol of one year. “I have laid on you a day for each _____.”

What did God say the 40 days stood for in His prophecy of Numbers 14:34?

Forty_____. The supremacy of the papal kingdom began when the last Arian power was defeated in AD 538 from AD 538, the 1260 years must extend to 1798.

Did this work out in history? Yes:_____ No:_____



REVIEW QUIZ (True/False)

The first “beast” in Daniel 7 (the lion) and the “head of gold” in Daniel 2, both represent the kingdom of Babylon.	
the “ten horns” of the fourth beast in Daniel 7 represent the same kingdoms as did the feet of Daniel 2.	
The “little horn” was the symbol of a purely political power, concerned only with military expansion.	
The “little horn” would persecute Christians, during 1260 years.	

The laws of God were to be a special subject of change by the “little horn” kingdom.	
God has given to church rulers his own authority to act out his judgment, to change his laws, and to force people to obey.	

Chapter 8: "THE RAM AND THE HE-GOAT"

¹ In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.

² And I saw in a vision; and it came to pass, when I saw, that I was at Shushan in the palace, which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in a vision, and I was by the river of Ulai.

³ Then I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, there stood before the river a ram which had two horns: and the two horns were high; but one was higher than the other, and the higher came up last.

⁴ I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great.

⁵ And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes.

⁶ And he came to the ram that had two horns, which I had seen standing before the river, and ran unto him in the fury of his power.

⁷ And I saw him come close unto the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake his two horns: and there was no power in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and stamped upon him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand.

⁸ Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

⁹ And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.

¹⁰ And it waxed great, even to the host of heaven; and it cast down some of the host and of the stars to the ground, and stamped upon them.

¹¹ Yea, he magnified himself even to the prince of the host, and by him the daily sacrifice was taken away, and the place of the sanctuary was cast down.

¹² And an host was given him against the daily sacrifice by reason of transgression, and it cast down the truth to the ground; and it practised, and prospered.

¹³ Then I heard one saint speaking, and another saint said unto that certain saint which spake, How long shall be the vision concerning the daily sacrifice, and the transgression of desolation, to give both the sanctuary and the host to be trodden under foot?

¹⁴ And he said unto me, Unto two thousand and three hundred days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed.

¹⁵ And it came to pass, when I, even I Daniel, had seen the vision, and sought for the meaning, then, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man.

¹⁶ And I heard a man's voice between the banks of Ulai, which called, and said, Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision.

¹⁷ So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision.

¹⁸ Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright.

¹⁹ And he said, Behold, I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation: for at the time appointed the end shall be.

²⁰ The ram which thou sawest having two horns are the kings of Media and Persia.

²¹ And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

²² Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.

²³ And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up.

²⁴ And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people.

²⁵ And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

²⁶ And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days.

²⁷ And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it.

There is need of a much closer study of the word of God; especially should Daniel and the Revelation have attention as never before in the history of our work. We may have less to say in some lines, in regard to the Roman power and the papacy; but we should call attention to what the prophets and apostles have written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit has so shaped matters, both in the giving of the prophecy and in the events portrayed, as to teach that the human agent is to be kept out of sight, hid in Christ, and that the Lord God of heaven and His law are to be exalted. Read the book of Daniel. Call up, point by point, the history of the kingdoms there represented. Behold statesmen, councils, powerful armies, and see how God wrought to abase the pride of men, and lay human glory in the dust.

The light that Daniel received from God was given especially for these last days. The visions he saw by the banks of the Ulai and the Hiddekel, the great rivers of Shinar, are now in process of fulfillment, and all the events foretold will soon come to pass.
{TM 112.3}

Daniel 8 is closely related to Daniel 7 so we will review the symbols of Chapter 7:

SYMBOLS	MEANING
The Lion	Babylon
The Bear	Medo-Persia
The Leopard	Greece

The Fourth Beast	Pagan Rome
The Ten Horns	Rome Divided
The Little Horn	Papal Rome

QUESTION 1 (Daniel 8:1-8)

As the vision opened, Daniel saw two animals in deadly combat. What animals were they?

A _____ and a _____.

QUESTION 2 (Daniel 8:16-21)

The angel Gabriel was sent to Daniel to help him understand the symbols of the vision. What did the two animals represent? (Verses 20 and 21)

The ram represented _____

The goat represented _____

In the image of Daniel 2, Medo-Persia and Greece were represented as the silver and the bronze.

