



BAND of BROTHERS

FALL SERIES 2026 – WEEK 1

ALL PART OF THE PLAN

As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. – Daniel 1:17 ESV

- **This book is NOT about Daniel**

*Standing by a purpose true,
heeding God's command,
honor them, the faithful few!
All hail to Daniel's band!*

*Dare to be a Daniel!
Dare to stand alone!
Dare to have a purpose firm!
Dare to make it known! – P. P. Bliss (1873)*

- It's about Daniel's God
 - o The God...of creation
 - of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
 - of Israel
 - of judgment
 - of redemption
 - of reconciliation
 - of eternity

Daniel – *dinîyē'l* – “God is my judge”

- o This entire book is about God
 - The God who created Daniel,

ordained Babylon's rise to power,
placed Nebuchadnezzar on the throne,
and orchestrated Judah's fall

○ "God is my **ruler**"

Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Listen to this message from the Lord of Heaven's Armies: 'The time is coming when everything in your palace—all the treasures stored up by your ancestors until now—will be carried off to Babylon. Nothing will be left,' says the Lord. 'Some of your very own sons will be taken away into exile. They will become eunuchs who will serve in the palace of Babylon's king.'" – Isaiah 39:5-7 NLT

- Isaiah delivered this prophesy 114 years before it happened
- 94 years later, Jeremiah prophesied that God would use Nebuchadnezzar

*"Therefore thus says the Lord of hosts: Because you have not obeyed my words, behold, I will send for all the tribes of the north, declares the Lord, and for Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants, and against all these surrounding nations. I will devote them to destruction, and make them a horror, a hissing, and an everlasting desolation. Moreover, I will banish from them the voice of mirth and the voice of gladness, the voice of the bridegroom and the voice of the bride, the grinding of the millstones and the light of the lamp. This whole land shall become a ruin and a waste, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon **seventy years**."* – Jeremiah 25:8-11 NLT

- This is the context of Daniel
 - ~ As the book opens...
 - ...Jerusalem has been besieged
 - ...the Babylonians entered the city
 - ...plundered the Temple
 - ...and took the people captive
 - ~ The nation of Judah had been disobedient
 - Ever since the days of Solomon
 - Even he knew their fall was inevitable
 - He foresaw a bleak future for them
 - At the dedication of the temple...
 - ...he predicted their fall from grace

"If [your people] sin against you—for there is no one who does not sin—and you are angry with them and give them to an enemy, so that they are carried away captive to a land far or near, yet if they turn their heart in the land to which they have been carried captive, and repent and plead with you in the land of their captivity, saying, 'We have sinned and have acted perversely and wickedly,' if they repent with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of

their captivity to which they were carried captive, and pray toward their land, which you gave to their fathers, the city that you have chosen and the house that I have built for your name, then hear from heaven your dwelling place their prayer and their pleas, and maintain their cause and forgive your people who have sinned against you.” – 2 Chronicles 6:36-39 ESV

- Solomon dedicated the Temple in 957 BC
 - o He reigned another 29 years
- At Solomon’s death, God split the kingdom
 - o 235 years later, Assyria defeated Israel
 - o 460 years later, Babylon defeated Judah
 - o And took 10,000 captives

The king of Babylon...carried off all the treasures of the house of the Lord and the treasures of the king’s house, and cut in pieces all the vessels of gold in the temple of the Lord, which Solomon king of Israel had made, as the Lord had foretold. He carried away all Jerusalem and all the officials and all the mighty men of valor, 10,000 captives, and all the craftsmen and the smiths. None remained, except the poorest people of the land. – 2 Kings 24:12-14 ESV

- **Daniel is a book of prophecy**

- It predicts history **before** it happens
- It portrays prophecies perfectly **fulfilled**
- It reveals future events still **pending**
- It displays God’s **sovereignty**
glory and greatness
incomparable power
and providence

“...his dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom endures from generation to generation; all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, and he does according to his will among the host of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand or say to him, ‘What have you done?’” – King Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel 4:34-35 ESV

- This is a study about God
 - o But you’re going to have to look for Him
 - On every page
 - Behind every situation
 - As He orchestrates every event
 - Directs every plan
 - Demonstrating complete control
 - And perfectly fulfilling His will

And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God. – Daniel 1:2 ESV

God gave Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs. – Daniel 1:9 ESV

As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom... – Daniel 1:7 ESV

*“Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. **He changes** times and seasons; **he removes** kings and sets up kings; **he gives** wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding.” – Daniel 2:20 ESV*

*“...**there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries, and he has made known** to King Nebuchadnezzar what will be in the latter days.” – Daniel 2:28 ESV*

*The king answered and said to Daniel, “Truly, **your God is God of gods and Lord of kings**, and a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this mystery.” – Daniel 2:47 ESV*

