

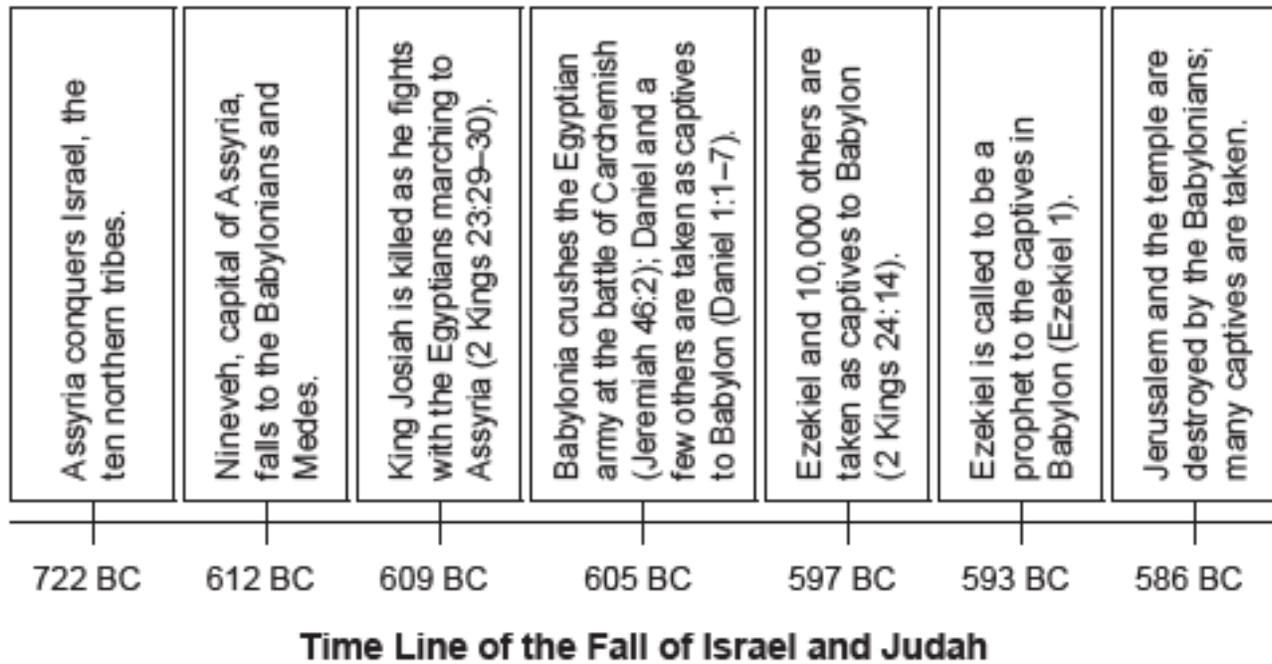
**INTRODUCTION:**

1) TODAY WE WILL BE LOOKING AT *THE EXILIC PROPHETS*

**THINGS WE WILL LOOK AT IN THIS LESSON:**

- 1) EZEKIEL: THE PROPHET OF DRAMATIC ACTING
- 2) DANIEL: THE PROPHET OF DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY

**FIGURE 1)**



**PART 1 – EZEKIEL: THE PROPHET OF DRAMATIC ACTING:**

**Q 1) WHO WROTE THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL AND WHEN WAS IT WRITTEN?**

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**Q 2) WHAT DOES THE NAME “EZEKIEL” MEAN?**

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**Q 3) WHAT TWO ROLES OF MINISTRY DID EZEKIEL HAVE?**

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**Q 4) THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL HAS WHAT TWO PRIMARY PURPOSES AND THEMES?**