In Chapter 7 as a bear and a leopard. Here in Chapter 8 they appear as a ram and a goat. Here the goat traveled “without touching the ground” – a symbol of great speed, the leopard of Daniel 7 has “four wings of a fowl”, likewise symbolizing speed. Daniel was not left to guess the meaning of the animal symbols. God’s angel, Gabriel, provided the answers.

QUESTION 3 (Daniel 8:21)

What did Gabriel say the notable horn of the Grecian goat represented? “The great horn that is between his eyes is the first _____

_____.”

Alexander the Great was the first king of the Greek universal empire.

QUESTION 4 (Daniel 8:6,7)

How did Daniel describe the battle between Medo-Persia and Greece?

The goat ran at the ram in the _____ of his power; brake his two _____ and stamped upon him. The fulfillment of this prediction of the defeat of Medo-Persia by Greece took place in 331 BC, more than two centuries after the prophecy was given.

ALEXANDER’S REMARKABLE CAREER



In the course of his 100 battles, Alexander marched his soldiers more than 8,000 kilometres and built seventy cities, many named after himself. Alexander rose and fell like a meteor, dying in Babylon from alcohol poisoning at only 32 or 33 years of age. He conquered the world, but not himself and lost all.

QUESTION 5 (Daniel 8:8)

The prophecy showed that Alexander would die suddenly and his kingdom would be divided into four. But when he was strong, the large horn was broken, and _____ notable ones came up toward the _____ winds of heaven.

QUESTION 6 (Daniel 8:22)

What did the angel say the four notable horns represented? "Four _____ shall stand up out of the nation."

History confirms the complete accuracy of these predictions. Within a short time after Alexander's death in 323 BC, his empire had become divided among four of his leading generals:-

- **CASSANDER** took Macedonia and Greece
- **SELEUCUS** took Babylonian and Assyria
- **LYSYMACHUS** took Thrace and Asia Minor
- **PTOLEMY** took Egypt

QUESTION 7 ((Daniel 8:9)

While Daniel 8 symbolizes the four divisions as four horns, Chapter 7 represents them by the four heads of the leopard.

Then what strange event did Daniel see happening? "Out of one of them (the Four Winds) came forth a little horn which waxed _____ great." (Verse 9)

QUESTION 8

What Kingdom did this new horn represent? _____

QUESTION 9 (Daniel 8:25)

What would finally happen to this the greatest of all Daniel's four kingdoms?

(circle the answer) It would:

- (a) be defeated by another world kingdom
- (b) rule the world forever
- (c) continue to the time of the end and be broken without human hand

REVIEW QUIZ True or False

1) The ram in the vision represented Medo-Persia, and the goat, Greece.	
2) According to Daniel, Rome started off as a very great kingdom.	
3) The Goat's Horn was broken when he was old and weak.	
4) The 4 heads and the 4 horns meant the same thing	

5) The prophecy came true exactly.	
6) Alexander died as a very old man.	

DANIEL 8 + 9: “AMAZING TIME PROPHECY”

Daniel's example of prayer and confession is given for our instruction and encouragement. For nearly seventy years, Israel had been in captivity. The land which God had chosen for His own possession was given into the hands of the heathen. The beloved city, the recipient of heaven's light, once the joy of the whole earth, was now despised and degraded. The temple that had contained the ark of God's covenant and the cherubim of glory overshadowing the mercy-seat, was in ruins. Its very site was desecrated by unholy feet. Faithful men who knew of the former glory were filled with anguish at the desolation of the holy house that had distinguished Israel as God's chosen people. These men had been witnesses to the denunciations of God because of the sins of His people. They had been witnesses to the fulfillment of this word. They had been witnesses also to the promises of His favor if Israel would return to God, and walk circumspectly before Him.

Aged, gray-headed pilgrims went up to Jerusalem to pray amid its ruins. They kissed its stones, and wet them with their tears, as they entreated the Lord to have mercy on Zion, and cover her with the glory of His righteousness. Daniel knew that the appointed time for Israel's captivity was nearly ended; but he did not feel that because God had promised to deliver them, they themselves had no part to act. With fasting and contrition he sought the Lord, confessing his own sins and the sins of the people (RH Feb. 9, 1897). {4BC 1172.5}

Christ's Messiah-ship and crucifixion foretold 500 years beforehand.

