

**Daniel 5-12**  
**Daniel, God's Man**  
**Lesson 4**

**Key Verse**

For the eyes of the Lord *are* over the righteous, and his ears *are open* unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord *is* against them that do evil.

—1 Peter 3:12

**Key Verse Thought:** Read the Key Verse. According to our key verse, we can understand that God sees and hears His people. When enemies try to do evil against God's people, He knows and takes care of the problem.

**Emphasis:** We are to learn to consistently, faithfully, walk with God and read His Word – just as Daniel did.

**Lesson Summary:** In our last lesson, we learned about Daniel and his three friends who were carried captive during the first siege of Jerusalem. We found that they remained faithful to God in the enemy land. In this lesson, we will continue with Daniel's life.

A new king reigned in Babylon. His name was Belshazzar, and he was King Nebuchadnezzar's grandson. We read today of a time he drank wine before his thousands. When he called for the vessels from the house of the Lord to be brought to him and led them to drink with them, toasting many false idols, a hand appeared and wrote upon the wall. When no one understood the meaning, Daniel was called. After reminding King Belshazzar of his grandfather, King Nebuchadnezzar, and his acknowledgment of God, Daniel rebuked King Belshazzar for *not* acknowledging God. The handwriting declared King Belshazzar would lose his kingdom that night – and he did. With that came the demise of the Babylonian reign. Next, the Medo-Persian kingdom became predominant.

King Darius, the new king, placed Daniel as the head of his one hundred twenty presidents, and they hated Daniel for it. It was then that they began plotting to destroy him. When Daniel continued to pray to God three times daily, breaking the new law of the land, he was thrown into the den of lions. Nevertheless, through all of this, King Darius recognized God's hand in Daniel's life. The wicked men who tricked King Darius into signing that bad law were thrown (with their families) into the lions' den where they all died.

Although some do not believe Daniel was a real man (because of the accuracy of the events recorded in the book of Daniel – long before they happened), we read that Ezekiel knew of Daniel and Jesus quoted Daniel.

Daniel not only wrote many of God's Words (recorded in the Bible), but he read God's Words recorded by other men of God. We will find what he learned while reading the book of Jeremiah.

Additional note: Many of the things portrayed in the book of Daniel are also found in the book of Revelation. Things from every chapter in Daniel are referred to in the book of Revelation, and most of the chapters in Revelation have references to the book of Daniel. Therefore, in order to understand Revelation, it is important to know the book of Daniel. Because this is not an exhaustive study of Daniel but an overview, we will not take time to compare the two books in this lesson.

### **Suggested Bible Reading to Prepare for This Lesson**

- Monday: Daniel 5-6
- Tuesday: Daniel 7-8
- Wednesday: Daniel 9
- Thursday: Daniel 10
- Friday: Daniel 11
- Saturday: Daniel 12

### **Daniel 5-12**

#### **Daniel, God's Man**

1. The Handwriting on the Wall (Daniel 5)
  - King Belshazzar's feast
  - God's Message
2. Daniel in the Lion's Den (Daniel 6)
  - King Darius' decree
  - Daniel's faithfulness
3. Daniel's Visions
  - Daniel was a real man
  - Daniel saw visions
4. Daniel's Understandings
  - Daniel understood Jeremiah's sayings (Daniel 9:2)
  - Daniel's prayer (Daniel 9:3-19)
  - Gabriel speaks to Daniel, telling of the Messiah, Jesus (Daniel 9:25)

**Note:** In our last lesson, we saw how four young men (Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego), who had been taken captive from their homeland, refused to become like the people they lived among. Instead, they chose to obey God's Law, pleasing Him instead of the king. For that faithfulness, God blessed and honored them greatly – for they were rulers in their captive land. Not only that, but because of their faithfulness to God, they were able to be a witness of God to King Nebuchadnezzar, who finally recognized God in his own life.

Today we continue with the life of Daniel.

### 1. The Handwriting on the Wall (Daniel 5)

As we come to chapter five in Daniel, many years have passed and Daniel is now an older man. King Nebuchadnezzar no longer rules. The ruling king was Belshazzar.

