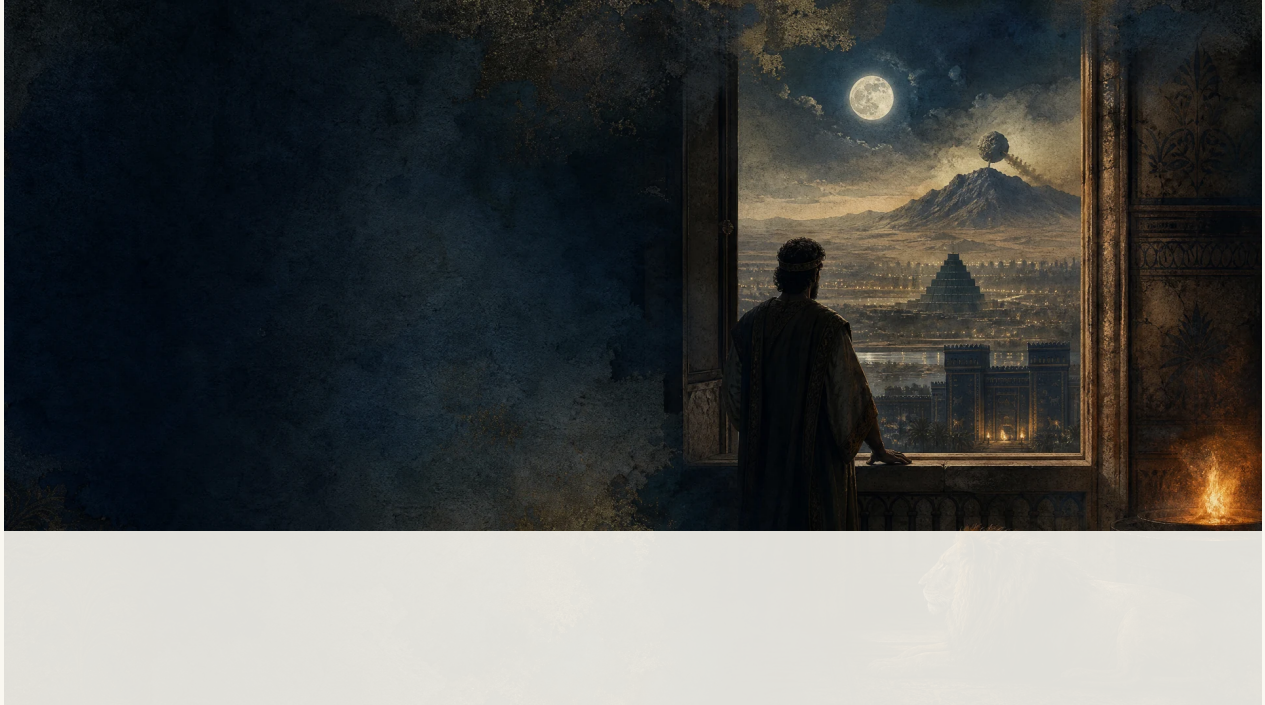




BIBLELUM / VISUAL BIBLE STUDY PACK

The Book of Daniel

Faithful Exile · God's Sovereignty · The Hope of His Kingdom

"The Most High is sovereign over the kingdoms of men."
Daniel 4:17

WHAT THIS GUIDE INCLUDES

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| 01 | Visual Overview Infographic | 02 | Daniel's Story in Motion |
| 03 | Chapter-by-Chapter Reading | 04 | Faithful Exile & Prayer |
| 05 | Key Themes & Theology | 06 | Discussion Guide |
| 07 | Symbolism & Imagery | 08 | Characters, Practice & Journal |

VISUAL OVERVIEW

Daniel: A Kingdom That Cannot Be Shaken

A full picture map of exile, empire, vision, prayer, judgment, and hope.

DANIEL | THE MOST HIGH RULES



Exile does not cancel vocation. Empire does not cancel worship. Vision does not cancel patient obedience.

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER READING

Court Tales: Faithfulness Under Pressure

Read each movement in context. Notice the pressure, the response, and the God who remains faithful.

Daniel 1:1–7**Exile and new names**

Daniel and his friends are taken from Jerusalem into Babylon's training program. Their pressure is not only geographic: names, food, education, and status invite a new allegiance.

Daniel 1:8–21**Resolved without withdrawal**

Daniel seeks a faithful path in public service, trusting God to give wisdom and favor. The story refuses both assimilation and isolated fear.

Daniel 2:1–23**The hidden thing belongs to God**

A king demands the impossible; Daniel gathers friends to pray and praises the God who reveals wisdom and mysteries.

Daniel 2:24–49**Stone, statue, and kingdom**

The great statue represents fragile human dominion. A stone not cut by human hands becomes a mountain: God's kingdom will outlast every empire.

Daniel 3:1–18**Worship under pressure**

Three Judeans refuse the golden image. Their courage is not a bargain for rescue: "even if he does not," they will not worship another god.

Daniel 3:19–30**Presence in the furnace**

God's servant is seen with them in the fire. Deliverance becomes public testimony that imperial threat cannot claim ultimate worship.

Daniel 4:1–18**Pride receives a warning**

Nebuchadnezzar's great tree dream exposes a kingdom swollen with self-glory and a ruler who has forgotten that life and rule are gifts.