THE RAM symbolized _____

THE GOAT symbolized _____

THE LITTLE HORN symbolized _____

QUESTION 1 Daniel 8:13

What QUESTION did Daniel hear? “How _____ shall be the vision?”

QUESTION 2 Daniel 8:14

What reply did the angel give as to the length of time of the entire vision?

“Unto _____ thousand and _____ hundred days.”

QUESTION 3 Daniel 8:17, 26

“Understand, O son of man: for at the _____ of the _____ shall be the vision.” “For it shall be for _____.”

QUESTION 4 Daniel 8:14

What would take place at the end of the 2300 days (years)? “Then shall the sanctuary shall be _____.”

QUESTION 5 Hebrews 10:8,9

Which sanctuary did the angel mean?

- (a) _____ The earthly
(b) _____ The heavenly. The 2300 “days” in Daniel 8:14 represent 2300_____.

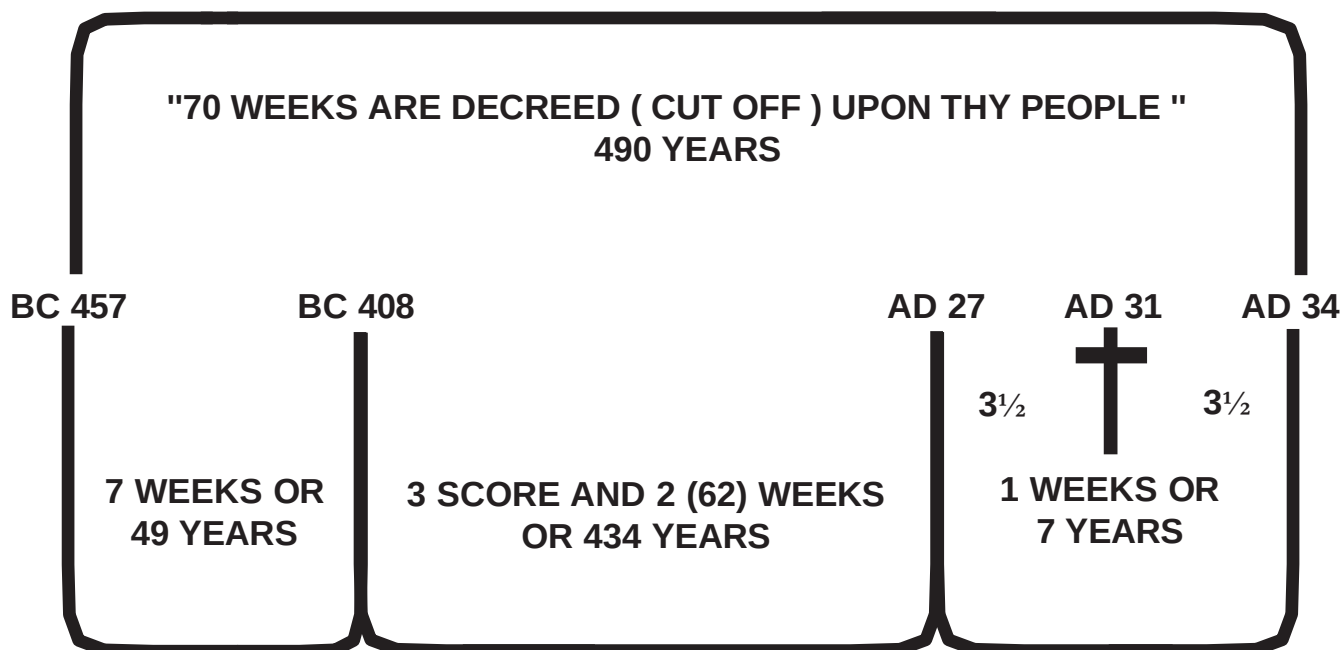
QUESTION 6 Daniel’s Prayer: Daniel 9:20,21

In response to Daniel’s prayer, who came to help him? “Even the man_____, whom I had seen in the vision.”