1. Belshazzar the king made a great feast to a thousand of his lords, and drank wine before the thousand. 2. Belshazzar, while he tasted the wine, commanded to bring the golden and silver vessels which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple which *was* in Jerusalem; that the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, might drink therein. (Daniel 5:1-2)

**Father** in this verse means *grandfather*. Remember King Nebuchadnezzar stole the vessels from the Temple in Jerusalem. Remember what we read in our last lesson.

1. In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. 2. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god. (Daniel 1:1-2)

These vessels belonged in the house of the Lord and were consecrated to God (set apart for a special purpose). As we continue, we find that Belshazzar misused these vessels.

3. Then they brought the golden vessels that were taken out of the temple of the house of God which *was* at Jerusalem; and the king, and his princes, his wives, and his concubines, drank in them. 4. They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone. (Daniel 5:3-4)

The vessels from the Temple were to be set apart for service to God in His house. “Also for the courses of the priests and the Levites, and for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the vessels of service in the house of the LORD” (1 Chronicles 28:13). Belshazzar was using them to praise false gods (of gold, silver, brass, iron, wood, and stone).

Read what God did. “In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the candlestick upon the plaster of the wall of the king's palace: and the king saw the part of the hand that wrote” (Daniel 5:5). When King Belshazzar saw a hand, writing on the palace wall, it scared him greatly.

6. Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, so that the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another. 7. The king cried aloud to bring in the astrologers, the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers. *And* the king spake, and said to the wise *men* of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and shew me the interpretation thereof, shall be clothed with scarlet, and *have* a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in the kingdom. (Daniel 5:6-7)

Notice that he was so scared that his knees were shaking together! He sent for his wise men to tell him what the message meant – with a promise of great reward. However, none of them could read the writing or tell the king what it meant. This frightened King Balshazzar even more.

Nevertheless, when the queen heard what was happening, she told the king that she knew of someone.

11. There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom *is* the spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of thy father light and understanding and wisdom, like the wisdom of the gods, was found in him; whom the king Nebuchadnezzar thy father, the king, *I say*, thy father, made master of the magicians, astrologers, Chaldeans, *and* soothsayers; 12. Forasmuch as an excellent spirit, and knowledge, and understanding, interpreting of dreams, and shewing of hard sentences, and dissolving of doubts, were found in the same Daniel, whom the king named Belteshazzar: now let Daniel be called, and he will shew the interpretation. (Daniel 5:11-12)

Notice the reputation that preceded Daniel! Also, recognize the confidence the queen had in Daniel – for we read the king then requested Daniel's presence.

13. Then was Daniel brought in before the king. *And* the king spake and said unto Daniel, *Art* thou that Daniel, which *art* of the children of the captivity of Judah, whom the king my father brought out of Jewry? 14. I have even heard of thee, that the spirit of the gods *is* in thee, and *that* light and understanding and excellent wisdom is found in thee. 15. And now the wise *men*, the astrologers, have been brought in before me, that they should read this writing, and make known unto me the interpretation thereof: but they could not shew the interpretation of the thing: 16. And I have heard of thee, that thou canst make interpretations, and dissolve doubts: now if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with scarlet, and *have* a chain of gold about thy neck, and shalt be the third ruler in the kingdom. (Daniel 5:13-16)

Understand that Daniel did not want gifts or rewards for delivering a message from God to the king. “Then Daniel answered and said before the king, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give thy

rewards to another; yet I will read the writing unto the king, and make known to him the interpretation” (Daniel 5:17). The first thing Daniel did was remind King Belshazzar of his father (grandfather), and the response King Nebuchadnezzar had made when God spoke to and dealt with him (see Daniel 5:18-21; also see Daniel chapter four that we read in our last lesson). Then Daniel brought the responsibility of the writing upon the wall to the king.