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**OUTLINE OF EZEKIEL...**

- I. Ezekiel's Call to Prophecy, 1–3
  - A. Ezekiel's vision of God (1)
  - B. Ezekiel's call and commission (2–3)
- II. Messages of Judgment on Judah, 4–24
  - A. Prophetic signs of coming judgment (4–5)
  - B. Prophetic messages of coming judgment (6–7)
  - C. Prophetic visions of coming judgment (God's glory departs) (8–11)
  - D. Prophetic signs, messages, and parables of judgment (12–24)
- III. Messages of Judgment on the Nations, 25–32
  - A. Ammon, Moab, Edom, and Philistia (25)
  - B. Tyre, Sidon, and Egypt (26–32)
- IV. Messages on the Restoration of Judah, 33–48
  - A. The watchman of restoration (33)
  - B. The promises of restoration (34–37)
  - C. Victory over Gog and Magog (38–39)
  - D. God's glory in the new temple (His glory returns) (40–48)

**PART 2 – DANIEL: THE PROPHET OF DIVINE SOVEREIGNTY:**

**Q 5) WHO WROTE DANIEL AND WHEN DID THEY WRITE IT?**

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**Q 6) WHAT DOES THE NAME “DANIEL” MEAN?**

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**Q 7) HOW DID DANIEL SPEND HIS LAST YEARS?**

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**Q 8) WHAT WAS THE PURPOSE OF DANIEL’S WRITING?**

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**Q 9) WHAT IS THE MAIN THEME OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL?**

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**OUTLINE OF DANIEL...**

- I. Historical Setting, 1
  - A. Exiled to Babylon (1:1–7)
  - B. Faithfulness to God (1:8–16)
  - C. Promotion for Daniel and his friends (1:17–21)
- II. Daniel's Messages about the Nations, 2–7
  - A. Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a huge statue (2)
  - B. The gold image and the fiery furnace (3)
  - C. Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the great, tall tree (4)
  - D. Belshazzar's feast and Babylon's fall (5)
  - E. Darius' decree and Daniel's deliverance from lions (6)
  - F. Daniel's dream of four beasts (7)
  - G. The kingdom of heaven: the eternal kingdom (7:13–14, 27)
- III. Daniel's Messages about Israel, 8–12
  - A. Daniel's vision of a ram, a goat, and a small horn (8)
  - B. Daniel's prayer and vision of 70 sevens (9)
  - C. Daniel's vision of Israel's future (10–12)

**CONTENT OF DANIEL ACCORDING TO THEMES...**

**Sovereignty of God** — God's sovereignty is displayed first in Daniel's appointment to an influential position of leadership in an evil land and government. Unlike other prophetic books that emphasize divine sovereignty by pronouncing judgment on neighboring nations, Daniel shows that God uses even pagan rulers to accomplish His divine purposes. That is, God is sovereign over both nations and individuals. In the last section of his book, Daniel asserts God's ultimate victory and sovereignty over future evil empires that detest God and the people who follow Him.

**Arrogance of Leaders** — Within Daniel 1–6 is a powerful rebuke of egotism, arrogance, and pride as epitomized by Babylonian kings Nebuchadnezzar (chap. 4) and Belshazzar (chap. 5). In these six chapters, God vindicates Daniel and his friends in spite of various conspiracies by other political leaders.

In Daniel's visions in chapters 7–12, a succession of evil rulers and governments that display arrogance are eventually replaced by the kingdom of the Son of God and the Son of Man, Jesus Christ, the only One worthy of such recognition and devotion.

While we may find it easy to condemn the pride and arrogance of governmental rulers exemplified in the book of Daniel, the message for us is just as profound: We must guard against all pride, including pride in our own spirituality. For "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6).

**Prophecies of the Future** — The last six chapters of Daniel raise the question of how God will fulfill the promise of His ultimate victory and final reign. Because Daniel's visions of eschatological events are sometimes difficult to interpret, not all agree on the possible timelines or facts of their fulfillment.

**HOMEWORK FOR THE WEEK:**

*Read Ezekiel or Daniel. Read each outline section in one setting. If you choose to use an Audio Bible, that is fine too.*