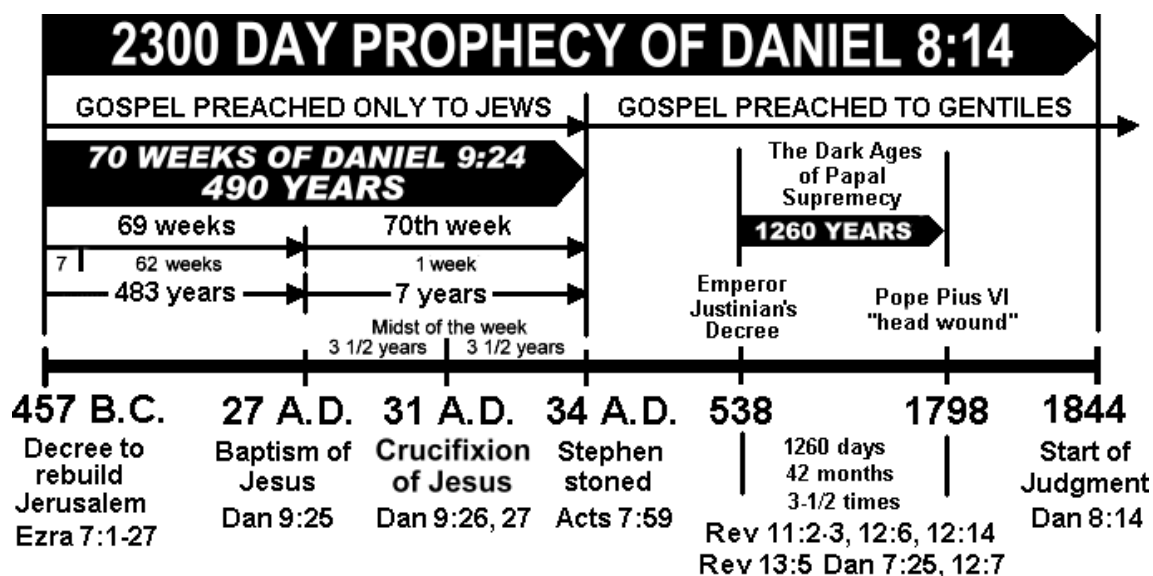
QUESTION 7 Daniel 9:24-27

What period of time did Gabriel say would be allotted to Daniel’s people, the Jews?

“_____weeks are determined (cut off) upon thy people.” $70 \text{ weeks} \times 7 = 490 \text{ days/years}$.



MASTER - KEY TO THE 2300 DAYS



QUESTION 8 Daniel 9:25

When did the time begin?

The time period would begin when the command went forth to restore and rebuild _____. "Know therefore and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build _____ unto the Messiah the Prince shall be seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times."

QUESTION 9.

It took 3 Decrees to fulfill this verse. Circle when the 3rd Decree was made:

A) 1844 B) 457 BC C) AD 31.

QUESTION 10.

Circle when Jesus was 'anointed' (Baptized)?

A) AD 27 B) 457 BC C) AD 408 BC.

QUESTION 11.

What happened in the middle of the 70th week? _____ was Crucified.

QUESTION 12.

What happened at the end of the 70 weeks?

Stephen was _____.

_____ went to the Gentiles.

QUESTION 13.

What was to happen at the end of the 2300 Days? Then shall the sanctuary be _____.

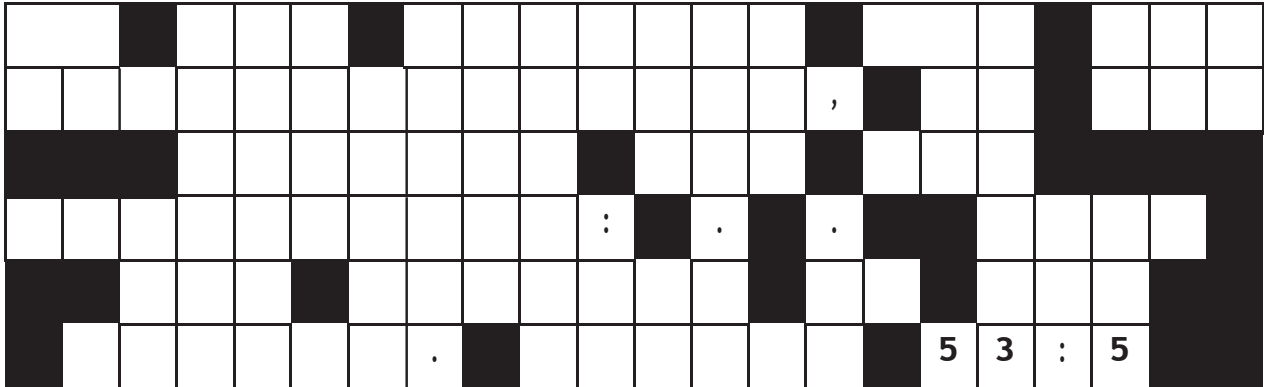
QUESTION 14.