22. And thou his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart, though thou knewest all this; 23. But hast lifted up thyself against the Lord of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of his house before thee, and thou, and thy lords, thy wives, and thy concubines, have drunk wine in them; and thou hast praised the gods of silver, and gold, of brass, iron, wood, and stone, which see not, nor hear, nor know: and the God in whose hand thy breath *is*, and whose *are* all thy ways, hast thou not glorified: (Daniel 5:22-23)

King Belshazzar had not believed in God like his grandfather, King Nebuchadnezzar. Nebuchadnezzar had humbled himself before God, but Belshazzar had refused. Read the message God had for King Belshazzar.

25. And this *is* the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. 26. This *is* the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. 27. TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. 28. PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians. (Daniel 5:25-28)

King Belshazzar had been “weighed in the balances” by God, and Belshazzar had been found **wanting** (means “*deficient; lacking; to fail*”). Although Belshazzar had a great kingdom, he rejected God. The God in whom Nebuchadnezzar, his grandfather, had believed and trusted. For that, God was going to take the kingdom from Belshazzar and divide it among his enemies.

Belshazzar fulfilled his promise to Daniel. “29. Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and *put* a chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom” (Daniel 5:29). Recognize that it did not really matter that the king declared Daniel to be the third ruler in the kingdom. Why not? “30. In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain” (Daniel 5:30). Belshazzar no longer lived, nor did he rule over Babylon any more.

The Babylonian empire lasted approximately seventy years – about the same amount of time as the Jewish captivity. The Medo-Persian Empire conquered the Babylonian Kingdom. Darius was made king after defeating Belshazzar of Babylon. “And Darius the Median took the kingdom, *being about threescore and two years old*” (Daniel 5:31).

**A Deeper Path:** The Bible teaches that it is a foolish thing to drink wine or strong drink. “Wine *is* a mocker, strong drink *is* raging: and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise” (Proverbs 20:1). Remember the foolish thing Belshazzar did while drunken with wine.

Daniel’s reputation preceded him. Even the queen knew Daniel was a man of God who would give King Belshazzar a true answer. Christians today are to have a reputation that precedes us. Make sure it is the correct reputation. “Only let your conversation be as it becometh

the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel” (Philippians 1:27). **Conversation** means “*one’s lifestyle; the way one behaves.*” How Christians live should please God, and point others to Him according to the way we live – just as Daniel’s life always allowed people to see God.

Moreover, it does not matter one’s age (as we saw in Daniel’s life last week). “Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity” (1 Timothy 4:12).

## 2. Daniel in the Lions’ Den (Daniel 6)

Recognize what God continued to do for his servant, Daniel.

1. It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; 2. And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel *was* first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. 3. Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit *was* in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm. (Daniel 6:1-3)

Out of all one hundred twenty princes, with three presidents over them, Daniel was preferred above them all – and “the king thought to set him over the whole realm” (Daniel 6:3b).

However, when God blesses, enemies are revealed. “Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he *was* faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him” (Daniel 6:4). Although they tried, none of these princes could find a fault in Daniel. So, they decided to create an issue. “Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find *it* against him concerning the law of his God” (Daniel 6:5). They decided to attack his relationship with God.

These devious men approached the new king, Darius.

6. Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. 7. All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. 8. Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. (Daniel 6:6-8)

There is a warning we can read of in the Proverbs. See the following verse. “A lying tongue hateth *those that are* afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin” (Proverbs 26:28). These men began with flattery (“King Darius, live for ever”), and they continued with a lie (“All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains,

have consulted together”). All did not gather together, for Daniel was one of the three presidents – over them all, yet he was not present for their “consult.”

See what the king did. “Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree” (Daniel 6:9).

What did Daniel do? “Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime” (Daniel 6:10). Especially notice that Daniel did not change his relationship with God because of a fear of man. He continued to pray, with his window open toward Jerusalem, as he had always done. And those wicked, conniving, men were waiting. “Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God” (Daniel 6:11). They immediately went to the king. However, read the king’s reaction. “Then the king, when he heard *these* words, was sore displeased with himself, and set *his* heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him” (Daniel 6:14). Once he realized what he had done, he set about to try to correct it. Nevertheless, see of what his “men” reminded him. “Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians *is*, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed” (Daniel 6:15). The king had no choice; for there was nothing the king could do to correct the situation. “Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast *him* into the den of lions. *Now* the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee” (Daniel 6:16). Did you notice that he had already heard of the God that Daniel served? See the confidence this king had in God – for he believed God would deliver Daniel. “And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel” (Daniel 6:17). Read about the king’s night. “18. Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him. 19. Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions” (Daniel 6:18-19).

