

The Faithfulness of God in Uncertain Times



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The Book of Daniel

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in Uncertain Times

Introduction

We appear to be teetering on some sort of historical, political, national and cultural precipice. The news just seems to go from bad to worse every day as stories of bombings, stabbings, shootings, rioting, and various forms of injustice confront us at an alarming rate. As a nation, divisions appear to crisscross every conceivable means of connection. Our ability to engage in fruitful conversations about the things that matter the most has been lost amid the din of emotions, opinions, and loveless rhetoric. All of this contributes to an overwhelming feeling of uncertainty in our times. As Sinclair Ferguson writes, our questions during uncertain times often cause us to question God and His plan: “Do we have a God who knows and rules the future? Do we have a God who reveals His secrets to His people? Do we have a God who delivers men from burning furnaces? Or is this world a closed system – a place where God is essentially the stranger who set it all in motion, providing at best an endowment fund of natural and moral laws which, if broken, lead to disaster?”¹ With all of these realities bearing down on us, what true hope can we have during these uncertain times to help us navigate the various issues before us?

The book of Daniel² provides us with a beautiful picture of God’s sovereign faithfulness during one of the most uncertain times in the history of the people of God. The nation of Israel had refused and failed to be the servants of the Lord that they were called to be. This was painfully evidenced by their lack of care for the poor and marginalized both inside and outside the nation and unfaithfulness to God. As a result of their disobedience to God’s commands in **Leviticus 25**, He unleashed judgment as prophesied in **Leviticus 26** (as well as **Deuteronomy 4** and **32**) resulting in loss of the Promised Land and exile in Babylon. Despite Daniel’s prior innocence and faithfulness, he finds himself in exile in 605 B.C. in the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim according to **Daniel 1:1**. Daniel will spend over 70 years in exile during which he will witness kings rise and fall, favor come and go, and his own people return in part to the Promised Land while he will die in exile in his late 80’s or early 90’s despite his obedience and faithfulness to God while in exile. Through all of this, God’s unwavering faithfulness to His people for His glory serves as the foundation for Daniel’s obedience and faith. The book of Daniel details how God’s sovereignty and faithfulness to His promises serves as the foundation that gives rise to Daniel’s example of obedience during uncertain times.

¹ Sinclair B. Ferguson, *The Communicator’s Commentary*, Volume 19: *Daniel* (Waco: Word Books, 1988), 19.

² See **Appendix A** for a chapter by chapter overview of the book of Daniel.

We need to hear this testimony of our faithful and sovereign God and the story of Daniel in the midst of our present historical, political, national, and cultural upheaval (which we have been experiencing in varying convulsive fits since east of Eden³). It is important that we not see Daniel as merely an exemplar to be copied or a book of prophecy to be figured out for the sake of discerning the end times. Bryan Chapell provides a helpful perspective in writing, “If we are able to discern that the prophet’s heroism is really a gift of God, and if we come to see Daniel’s prophecies are really a means of encouraging us to not be overwhelmed by the discouragements of a broken world – because God is unrelentingly working his redemption plan for his wayward people – then we will have discerned the good news of the gospel Daniel wanted us to know, even if we still have a few questions about his prophecies.”⁴ From the book of Daniel, we need to cultivate a biblical view of history, politics, citizenship, and culture so that we can engage these things missionally for the glory of God. Much of the discussions and actions related to these topics are unfortunately proving unfruitful and divisive due to high emotional involvement and a lack of biblical wisdom and its associated application in humility. My prayer is that our study of the book of Daniel will help to lay a firm biblical foundation so that we too can serve faithfully and glorify God in uncertain times such as we find ourselves in.

We will continue to seek nourishment from our historic faith and the Old and New Testaments for our weekly devotion and worship. The calls to worship will come from the Psalms in the latter books that address life in exile and the hope of the return as a result of the sovereign faithfulness of God. We will confess together **Revelation 1:4b-8** each week to remind us of Christ’s reign as King over all the kings and nations of the earth. Our assurances of pardon will be granted from Matthew’s Gospel which proclaims Christ’s redemptive reign over and over again. Our benedictory blessings each week will come from the apocalyptic books of Jude and Revelation so as to remind us of the blessings of the current and future reign of Christ as our true King despite the raging of the kings, queens, and nations now. The sum of these elements will hopefully serve to deepen our faith and hope in the sovereign faithfulness of our God who loves and preserves His people in uncertain times.