This referred to the special Judgment; when did this Judgment start?

(A) 1844 (B) 457 BC (C) AD 31.

OUR SAVIOUR

Find the hidden promise by using the letters directly below each of the blank squares. Each letter is used once.



w s i
 q u g r i r d a o a
 e h a r s s e e u n e e a w w
 t n i b s u d t s s o i s f u e e h
 H h e n l e t w o s p d n r h o h r i t u r
 i r a i a i i s e l i f s d w e o r r o a s



“Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them.” Hebrews 7:25

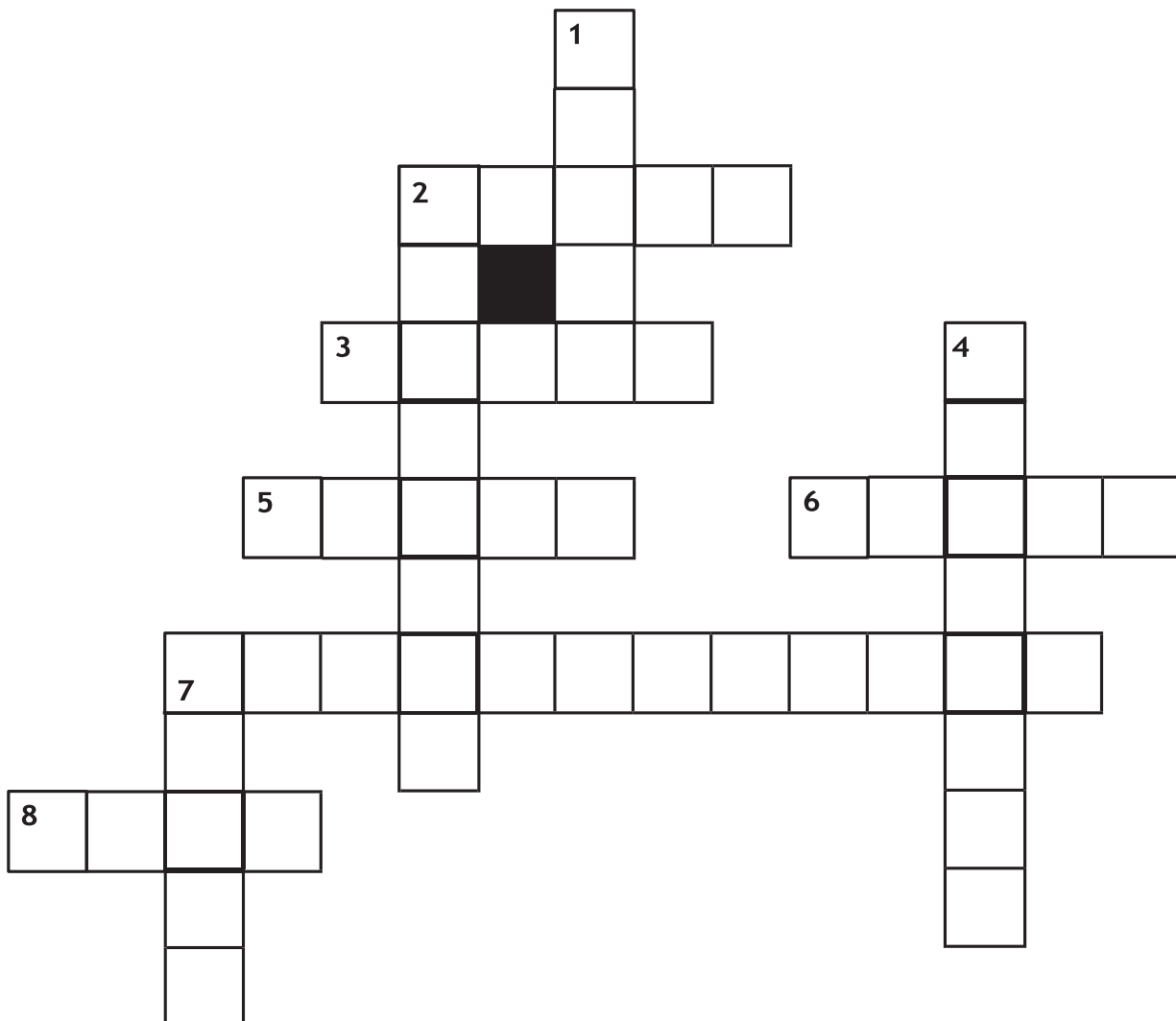
DANIEL 7	DANIEL 8	INTERPRETATION
LION		BABYLON
BEAR	RAM	MEDO-PERSIA
LEOPARD	HE-GOAT	GREECE
	NOTABLE HORN	ALEXANDER THE GREAT
4 HEADS	4 HORNS	4 DIVISIONS OF GREECE
DRAGON	LITTLE HORN	PAGAN ROME
10 HORNS		10 DIVISIONS OF ROME
LITTLE HORN	LITTLE HORN WAXED GREAT	PAPAL ROME
JUDGEMENT	CLEANSING OF SANCTUARY	PRE-ADVENT JUDGEMENT

