

DANIEL

An Exile Longing for Heaven



GOD'S PURPOSES THROUGH TYRANTS - PART 1

DANIEL 11:1-9

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Review of the Book

Theme: An Exile Longing for Heaven

Outline:

- i. **1-6 – The Holy Life of an Exile**
- ii. **7-12 – The Hopeful Longing of an Exile**

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Review of the Book

Outline:

i. **1-6 – The Holy Life of an Exile**

1 - Obedient to the Law

2 - Dependent on God to interpret the King's Dream

3 - Faith in the Fiery Furnace

6 - Fearlessness in the Lion's Den

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Review of the Book

Outline:

ii. 7-12 – The Hopeful Longing of an Exile

7 - Vision of the Son of Man

8 - Future Antichrist - defeated by Christ

9 - Jesus' accomplishments in the 70 weeks

10 - The Angel Gabriel helping Daniel to understand

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Outline of Chapter 11

Three Eras of increasing wicked rule:

I. 1-20 - Rule of Persia and Greece

II. 21-35 - Rule of Antiochus Epiphanes

III. 36-45 - Rule of the Antichrist

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Three Purposes of God worked out through wicked tyrants (1st today):

1. The Humbling of Ungodly Nations (1-20)

- 1: Gabriel strengthening Daniel to understand
- Events covering the silent years (Malachi, 430BC - John the Baptist, 4BC)
- First year of Darius (539BC - Edict to Return)
- Hope not in earthly rulers, but in the coming Davidic King Jesus!

Jam 4:6

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Three Purposes of God worked out through wicked tyrants (1st today):

1. The Humbling of Ungodly Nations (1-20)

a. Persia's lust for Wealth (2)

- Darius or Cyrus the first king
- 3 more kings are Cambyses (ca. 530–522 BC), Pseudo-Smerdis (ca. 522 BC), and Darius I Hystaspes (ca. 522–486 BC)
- Xerxes, the richer King of the book of Esther (same as King Ahasuerus)
- The banquet scene depicted in Esther 1 was to incited the invasion of Greece

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Three Purposes of God worked out through wicked tyrants (1st today):

1. The Humbling of Ungodly Nations (1-20)

a. Persia's lust for Wealth (2)

- A humiliating loss of the Persian navy at Salamis in 480 BC
- Xerxes' army was weakened and eventually defeated at Plataea in 479 BC
- Esther was used by God to protect Israel from Hamaan

God uses even corrupt men to protect His people - Acts 2:23

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Three Purposes of God worked out through wicked tyrants (1st today):

1. The Humbling of Ungodly Nations (1-20)

b. Greek lust for Power (3-9)

i. Alexander (3)

- Alexander the Great's army reached a peak aggregate strength of roughly 120,000 men
- In just three and a half years Alexander conquered the Persian Empire, with a final victory at Gaugamela in October 331BC

God restrains evil men's rule in this world - Acts 12:21-23

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1. The Humbling of Ungodly Nations (1-20)

b. Greek lust for Power (3-9)

ii. The Four (two) Generals (4-9)

(1) Lysimachus: Thrace and Bithynia (and much of Asia Minor)

(2) Cassander: Macedonia and Greece

(3) Seleucus I: Syria, Babylonia, and the lands to the east

(4) Ptolemy I: Egypt, Israel, and Arabia Petrea

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ii. The Four (two) Generals (4-9)

1. Civil War and Instability (5)

- Seleucids - Kings of the North

- Ptolemy's - Kings of the South

- Next 22 years constant wars, until Seleucus wins in the battle of Ipsus (301)

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1. The Humbling of Ungodly Nations (1-20)

b. Greek lust for Power (3-9)

ii. The Four (two) Generals (4-9)

2. Family Fights (6-9)

Laodice vs Bernice (6)

- Berenice marries Antiochus II
- Antiochus II's divorced wife, Loadice, murders Berenice on his death

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Ptolomy III vs Laodice (7-9)

- Berenice's brother Ptolomy III, kills Laodice
- Temporary truce between North and South

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Three Purposes of God worked out through wicked tyrants (1st today):

Applications:

- 1. God uses evil rulers to glorify Himself and bless His people (Rom 9:17)***
- 2. The rulers of this world, like the devil, seek their own glory (John 8:44)***
- 3. God restrains and removes tyrants, so no man can boast (Ps 96:10)***