This devotional is designed to encourage daily meditation and prayer in personal devotions and/or family worship. You are encouraged to use it the week prior to the associated sermon so that you and your family are prepared for worship. In addition to the Scriptures and associated questions, there are opportunities to pray for the various aspects of

³ As evidence that we have been here before in some measure, John Adams is reported to have said to his wife Abigail just before the inauguration of George Washington for his second term as president in 1793, with the two national political parties spitefully divided and as the French Revolution raged while war simmered throughout Europe, “The whole drama of the world is such tragedy that I am weary of the spectacle.” In David McCullough, *John Adams* (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2001), 443.

⁴ Bryan Chapell, *The Gospel According to Daniel: A Christ-Centered Approach* (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2014), 11.

the Church. On Wednesdays, we will pray for our various governments as suggested in the Westminster Confession of Faith Chapter 23.IV:

IV. It is the duty of people to pray for magistrates, to honor their persons, to pay them tribute or other dues, to obey their lawful commands, and to be subject to their authority, for conscience sake. Infidelity, or difference in religion, doth not make void the magistrates' just and legal authority, nor free the people from their due obedience to them....

Westminster Confession of Faith, Chapter 23: Of the Civil Magistrate

We also have the opportunity to pray on Saturday and Sunday, the Lord's Day Sabbath, to prepare ourselves for worship as well as praying for those who will attend with us. Our desire is to continue to facilitate and grow in our dependence on the Lord through prayer.

May God bless our time in personal devotion, family worship, and corporate worship as we seek to for the Church to grow in the joy of salvation and unity in Christ for the sake of its mission in the world!

Soli Deo Gloria!

Sermon Schedule

Date	Call to Worship	Assurance of Pardon	Benediction	Sacrament
Sunday, 8/ 28: Daniel 1	Psalm 92	Matthew 4: 12-17	Jude 20-23	Bread and Cup
Sunday, 9/ 4: Daniel 2	Psalm 94	Matthew 5: 1-11	Jude 24-25	
Sunday, 9/ 11: Daniel 3	Psalm 97	Matthew 6: 25-34	Revelation 1: 17-18	Bread and Cup
Sunday, 9/ 18: Daniel 4	Psalm 102: 12-28	Matthew 7: 24-27	Revelation 4: 8-11	
Sunday, 9/ 25: Daniel 5	Psalm 110	Matthew 9: 1-8	Revelation 5: 9-10	
Sunday, 10/ 2: Daniel 6	Psalm 116	Matthew 10: 16-25	Revelation 7: 15-17	Bread and Cup
Sunday, 10/ 9: Daniel 7	Psalm 124	Matthew 11: 25-30	Revelation 11: 15-18	
Sunday, 10/ 16: Daniel 8	Psalm 140	Matthew 12: 15-21	Revelation 17: 13-14	Bread and Cup
Sunday, 10/ 23: Daniel 9	Psalm 143	Matthew 22: 1-14	Revelation 19: 6-9	
Sunday, 10/ 30: Daniel 10	Psalm 145	Matthew 26: 26-29	Revelation 19: 11-16	Bread and Cup
Sunday, 11/ 6: Daniel 11	Psalm 146	Matthew 27: 45-54	Revelation 20: 7-10	
Sunday, 11/ 13: Daniel 12	Psalm 149	Matthew 28: 1-10	Revelation 21: 22-27	Bread and Cup

Weekly Congregational Confession

[4b] Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, [5] and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood [6] and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. [7] Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. [8] “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Revelation 1:4b-8

The Week of August 28th

Daniel 1: God Remembers His People

Monday: Psalm 92: Consider who the psalmist declares will flourish and what is the true foundation of their flourishing. In what ways do they flourish?

Tuesday: Matthew 4:12-17: What was Jesus' basic message in His preaching? What does it mean for "the kingdom to be at hand"?

Wednesday: Pray for our church to stand firm on the foundation of the sovereign faithfulness of God and represent His glory as a blessed witness during these uncertain times.

Thursday: Daniel 1:1-21: How does God evidence that He remembers Daniel and his friends though they are in exile in Babylon?

Friday: Jude 20-23: How should the blessing and assurance of eternal life in Christ affect how we live now?