DANIEL 10-12: “AMAZING PANORAMIC HISTORY”

No less a personage than the Son of God appeared to Daniel. This description is similar to that given by John when Christ was revealed to him upon the Isle of Patmos. Our Lord now comes with another heavenly messenger to teach Daniel what would take place in the latter days. This knowledge was given to Daniel and recorded by Inspiration for us upon whom the ends of the world are come (RH Feb. 8, 1881).

Daniel 10:12-13 ... Then said he (Gabriel) unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia..... “By this we see that heavenly agencies have to contend with hindrances before the purpose of God is fulfilled in its time. The king of Persia was controlled by the highest of all evil angels. He refused, as did Pharaoh, to obey the word of the Lord. Gabriel declared, He withstood me twenty-one days by his representations against the Jews. But Michael came to his help, and then he remained with the kings of Persia, holding the powers in check, giving right counsel against evil counsel. Good and evil angels are taking a part in the planning of God in His earthly kingdom. It is God’s purpose to carry forward His work in correct lines, in ways that will advance His glory. But Satan is ever trying to counterwork God’s purpose. Only by humbling themselves before God can God’s servants advance His work. Never are they to depend on their own efforts or on outward display for success (Letter 201, 1899).

Daniel's Great Vision



Across:

2. In a deep _____ on my face.
3. His arms and his feet like in colour to polished _____.
5. Behold a certain man clothed in _____.
6. In the third year of _____ king of Persia.
7. What was Daniel's Babylonian name?
8. They _____ to hide themselves.

Down:

1. Till three whole _____ were fulfilled.
2. I retained no _____.
4. Surely The Lord God will do nothing but He revealeth His secret unto his _____ the prophets. Amos 3:7
7. I ate no pleasant _____.

HOW DANIEL 11 IS LINKED WITH DANIEL 8

A second journey over the road from Persia to Rome

SYMBOL ONE IN DANIEL 8
THE RAM (verse 3) named as
Persia (verse 20)

NO SYMBOL ONE IN
DANIEL 11 named as
Persia (verse 2)

SYMBOL TWO IN DANIEL 8
THE GOAT (verse 5) named as
GREECE (verse 21)

NO SYMBOL ONE IN
DANIEL 11 named as
GREECE (verse 2,3)

SYMBOL THREE IN DANIEL 8
NOTABLE HORN (verse 5)
named as the leading king of
GREECE (verse 21)
Alexander

NO SYMBOL ONE IN DANIEL 11
named as mighty king
(verse 3) (Alexander)

SYMBOL FOUR IN DANIEL 8
HORN BROKEN (verse 8)
(Alexander's death)

NO SYMBOL IN DANIEL 11
Kingdom broken (verse 4)
(Alexander's death)

SYMBOL FIVE IN DANIEL 8
FOUR HORNS towards four
winds (verse 8) named
four kingdoms (verse 22)

NO SYMBOL IN DANIEL 11
Kingdom divided toward four
winds (verse 4)
(four Kingdoms)

SYMBOL SIX IN DANIEL 8
A LITTLE HORN that became
exceeding great (verse 9)
Rome

NO SYMBOL IN DANIEL 11
A small people became
strong (verse 23) Rome

1. In Daniel 7 we see Greece as a Leopard with 4 _____ and 4 _____.
2. In Daniel 8 we see Greece as a He _____ with first _____ horn then later _____ horns.
3. In Daniel 11 we see Greece shown as 2 powers, the King of the _____, and the King of the _____.
4. The King of the North rules the area of _____.
5. The King of the South rules the area of _____.
6. When Rome comes along, it is called the _____ of thy people.
7. In verse 40, the _____ of the _____ is 1798.
8. The King of the North shall come against him like a _____.
9. He will come with _____, and with _____, and with many _____.
10. When he comes to his end, how many will help him? _____.

