



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

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Historical Timeline of Daniel

Dates are approximate!

Year	Event	Reference(s)
620 BC	Daniel is born	
605 BC	Daniel, along with friends Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah (Babylonian names Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego), is taken to Babylon, where they are ordered to learn Babylonian culture on Nebuchadnezzar's orders. Daniel's Babylonian name is Belteshazzar.	Daniel 1:3-7
602 BC	Daniel and his friends complete their three years of learning	Daniel 1:18-20
	Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream about a statue made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, and clay	Daniel 2:26-45
589 BC	Nebuchadnezzar begins siege of Jerusalem	2 Kings 25:1-3
586 BC	Jerusalem's wall breaks and the Babylonians destroy Jerusalem, setting fire to the temple and the palace	Jeremiah 52:7-14 2 Kings 25:4-10
	Nebuchadnezzar makes a golden statue and orders everyone to worship it or be thrown into the furnace	Daniel 3:1-6
	Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refuse to pay homage to Nebuchadnezzar's golden statue	Daniel 3:12
	Nebuchadnezzar confronts Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego about their disobedience	Daniel 3:13-15
	Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego continue to refuse to worship Nebuchadnezzar's golden statue	Daniel 3:16-18
	Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are thrown into the furnace but are unharmed	Daniel 3:19-25

Year	Event	Reference(s)
563-562 BC	Nebuchadnezzar experiences visions of a tree and being driven away from people and losing his sanity. He praises God, and after seven months, his sanity is restored	Daniel 4:27-37
562-556 BC	Nebuchadnezzar dies and is replaced by a succession of short-lived kings	
556 BC	Nabonidus becomes king of Babylon	
553-549 BC	Nabonidus appoints his son, Belshazzar, as his co-regent	
	Daniel experiences a vision of the four terrifying beasts but kept the vision to himself	Daniel 7:1-7
548-547 BC	Daniel receives the vision of the ram and the goat. A voice tells him the meaning of the vision, and Daniel is exhausted by the vision for several days.	Daniel 8:1-12
539 BC	Belshazzar holds a great feast for his leadership team using holy vessels and artifacts taken from the temple in Jerusalem	Daniel 5:1-4
	A hand writing on the wall appears, and Belshazzar calls for Daniel, who interprets it as a judgement from God	Daniel 5:5-29
	That same night, Belshazzar is killed when Cyrus of Persia invades and captures Babylon	Daniel 5:30
	Cyrus (Persian emperor) appoints Darius the Mede as governor/viceroy in Babylon	
540 BC (-ish)	Darius notes Daniel's good qualities and plans to elevate him to the highest administrative position. The other administrators resented this and thought of ways to bring ruin to Daniel	Daniel 6:1-6
	The administrators who are envious of Daniel tricks Darius to issue a decree prohibiting anyone to worship in the next thirty days or be thrown to the lion's den. Darius makes the decree public.	Daniel 6:6-9
	Daniel is spotted by the administrators while he is worshipping the Lord inside his house, and they report him to Darius	Daniel 6:10-15
	Darius orders Daniel to be thrown into the lion's den and wishes Daniel that he be saved by his God	Daniel 6:16

Year	Event	Reference(s)
	Darius hurries to the lion's den the following day to see what happened to Daniel and learns to his astonishment that Daniel is unharmed. Daniel proclaims to Darius that God had sent an angel to shut the mouths of the lions.	Daniel 6:21-22
	Darius orders Daniel to be freed out of the lion's den and have the administrators thrown in instead, along with their wives and children	Daniel 6:23-24
	Darius issues a decree proclaiming that people should fear the God of Daniel	Daniel 6:26-27
	Daniel prays and fasts about what lies ahead and the Jewish people's indifference to their captivity	Daniel 10:2-3
538 BC	Cyrus allows the Jews to return to Judea and rebuild the temple in Jerusalem	Ezra 1:1-4
	Daniel dies in his mid-late 80's	
537 BC	Following Cyrus' decree, around 50,000 Jews return home to Judea, led by Zerubbabel.	
515 BC	The temple in Jerusalem is completed. – Ezra 6:14-18	