Saturday: Take time to read the preparatory letter and pray to prepare for the Lord's Table. Give thanks for God's unwillingness to leave you lost and orphaned.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath with the Lord's Table: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Jude 20-23

The Week of September 4th

Daniel 2: God Provides for His People

Monday: Psalm 94: What kinds of questions is the psalmist wrestling with? What answer ultimately brings him comfort?

Tuesday: Matthew 5: 1-11: Meditate on one or two of the descriptions of the blessed that stand out to you. What serves as the foundational principle for Jesus' Sermon on the Mount?

Wednesday: Pray for by name the mayor and city council of the town where you live.

Thursday: Daniel 2: 1-49: How does Daniel approach the issue of needing to interpret Nebuchadnezzar's dream in order to save himself and all the other wise men? What does this suggest about how we should approach uncertain situations?

Friday: Jude 24-25: Give thanks God for providing Jesus who keeps us from stumbling and presents us blameless before Him.

Saturday: Pray for opportunities to humbly share the hope that is within you in Christ alone through faith alone by grace alone with others who are struggling with the uncertainty of our times.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Jude 24-25

The Week of September 11th

Daniel 3: God is With His People

Monday: Psalm 97: Give praise to God for preserving the lives of His saints and for His deliverance from the hands of the wicked. How has God preserved and delivered you?

Tuesday: Matthew 6: 25-34: What makes you anxious? What serves as the foundation of your hope?

Wednesday: Pray for the members of your local school board by name.

Thursday: Daniel 3: 1-30: How did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego apply their faith when challenged to forsake God? How does their civil disobedience look different than much of what we see from Christians today?

Friday: Revelation 1: 17-18: How does Christ being first and last, eternal, and having the keys of Death and Hades bless and comfort you?

Saturday: Take time to read the preparatory letter and pray to prepare for the Lord's Table. Give thanks for God's unwillingness to leave you lost and orphaned.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath with the Lord's Table: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead. But he laid his right hand on me, saying, "Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.

Revelation 1:17-18

The Week of September 18th

Daniel 4: God Restores the Humble

Monday: **Psalm 102:12-28:** Who truly reigns? How should this truth affect how we think and talk about history and politics?

Tuesday: **Matthew 7:24-27:** Why is Jesus our only true foundation worth building on?

Wednesday: Pray for Cobb County Commissioners Tim Lee, Chairman, Bob Weatherford, Bob Ott, Jo Ann Birrell, and Lisa Cupid.

Thursday: **Daniel 4:1-37:** How would you describe Nebuchadnezzar? If he can be drawn to repentance and praise of God, then what leader is beyond the redeeming reach of God?

Friday: **Revelation 4:8-11:** Consider the holiness of God and the blessing that it is to you.

Saturday: Pray for opportunities to humbly share the hope that is within you in Christ alone through faith alone by grace alone with others who are struggling with the uncertainty of our times.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

Revelation 4:8-11

The Week of September 25th

Daniel 5: God Judges the Proud

Monday: Psalm 110: Give thanks to God for His rule and justice to protect His people.

Tuesday: Matthew 9:1-8: How has forgiveness in Christ brought healing to your life?

Wednesday: Pray for Governor Nathan Deal and Lt. Governor Casey Cagle.

Thursday: Daniel 5:1-31: How does King Belshazzar's story differ from Nebuchadnezzar's? What does this reveal about God's grace and justice?

Friday: Revelation 5:9-10: Who does God desire to be a part of His family? What is to be our role in the process of the growing of the family? How does being a part of this process bless us?

Saturday: Pray for opportunities to humbly share the hope that is within you in Christ alone through faith alone by grace alone with others who are struggling with the uncertainty of our times.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth."

Revelation 5:9-10

The Week of October 2nd

Daniel 6: God Delivers His People

Monday: Psalm 116: Remember a time when you cried out to the Lord and He delivered you. Give thanks for His deliverance.

Tuesday: Matthew 10: 16-25: What can a disciple of Jesus expect while serving Christ's mission in a fallen world? What is to be our comfort and assurance amid persecution?

Wednesday: Pray for Georgia Secretary of State Brian P. Kemp and Attorney General Sam Olens.

Thursday: Daniel 6: 1-28: How does Daniel gain favor with King Darius? What is the foundation for Daniel's work ethic?

Friday: Revelation 7: 15-17: Rejoice in the hope that is to come at the return of Christ.

Saturday: Take time to read the preparatory letter and pray to prepare for the Lord's Table. Give thanks for God's unwillingness to leave you lost and orphaned.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath with the Lord's Table: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Revelation 7:15-17

The Week of October 9th

Daniel 7: God Reigns

Monday: Psalm 124: Who truly protects us from destroying each other?