Read each QUESTION carefully, and then write T (true) or F (false) on the line next to the QUESTION.

1. _____ In Daniel 10:1-3, Daniel was partying.
2. _____ The angel told Daniel he was beloved of heaven.
3. _____ The 2 kings in Daniel 11 are King of the East and West.
4. _____ The King of the South rules Babylon.
5. _____ Daniel's vision was for the Time of the End.
6. _____ Egypt escapes from the King of the North.
7. _____ The Tidings out of the East and North are God's Message.
8. _____ The King of the North controls the silver and gold.
9. _____ The King of the North wants to kill all God's people.
10. _____ Michael stands up and delivers His people.

MICHAEL - WHY

IS HIS NAME IN THE FORM OF A QUESTION?

The name Michael means “who is like God?”

This name is a challenge to all who would claim God’s place and authority, a common occurrence throughout history.

The first usurper was Lucifer (Satan). He declared:

“I will be like the Most High ... I will exalt my throne above the stars of God.” (Isaiah 14:12-14; Ezekiel 28:1-3)

Many followed in Lucifer’s steps - Babylon, Egypt, Rome and others deified their kings, pharaohs, emperors, and popes. That is, made “gods” of them (see Acts 12:21,22).

Daniel, in the Old Testament foretells the rise of one who would act as God (Daniel 11:36). Paul, in the New Testament says this one would “sit as God in the temple of God showing himself that he is God.” (2 Thessalonians 2:4)

But Michael stands in the way of all such, with the challenge of His very name:

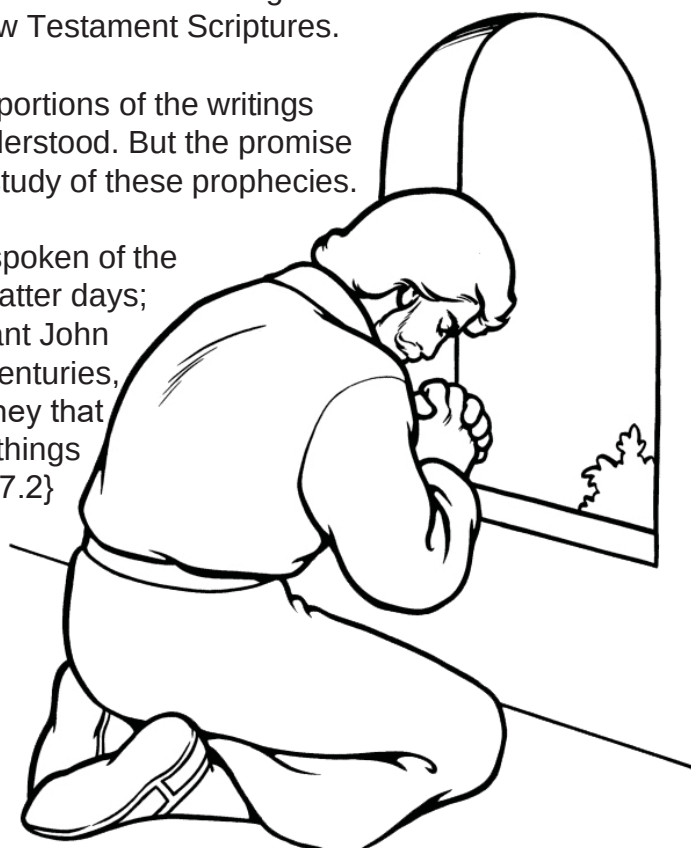
“Who is like God?”

There is only one - the Divine Son. (Read John Chapter 1)

As we near the close of this world’s history, the prophecies recorded by Daniel demand our special attention, as they relate to the very time in which we are living. With them should be linked the teachings of the last book of the New Testament Scriptures.

Satan has led many to believe that the prophetic portions of the writings of Daniel and of John the revelator cannot be understood. But the promise is plain that special blessing will accompany the study of these prophecies.

“The wise shall understand” (Daniel 12:10), was spoken of the visions of Daniel that were to be unsealed in the latter days; and of the revelation that Christ gave to His servant John for the guidance of God’s people all through the centuries, the promise is, “Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein.” Revelation 1:3. {PK 547.2}



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PRAYER RETREAT MINISTRIES

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