When the king reached the den of lions, see what he asked. “And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: *and* the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?” (Daniel 6:20). What had God done for his servant, Daniel? “My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions’ mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt” (Daniel 6:22). Why did God protect him? Daniel was upright before God and man.

King Darius brought Daniel out of the lions den, unharmed, “because he believed in his God” (Daniel 6:23). But read of the vengeance the king visited upon those wicked men. “And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast *them* into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den” (Daniel 6:24). Those were definitely some hungry lions!

See the recognition that King Darius gave to God.

25. Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you. 26. I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he *is* the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his



kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion *shall be even* unto the end. 27. He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions. (Daniel 6:25-27)

Not only did King Darius acknowledge God, but he also wanted everyone in his kingdom to know of God and to fear him.

What happened to Daniel? “*So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian*” (Daniel 6:28). We will learn that God touched Cyrus’ heart to send God’s people home to Jerusalem.

**A Deeper Path:** When Darius defeated Belshazzar, Darius honored Daniel by preferring him over all of the rulers. “*When a man's ways please the LORD, he maketh even his enemies to be at peace with him*” (Proverbs 16:7).

When the enemies revealed themselves, notice what we can understand that Daniel believed. “*Righteousness keepeth him that is upright in the way: but wickedness overthroweth the sinner*” (Proverbs 13:6).

Remember that Daniel continued to pray to God – just as he had always done. Much like David wrote of in Psalm 55:17: “*Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.*”

In the New Testament, we can read of many faithful men and women that served God faithfully in the Old Testament. “*32. And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets: 33. Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34. Quenched the violence of fire ...*” (Hebrews 11:32-34). We learned of the three in the fiery furnace last week, and today we read how God stopped the mouths of the lions to save Daniel’s life. Because of their faith and trust in God, they were remembered by all of the generations that followed them – even for us today.

### 3. Daniel’s Visions

Not only did God give the gifts of wisdom, knowledge, and understanding and interpreting dreams, but God also gave Daniel many visions of what would happen in the future. Many of the events Daniel saw have already come to pass. Because of their accuracy, many doubt not only his writings, but if Daniel even existed. We have already learned of Ezekiel who was a captive in Babylon at the same time. Ezekiel recognized the godly man Daniel by including him with righteous Noah and Job. “*Though these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they should deliver but their own souls by their righteousness, saith the Lord GOD*” (Ezekiel 14:14). Ezekiel obviously knew of Daniel.

Jesus too, acknowledged Daniel was a real man and validated his writings. Early in Jesus’ ministry, He asked his disciples a question. “*When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?*” (Matthew 16:13). Later, during the illegal trial by night after His betrayal, the high priest asked Jesus a question. “*63. ... And the high priest answered and said unto him, I adjure thee by the living God, that thou tell us whether thou be the Christ, the Son of God. 64. Jesus saith unto him, Thou hast said: nevertheless I say unto you, Hereafter shall ye see the Son of man sitting on the right hand*



of power, and coming in the clouds of heaven.” (Matthew 26:63-64). Jesus wanted them to know that He was the Son of Man that Daniel had spoken of in Daniel.

13. I saw in the night visions, and, behold, *one* like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. 14. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion *is* an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom *that* which shall not be destroyed (Daniel 7:13-14)

We today, are still waiting for Jesus to come again with the clouds of heaven where we can serve him in His kingdom, which shall not be destroyed.

When the disciples asked Jesus, what would be the sign of His coming and the end of the world, Jesus sat and shared with them what we can now read in Matthew chapter twenty-four. In this, He quoted from the book of Daniel. These things were what God had revealed to Daniel. Daniel recorded all of those things so that all who read them could recognize the signs of the end times. Jesus acknowledged that Daniel was a real prophet. “**When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand)**” (Matthew 24:15). (Daniel is also quoted in Mark 13:14.) Jesus was quoting Daniel 9:27 and 12:11.