Tuesday: Matthew 11: 25-30: How has Christ given you rest and lightened your burden?

Wednesday: Pray for State House Representatives and Senators for your district.

Thursday: Daniel 7:1-28: How should Daniel's dream comfort us today?

Friday: Revelation 11: 15-18: Rejoice in the Lord for all that He has done for you in Christ. Share with someone the difference it has made for you to become a child of God.

Saturday: Pray for opportunities to humbly share the hope that is within you in Christ alone through faith alone by grace alone with others who are struggling with the uncertainty of our times.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

Then the seventh angel blew his trumpet, and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever." And the twenty-four elders who sit on their thrones before God fell on their faces and worshiped God, saying, "We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, who is and who was, for you have taken your great power and begun to reign. The nations raged, but your wrath came, and the time for the dead to be judged, and for rewarding your servants, the prophets and saints, and those who fear your name, both small and great, and for destroying the destroyers of the earth."

Revelation 11:15-18

The Week of October 16th

Daniel 8: God Uses the Wicked

Monday: Psalm 140: Give thanks for the sovereignty of God over the wicked.

Tuesday: Matthew 12: 15-21: What can we learn from Christ's example?

Wednesday: Pray for Senators David Perdue, Johnny Isakson and House Representative Barry Loudermilk, and the Congressional Elections.

Thursday: Daniel 8: 1-27: What is Daniel's only comfort in this vision? What is our only comfort when we don't understand what is going on around us?

Friday: Revelation 17: 13-14: Rejoice over the blessing that this simple declaration brings to God's people.

Saturday: Take time to read the preparatory letter and pray to prepare for the Lord's Table. Give thanks for God's unwillingness to leave you lost and orphaned.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath with the Lord's Table: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast. They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful."

Revelation 17:13-14

The Week of October 23rd

Daniel 9: God is Redemptive

Monday: Psalm 143: Consider how remembrance serves the psalmist in his prayer. What role does remembrance of the works of the Lord play in your prayers?

Tuesday: Matthew 22: 1-14: Who is invited to the wedding feast? Who accepts the invitation?

Wednesday: Pray for President Barak Obama and Vice President Joe Biden.

Thursday: Daniel 9: 1-27: Reflect on Daniel's prayer. What can you learn from him as to how to pray during uncertain times?

Friday: Revelation 19: 6-9: Meditate on and give thanks for the Marriage Supper of the Lamb.

Saturday: Pray for opportunities to humbly share the hope that is within you in Christ alone through faith alone by grace alone with others who are struggling with the uncertainty of our times.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

Then I heard what seemed to be the voice of a great multitude, like the roar of many waters and like the sound of mighty peals of thunder, crying out, "Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure" — for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints. And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are the true words of God."

Revelation 19:6-9

The Week of October 30th

Daniel 10: God is not a God of Fear

Monday: Psalm 145: Why is God worthy of our praise?

Tuesday: Matthew 26: 26-29: How has the forgiveness of your sins in Christ changed your life?

Wednesday: Pray for each of the candidates in this year's presidential election that their hearts would be moved by the Holy Spirit to glorify God in repentance to Jesus Christ.

Thursday: Daniel 10: 1-21: Who comforts Daniel in this chapter? Who comforts us?

Friday: Revelation 19: 11-16: Rejoice in Jesus being the King of kings and the Lord of lords.

Saturday: Take time to read the preparatory letter and pray to prepare for the Lord's Table. Give thanks for God's unwillingness to leave you lost and orphaned.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath with the Lord's Table: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

Revelation 19:11-16

The Week of November 6th

Daniel 11: God is Opposed

Monday: Psalm 146: Where have you place your trust during these uncertain times?

Tuesday: Matthew 27: 45-54: Reflect on and give thanks for the gift of the crucifixion of Christ.

Wednesday: Pray for the election on November 8th that God's people would remember His sovereignty and faithfulness to His promises in the rise and fall of political powers and nations.

Thursday: Daniel 11: 1-45: Why do the nations rage? Do you long for the end of war?

Friday: Revelation 20: 7-10: Consider the blessing that will come with the final defeat of Satan and the powers of darkness.