“What we are about to read is the story of God’s redemptive plan for His chosen people. It goes all the way back to Abraham and includes the lives of Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, and Joshua. Kings will come and go. Nations will rise and fall. The faithfulness of the people of Israel will ebb and flow, and eventually come face to face with the righteous judgment of God. Yet, His love and faithfulness endure, His promises remain unwavering, and His plan for their well-being remains unchanged.” – Ken Miller, *Devotionary™ on the Book of Daniel*

- **Israel’s failure to obey had proved costly**
 - God had warned them
 - Long before they had a king
 - Even before entering the Promised Land

*“If you will not obey the voice of the Lord your God or be careful to do all his commandments and his statutes... **Your sons and your daughters shall be given to another people**, while your eyes look on and fail with longing for them all day long, but you shall be helpless.” – Deuteronomy 28:15, 32 ESV*

*“The Lord will bring you and your king whom you set over you to a nation that neither you nor your fathers have known. And there you shall serve other gods of wood and stone. And **you shall become a horror, a proverb, and a byword among all the peoples where the Lord will lead you away.**” – Deuteronomy 28:36-37 ESV*

- **The mysterious ways of God**

- Why these four?
- Was their capture just bad karma?
- Was their selection a case of chance?

As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. – Daniel 1:17 ESV

Therefore they stood before the king. And in every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom. And Daniel was there until the first year of King Cyrus. – Daniel 1:19-21 ESV

- **The sovereign hand of God**

- God had ordained Babylon's rise
Nebuchadnezzar's reign
Jerusalem's fall
Daniel's birth
capture
selection
and gifting
- Daniel lived in Babylon for 70 years
- He served 5 different kings
 - Nebuchadnezzar
 - Evil-Merodach
 - Belshazzar
 - Darius
 - Cyrus
- He saw the return of a remnant to Judah
- But he never saw his homeland again
- Daniel's life spanned 7 decades...
...but his prophecies span millennia
- Some were fulfilled in his lifetime...
...others, long after his death
...but some remain yet to be fulfilled

*Then I said, "O my lord, what shall be the outcome of these things?" He said, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are shut up and sealed **until the time of the end**. Many shall purify themselves and make themselves white and be refined, but the wicked shall act wickedly. And none of the wicked shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand. And from the time that the regular burnt offering is taken away and the abomination that makes desolate is set up, there shall be 1,290 days. Blessed is he who waits and arrives at the 1,335 days. But **go your way till the end**. And you shall rest and shall stand in your allotted place **at the end of the days**." – Daniel 12:8-13 ESV*

- **Discussion Questions:**

What causes you to feel like God is not in control and produces worry rather than peace?

God spent 70 years telling Daniel about events he would never see. Why?

This book is about God's sovereignty, not Daniel's faithfulness. Why is that vital for us to remember at this point in history?



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FALL SERIES 2026 – WEEK 2 HOMEWORK

WEEK 2 – PROVIDENTIALLY PLACED AND PREPARED

Now that we’ve established the why behind Daniel’s providential placement in Nebuchadnezzar’s service, we can begin to understand the purpose behind his unique gifting. God chose Daniel and prepared him for a unique assignment: to serve as His official interpreter of dreams to a long line of pagan potentates whose nations represent the world that stands opposed to God and His redemptive plan for humanity.

- Sometime this week, read pages 19-34 of Ken’s Devotional™ on the Book of Daniel.
- As you begin your study of Chapter 2 of Daniel, read through the entire chapter in one sitting. Write what jumped out at you as you read.
- One thing to consider as you read the Book of Daniel is that it was originally written in two different languages. Chapter 1 was written in Hebrew, while Chapter 2 was written in Aramaic, the “international” language of the day. Chapter 2-7 were all recorded in Aramaic because they deal with “the time of the Gentiles. Everything in Chapter 2 has to do with events surrounding the nation of Babylon and its subsequent successors.

- Read verses 1-16, then write down a summary of what they describe.

Note any verses that point towards the sovereignty of God and then jot down what they say about it.

How does Daniel respond when he hears the news that the king has ordered the execution of all the wise men, including him and his three companions?

What does this say about Daniel's view of God?

- Now read verses 17-24. What happens when Daniel takes the matter before God?

What does Daniel's response teach you about the sovereignty of God?

- Read verses 24-30. What does verse 28 say about God's sovereignty?
- Read verses 31-45. If you had been Nebuchadnezzar, how would you have interpreted this dream?

While Daniel provides no explanation as to the identities of the kingdoms portrayed in the dream, what is his conclusion in verse 44-45?

- According to verses 46-49, what is the outcome of this event?

How does this illustrate God's authority, power, and control over all things?