

THE GOD THAT MOVES MOUNTAINS.

JESUS CHRIST IS THE SAME YESTERDAY, AND TODAY AND FOREVER MORE.

“THE LIFE AND FAITH OF DANIEL”

MARCH 12, 2023

**To request a copy of each message, please email:
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ANCHOR BIBLE REFERENCES

➤ Hebrews 13: 5-8

➤ ⁵ God has said,

“Never will I leave you;
never will I forsake you.”

➤ ⁶ So we say with confidence,

“The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.
What can mortal man do to me?”

➤ ⁷ Remember your leaders, who spoke the word of God to you.
Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

➤ ⁸ **Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.**

Our Focus Remains: “The House of Prayer for all Nations,
Extending God’s Love to all the Nations.”
We are sowers (not eaters) but the sower reaps in multiple folds.



The Leaders, consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith.

Luke 5:37-38

"No one pours new wine into old wineskins. If he does, the new wine will burst the skins, the wine will spill, and the wineskins will be ruined."

"Instead, new wine is poured into new wineskins."

(This year, we must have a fresh vision of our Christian life)

As we consider the life of the leaders and their faith, let us apply the lessons and, thus, create new wineskins and expand our spiritual container to enable God to move the mountains He has planned to move for us in 2023.

The Leader, DANIEL, consider the outcome of his way of life and imitate his faith.

➤ Background - Seventy Years of Captivity Jeremiah 25:

- ¹ The word came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim king of Judah, which was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. ² So Jeremiah the prophet said to all the people of Judah and to all those living in Jerusalem: ³ For twenty-three years—from the thirteenth year of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah until this very day—the word of the LORD has come to me and I have spoken to you again and again, but you have not listened. ⁴ And though the LORD has sent all his servants the prophets to you again and again, you have not listened or paid any attention. ⁵ They said, “Turn now, each of you, from your evil ways and your evil practices, and you can stay in the land the LORD gave to you and your ancestors for ever and ever.
- ⁸ **Therefore** the LORD Almighty says this: “Because you have not

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- **Background - Seventy Years of Captivity Jeremiah 25:**
- listened to my words, ⁹ I will summon all the peoples of the north and my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon,” declares the LORD, “and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants and against all the surrounding nations. I will completely destroy^[a] them and make them an object of horror and scorn, and an everlasting ruin. ¹⁰ I will banish from them the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, the sound of millstones and the light of the lamp. ¹¹ This whole country will become a desolate wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon **seventy years**.
- ¹² “But when the seventy years are fulfilled, I will punish the king of Babylon and his nation, the land of the Babylonians,^[b] for their guilt,” declares the LORD, “and will make it desolate forever.

The Leader, DANIEL, consider the outcome of his way of life and imitate his faith.

➡ Background story **Jeremiah 32:32-39**

➡ God said to Jeremiah “³² The people of Israel and Judah have provoked me by all the evil they have

³⁶ “....By the sword, famine and plague it will be given into the hands of the king of Babylon’; **but this is what the LORD**, the God of Israel, says: ³⁷ I will surely gather them from all the lands where I banish them in my furious anger and great wrath; I will bring them back to this place and let them live in safety. ³⁸ They will be my people, and I will be their God. ³⁹ I will give them singleness of heart and action, so that they will always fear me and that all will then go well for them and for their children after them....”

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- Background story **2 King 24:12-16**
- ¹² ...In the eighth year of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, he took Jehoiachin prisoner. ¹³ As the LORD had said beforehand, Nebuchadnezzar carried away all the treasures from the LORD's Temple and the royal palace. He stripped away all the gold objects that King Solomon of Israel had placed in the Temple. ¹⁴ King Nebuchadnezzar took all of Jerusalem captive, including all the commanders and the best of the soldiers, craftsmen, and artisans—10,000 in all. Only the poorest people were left in the land. “
- ¹⁵ Nebuchadnezzar led King Jehoiachin away as a captive to Babylon, along with the queen mother, his wives and officials, and all Jerusalem's elite. ¹⁶ He also exiled 7,000 of the best troops and 1,000 craftsmen and artisans, all of whom were strong and fit for war.”
- **Brethren, among the best troops taken captive was Daniel**

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➡ Daniel 1:3-7

- ➡ ³ Then Nebuchadnezzar, the king, ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility— ⁴ young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. ⁵ The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service. ⁶ **Among those who were chosen were some from Judah:** Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. ⁷ The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.

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➤ The game changer: Daniel 1:8

- ⁸ **But Daniel resolved** not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.
- ⁹ **Now God had caused the official to show favor** and compassion to Daniel, ¹⁰ **but the official told Daniel**, “I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you.”
- ¹¹ Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, ¹² “Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink.
- ¹³ Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see.

The Leader, DANIEL, consider the outcome of his way of life and imitate his faith.

¹⁴ So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.

¹⁵ At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. ¹⁶ So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

¹⁷ To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

- **Brethren**, Daniel's personal resolution, God placed an extra layer of TRUST on him and thus placed on him an additional layer of the ability to understand visions and dreams of all kinds.
- This positioned Daniel as God's battle axe and weapon of war against Nebuchadnezzar.

