

The God Who Chops Down the Tree & Raises Up the Stump

Daniel 4:1-37

Thesis: Regardless of what's going on around us, God's people can always have confidence that God is the sovereign King over all earthly kings and that He's in control of the rise and fall of all kings and kingdoms.

II. C. Judgment on royal arrogance (4:1-37)

1. The king confesses that God is the sovereign eternal King (1-3)

2. The king is terrified by another dream (4-5)

3. The king's wisemen fail in interpreting the dream (6-7)

4. The king tells Daniel the dream (8-18)

3. Daniel succeeds in interpreting the dream (19-27)

2. The king is humiliated in fulfillment of the dream (28-33)

1. The king confesses that God is the sovereign eternal King (34-37)

Structural/Chiastic Outline of Daniel

(Mitchell Chase, *ESV Expository Commentary*)

I. Hebrew Introduction: Exile to Babylon (1)

II. Aramaic Chiasm: Kingdom, Deliverance, and Judgment (2-7)

A. Vision of 4 kingdoms preceding an eternal kingdom (2)

B. Divine deliverance from death (3)

C. Judgment on royal arrogance (4)

C. Judgment on royal arrogance (5)

B. Divine deliverance from death (6)

A. Vision of 4 kingdoms preceding an eternal kingdom (7)

III. Hebrew Chiasm: Kingdoms, 70 Sevens, and the Anointed One (8-12)

A. Medo-Persia and Greek kingdoms (8)

B. 70 sevens and the Anointed one (9)

A. Medo-Persian and Greek Kingdoms (10-12)

Important Dates for Understanding Daniel

722 BC	Assyria defeats Israel (Northern Kingdom)
625-539 BC	<u>BABYLONIAN EMPIRE</u>
605-562 BC	Reign of Nebuchadnezzar
605 BC	Daniel and his friends taken to Babylon
597 BC	Jerusalem sieged, many Jews exiled
586 BC	Jerusalem destroyed, temple burned, Jews exiled
539-331 BC	<u>MEDO-PERSIAN EMPIRE</u>
539 BC	Babylon falls to Cyrus/Darius
539 BC	Daniel prays for restoration of Israel
538 BC	Decree of Cyrus, remnant of Jewish exiles return to Jerusalem
520-516 BC	2 nd Temple completed
331-163 BC	<u>GREEK EMPIRE</u>
336-323 BC	Alexander the Great
301 BC	Greek Empire divided among 4 generals
175-164 BC	Antiochus IV Epiphanes
167 BC	Antiochus IV desecrates the Jewish temple
167-163 BC	Antiochus IV persecutes the Jews
63 BC- AD 476	<u>ROMAN EMPIRE</u>
30 AD	Jesus, the anointed one, is cut off to put an end of sin
70 AD	Titus destroys the Jewish temple