Remember what we have learned. “**As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams**” (Daniel 1:17). Daniel saw and understood visions many times in his life.

**Read the following verses for a small sampling:**

- **Daniel 7:1:** “**In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon Daniel had a dream and visions of his head upon his bed: then he wrote the dream, *and* told the sum of the matters.**”
- **Daniel 8:1:** “**In the third year of the reign of king Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, *even unto* me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first.**”
- **Daniel 10:1:** “**In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing *was* true, but the time appointed *was* long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.**”

#### **4. Daniel’s Understandings**

Not only did Daniel learn of things that would one day happen, he read God’s Word that had already been recorded. As Daniel read Jeremiah’s book, he understood that God had promised that after seventy years, the captivity in Babylon would end, and God’s people would get to go home. “**In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem**” (Daniel 9:2). See what he most likely read.

11. And this whole land shall be a desolation, *and* an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years. 12. And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, *that* I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the LORD, for their

iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations. (Jeremiah 25:11-12)

See also the following from Jeremiah:

10. For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. 11. For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end. 12. Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. 13. And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. 14. And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive. (Jeremiah 29:10-14)

After reading Jeremiah, he also understood that the captivity was because of the sins of God's people. For that, he did what God said to do; he prayed for forgiveness of sin. Read how his prayer began.

3. And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: 4. And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; 5. We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments: ... 19. O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name. ( Daniel 9:3-5, 19)

Read Daniel 9:3-21 for the entire prayer, and notice that God sent the angel Gabriel to minister to him.

God also told Daniel exactly when Messiah would come. “Know therefore and understand, *that* from the going forth of the commandment to restore and to build Jerusalem unto the Messiah the Prince *shall be* seven weeks, and threescore and two weeks: the street shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublous times” (Daniel 9:25).

**A Deeper Path:** God reveals Himself and His plans to those who belong to Him – just as He did to Daniel. “Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you” (John 15:15). We just have to read the Bible for the answers.

**Daniel 5-12 at a Glance:**

- Chapter 5: Belshazzar saw the handwriting upon the wall after using the vessels from the Temple; Daniel interpreted the message after reminding him of his grandfather, Nebuchadnezzar; that night, Belshazzar was killed
- Chapter 6: King Darius tricked into making a decree against prayer – but Daniel prayed the same as always; Daniel thrown into the lions’ den; Daniel survived, but the men who tricked Darius were thrown to their deaths into the lions’ den
- Chapter 7: Daniel’s night vision of four beasts that represented four kings; also the vision of the Son of Man (Jesus)
- Chapter 8: Daniel’s vision of the ram and goat; a telling that Jesus would come and take away the need for daily sacrifice
- Chapter 9: Daniel read Jeremiah and understood captivity would last for seventy years; Daniel’s prayer for the people; Jesus’ foretold
- Chapter 10: Daniel, a man greatly beloved, fasted three weeks and saw a vision of a man – Jesus; he was told many future events
- Chapter 11: The kings of the north and the south with their many conflicts – a telling of kingdoms in Daniel’s future
- Chapter 12: The time of the end – “... and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book” (Daniel 12:1b).

**Reinforcement:** See only a few of the things that we should learn from this lesson as we consider Daniel’s example:

- to be faithful to speak God’s Words to others;
- to not compromise our walk with the Lord;
- to trust God’s protection of our life while we serve Him;
- to be faithful to read God’s written word (the Bible), knowing that God will reveal Himself and His plans to His people.

Daniel was truly a mighty example of a man who consistently walked with God.

These “stories” are nothing if we do not turn them into personal examples of how God expects each and every one of His children to live. We should be understanding that these are not “stories,” but real events in real people’s lives. We have learned enough about Daniel to see that God was able to use him mightily to reach kings of enemy nations, revealing God to them – all because he was committed to walk with God, daily.

**Closing:** It would be good to close with a short prayer reinforcing today’s lesson. Always include any prayer requests you may have. *Today, pray that we will consistently and faithfully, walk with God and read His Word.*