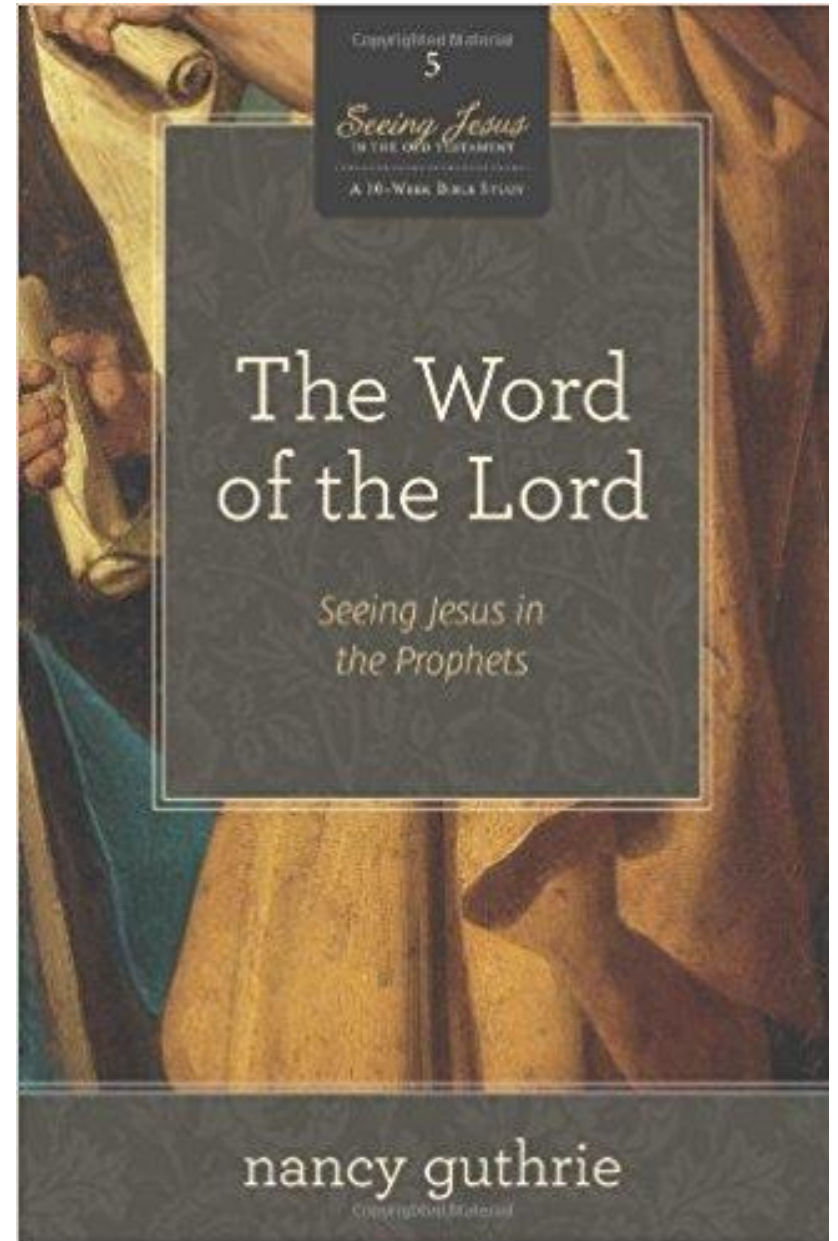


Fall Study 2017



God is Sovereign

Daniel

Background

- Daniel: “God is my Judge”
- Exilic prophet
- Prophet to Judah & the conquering nations
- Administrator to foreign governments rather than preacher to the people
- Future prophetic visions
- Exiled as a young Jewish nobleman during 1st invasion by Babylon
- Ministry from the 1st wave of Babylonian exile to the 3rd year of the reign of King Cyrus of Persia.

- Remind God's people that he is Sovereign over all events.
- Daniel was God's instrument in fulfilling his promise that the nations will know the glory of God through his people. God's power & glory powerfully demonstrated to Nebuchadnezzar (3 times), Belshazzar & Darius

Themes

- God's sovereignty over history & empires (2:21; 4:34-37)
- Kingdom of this world will fade but God's kingdom will never end (2:44;7:27)

- Part 1: Chapters 1-6 – Narrative
- Part 2: Chapters 7-12 – Prophetic Revelations
 - Purpose: reassure God's people that despite tribulations, God is in control & will one day establish his kingdom. The final victory belongs to the Ancient of Days & Son of Man (chapter 7)

God's ultimate victory over the powers & authorities of this present evil age is sure so the wise will be faithful to the Lord in the meantime, whatever the pressures are brought to bear upon them (ESV Study Bible)

5 Things We Must Know living as citizens of “Jerusalem” in “Babylon”

Taken from Teaching Chapter

1. Know who you really are
2. Know what will last
3. Know Whom to depend on
4. Know Who lived this way
5. Know how the story will end

Know who you are

- *Could saying no to this help me to place a guard around my heart so that I will be reminded every day when I say no to it that I belong to another kingdom, that I serve another king?*

Know what will last

- *Human power & rule can be impressive for a time & do good things up to a point, but they are never permanent....The final word of history does not lie with a new & improved version of man or anything he has made or accomplish.*
- Daniel 2:44-45

Know Whom to depend on

- Fiery Furnace & Daniel in the Lion's Den
- *Your confidence in your true King & his ability to deliver you is far greater than your fear of the human king & his ability to destroy you.*

Know Who lived this way

- Luke 20:17-18
- *Jesus refused to bow down, reserving his allegiance for God alone. And because he did not bow down, we can know that when judgment day comes, God will not look at us & see all our bowing down to human achievement. Instead, when he looks at us he will see us in Christ, who did not bow down.*

Know how the story will end

- Daniel 7:9-10; 13-14
- Revelation 11:15
- Revelation 21:1-4