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- Daniel 2 **Nebuchadnezzar's Dream**
- ¹⁰ The astrologers answered the king, "There is no one on earth who can do what the king asks! No king, however great and mighty, has ever asked such a thing of any magician or enchanter or astrologer. ¹¹ What the king asks is too difficult. No one can reveal it to the king except the gods, and they do not live among humans."
- ¹² This made the king ... ¹³ So the decree was issued to put the wise men to death, **and men were sent to look for Daniel and his friends to put them to death.**
- ¹⁴ When Arioch, the commander of the king's guard, had gone out to put to death the wise men of Babylon, **Daniel spoke to him with wisdom and tact.** ¹⁵ He asked the king's officer, "Why did the king issue such a harsh decree?" Arioch then explained the matter to Daniel.
- ¹⁶ **At this, Daniel went in to the king and asked for time, so that he might interpret the dream for him. (He asked for time to SEEK the face of God)**

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- ¹⁷Then Daniel returned to his house and explained the matter to his friends Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. ¹⁸ He urged them to plead for mercy from the God of heaven concerning this mystery, so that he and his friends might not be executed with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. ¹⁹ During the night the mystery was revealed to Daniel in a vision. Then Daniel praised the God of heaven ²⁰ and said:....
- **Daniel knew that God makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel (Exodus 11:7) and He cannot bring on Israel the punishment of the Egyptians**
- ¹⁷ Daniel Interpreted the Dream
- **Daniel gave all the glory to God: ²⁷ Daniel said to Nebuchadnezzar, “No wise man, enchanter, magician or diviner can explain to the king the mystery he has asked about, ²⁸ but there is a God in heaven who reveals mysteries.**

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- **Daniel 4: Boldness to deliver undiluted message**
- ²³ “Your Majesty saw a holy one, a messenger, coming down from heaven and saying, ‘Cut down the tree and destroy it, but leave the stump, bound with iron and bronze, in the grass of the field, while its roots remain in the ground. Let him be drenched with the dew of heaven; let him live with the wild animals, until seven times pass by for him.’
- ³³ Immediately what had been said about Nebuchadnezzar was fulfilled. He was driven away from people and ate grass like the ox. His body was drenched with the dew of heaven until his hair grew like the feathers of an eagle and his nails like the claws of a bird.
- ³⁴ At the end of that time, I, Nebuchadnezzar, raised my eyes toward heaven, and my sanity was restored. Then I praised the Most High; I honored and glorified him who lives forever.

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- Daniel 4: Boldness to deliver undiluted message
- ³⁷ Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.
- Daniel 5
- **After Nebuchadnezzar came his son Belshazzar with The Writing on the Wall. The king said:** ¹⁶ Now I have heard that you are able to give interpretations and to solve difficult problems. If you can read this writing and tell me what it means, you will be clothed in purple and have a gold chain placed around your neck, and you will be made the third highest ruler in the kingdom.”
- **Daniel rejected the gifts,** ¹⁷ Then Daniel answered the king, “You may keep your gifts for yourself and give your rewards to someone else. Nevertheless, I will read the writing for the king and tell him what it means.

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- Daniel 6
- **After Belshazzar came king Darius and the lion's den**
- ¹⁰ Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.
- ¹⁶ So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!"
- ¹⁹ At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. ²⁰ When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?" Daniel answered, "May the king live forever! ²² **My God sent his angel**, and he shut the mouths

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➡ Daniel 6

of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty.”

➡ Daniel were brought in and thrown into the lions’ den, along with their wives and children. And before they reached the floor of the den, the lions overpowered them and crushed all their bones.

²⁵ Then King Darius wrote to all the nations and peoples of every language in all the earth:


“May you prosper greatly! ²⁶ “I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must **fear and reverence the God of Daniel.**

➡ “For he is the living God
and he endures forever;.....

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- Daniel 9:1...
- Man of prayer - Daniel's actions were very intentional
- ¹In the first year of Darius who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom— ²in the first year of his reign, **I, Daniel**, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the LORD given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years. ³So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.
- ⁴I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed:.....

Daniel's way of life...

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- **Intentional and Deliberate about his commitment to God and God's commands.**
 - Resisted defiling himself
 - Always seeking the face of God
 - Trusted by God and received additional ability to interpret dreams
 - Boldness in defending God's kingdom
 - Believes in vision and receives vision
 - High confidence in the Lord
 - The voice of the other believers –
 - Steady across several leaders
 - Diligent to follow though wit prophecy (Daniel 9:1)
 - Deliberate about leading kings to salvation – believe in the Almighty God through his action and his relationship with God
 - Strong prayer life

The Faith of Daniel is worthy of imitation:

- ➡ The greatest lesson of faith to learn from Daniel is his 'Personal Conviction' about the power of the Almighty God.

Outcome

- ➡ Favours from men
- ➡ Favours from God
- ➡ kings were converted
- ➡ Deliverance from God at every point (defiling wit food, lion's den, execution for not interpreting dream, etc.)