Saturday: Pray for opportunities to humbly share the hope that is within you in Christ alone through faith alone by grace alone with others who are struggling with the uncertainty of our times.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

And when the thousand years are ended, Satan will be released from his prison and will come out to deceive the nations that are at the four corners of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them for battle; their number is like the sand of the sea. And they marched up over the broad plain of the earth and surrounded the camp of the saints and the beloved city, but fire came down from heaven and consumed them, and the devil who had deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and sulfur where the beast and the false prophet were, and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

Revelation 20:7-10

The Week of November 13th

Daniel 12: God is Victorious

Monday: Psalm 149: What does God take pleasure in?

Tuesday: Matthew 28:1-10: How does the resurrection of Christ affect how you live?

Wednesday: Pray for God's people to respond to the newly elected president in a way that brings glory to God and evidences love for those they may disagree with.

Thursday: Daniel 12:1-13: Why would this chapter bring comfort to Daniel? Why should it bring comfort to us?

Friday: Revelation 21:22-27: How does this glorious vision of the future give you comfort and the ability to continue on God's mission today?

Saturday: Take time to read the preparatory letter and pray to prepare for the Lord's Table. Give thanks for God's unwillingness to leave you lost and orphaned.

Sunday: The Lord's Day Sabbath with the Lord's Table: Pray for the means of grace to bear fruit worthy of celebration both in our midst and before the throne above.

And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, and its gates will never be shut by day – and there will be no night there. They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 21:22-27

Appendix A

Structure of the Book of Daniel

The book of Daniel does not unfold in a linear fashion which makes it difficult to interpret at times. It does exhibit quite a bit of parallelism in which chapters are paired or connected through events to declare the story of God's sovereign faithfulness to His redemptive promises to His people. The connected chapters are denoted by spacing and alphabetical letter. I have included the sermon titles and a brief chapter description along with the king who was in power at the time and the rough date for reference.

A: Chapter 1: **God Remembers His People:** Daniel in Exile and Set Apart;
King Nebuchadnezzar, 605/6 B.C.

B: Chapter 2: **God Provides for His People:** King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream of the
Four Kingdoms, 604 B.C.

C: Chapter 3: **God is With His People:** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in
the Fiery Furnace; King Nebuchadnezzar, 580 B.C.

D: Chapter 4: **God Restores the Humble:** King Nebuchadnezzar is Lost
and is Found, 570 B.C.

D: Chapter 5: **God Judges the Proud:** King Belshazzar is Lost and is
Judged, 538 B.C.

C: Chapter 6: **God Delivers His People:** Daniel in the Lion's Den;
King Darius the Mede, 538 B.C.

B: Chapter 7: **God Reigns:** Daniel's Dream of the Four Beasts and the Ancient of
Days; King Belshazzar, 555 B.C.

B: Chapter 8: **God Uses the Wicked:** Daniel's Vision of the Ram and the Goat;
King Belshazzar, 553 B.C.

B: Chapter 9: **God is Redemptive:** Daniel's Prayer and the Vision of the 70 Weeks;
King Darius the Mede, 538 B.C.

A: Chapter 10: **God is Not a God of Fear:** Daniel's Revelation of Comfort;
King Cyrus, 534 B.C.

A: Chapter 11: **God is Opposed:** Rumors of Wars; King Cyrus, 534 B.C.

A: Chapter 12: **God is Victorious:** The Hope of the Resurrection; King Cyrus, 534 B.C.

Appendix B

Resources

The books in this list are readable and avoid getting bogged down in the various prophecies which scholars have been divided on for hundreds of years. I would also encourage you to read books on history from reputable sources such as David McCullough, Ron Chernow, Joseph J. Ellis, and Rick Atkinson just to name a few contemporary voices. I would also encourage you to read broadly in world history. While these authors do not proclaim the sovereignty and faithfulness of God, the stories they tell powerfully reveal that truth at work in the historical events of our world.

Calvin, John. *A Commentary on Daniel: Geneva Series of Commentaries*. Carlisle: The Banner of Truth Trust, 1966.

Chapell, Bryan. *The Gospel According to Daniel: A Christ-Centered Approach*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 2014.

Davis, Dale Ralph. *The Message of Daniel: His Kingdom Cannot Fail*. Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2013.

Duguid, Iain M. *Daniel*. Phillipsburg: P&R Publishing, 2008.

Ferguson, Sinclair B. *The Communicator's Commentary, Volume 19: Daniel*. Waco: Word Books, 1988.