Daniel 4:19–37**The Most High rules**

The king is humbled and restored when he praises heaven. The repeated lesson is clear: God gives kingdoms and is able to humble pride.

Daniel 5:1–16**A feast at the edge of judgment**

Belshazzar treats holy vessels as props for praise of false gods. Daniel refuses flattery and reads the writing as a moral summons.

Daniel 5:17–31**Numbered, weighed, divided**

A kingdom ends in a night. Daniel connects the judgment to remembered pride: Belshazzar knew the story of Nebuchadnezzar yet did not humble himself.

Daniel 6:1–15**A faithful rhythm of prayer**

Daniel's habitual prayer is made illegal. He does not make a spectacle, but he also does not hide his allegiance when law demands worshipful loyalty.

Daniel 6:16–28**The living God rescues**

Lions cannot overturn God's purpose. The king's decree acknowledges a kingdom that will not be destroyed.

CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER READING

Visions: The Kingdom Beyond Beasts

Read each movement in context. Notice the pressure, the response, and the God who remains faithful.

Daniel 7:1–14

Beasts and the Son of Man

Predatory kingdoms rise like beasts, but the Ancient of Days judges them and gives everlasting dominion to one like a son of man.

Daniel 7:15–28

Saints receive the kingdom

The vision names suffering honestly while locating history beneath God's final judgment and the shared inheritance of the holy people.

Daniel 8:1–14

Conflict is real but bounded

A ram, goat, and arrogant horn portray violent power. Even desecration has an appointed limit; God does not surrender history to chaos.

Daniel 8:15–27

Wisdom includes humility

Daniel receives explanation yet remains overwhelmed. Vision is not supplied to feed speculation but to form steadfast, humble obedience.

Daniel 9:1–19

Confession before restoration

Daniel reads Jeremiah's promise and responds with covenant confession, pleading not on Israel's righteousness but on God's great mercy.

Daniel 9:20–27

Hope reaches beyond the present

The difficult vision frames restoration inside God's larger work of ending rebellion and establishing righteousness. Read it with reverence, not calculation fever.

Daniel 10:1–21

Strength for a delayed answer

Daniel mourns and prays; a heavenly messenger strengthens him. God's answer may involve unseen conflict, but faithful prayer is not wasted.

Daniel 11:1–35

Kings rise and fall

Detailed conflict shows that political powers are real and cruel, yet none is ultimate. Wisdom is needed for endurance amid distortion and violence.

Daniel 11:36–45

Arrogance has an end

A self-exalting ruler appears invincible but comes to his end with none to help. Pride cannot secure an everlasting throne.

Daniel 12:1–4

Resurrection and wise endurance

Daniel's final horizon includes deliverance, resurrection, and the shining of those who turn many toward righteousness.

Daniel 12:5–13

Go your way and rest

Daniel is not given every answer. He is given a faithful vocation: go, endure, and rest in the inheritance God will give.

KEY THEMES

Four Lenses for Reading Daniel

The book's theology becomes a way of seeing public pressure, private faithfulness, and durable hope.

01 God's Sovereignty

Daniel 4:17

Daniel never denies the force of imperial power, but it repeatedly declares that the Most High gives and removes authority. This makes courage possible without political naivety.

Practice. Receive influence as stewardship. In one pressured situation, ask what faithfulness looks like before asking what guarantees success.

02 Faithful Exile

Daniel 1:8

Daniel and his friends learn Babylonian language and serve in court while refusing the worship and practices that would redefine their deepest loyalty.

Practice. Choose one visible practice—prayer, honesty, hospitality, Sabbath, or courage—that keeps your allegiance clear without contempt for neighbors.

03 Prayerful Hope

Daniel 9:18–19

Prayer in Daniel is thanksgiving, confession, intercession, and dependence. It is not control over God; it is participation in God's mercy under pressure.

Practice. Bring one anxiety to God using Daniel 9: name reality, confess need, appeal to mercy, and take the next faithful step.

04 The Son of Man's Kingdom

Daniel 7:13–14

Daniel 7 contrasts beastly rule with a human, everlasting dominion given by the Ancient of Days. The New Testament draws deeply on this vision to name Jesus' authority.

Practice. Let the enduring kingdom recalibrate one fear shaped by headlines, status, or institutional power.

SYMBOLISM & IMAGERY

Symbols That Reframe Power

Historical setting and theological witness belong together.

01 The Stone and Mountain

Daniel 2:34–35

Historical Context

Ancient kingdoms celebrated monuments that seemed permanent. Daniel's stone is "not cut by human hands," making its origin and endurance divine rather than imperial.

Theological Meaning

The image announces that God's reign grows beyond and outlasts every impressive system built on human glory.

02 The Furnace

Daniel 3:16–18, 24–25

Historical Context

Furnaces were technologies of power as well as places of execution. The scene makes forced worship visible: loyalty is tested where fear and public conformity meet.

Theological Meaning

God's presence does not always remove danger first; it forms a people who worship God rather than safety.

SYMBOLISM & IMAGERY

Symbols That Reframe Power

Historical setting and theological witness belong together.

01 Beasts and Horns

Daniel 7:2–8

Historical Context

Apocalyptic imagery unveils an empire's moral character rather than offering a simple newspaper code. Beastly power preys, boasts, and dehumanizes.

Theological Meaning

The visions teach discernment: do not confuse strength, spectacle, or success with godly authority.

02 Ancient of Days and Son of Man

Daniel 7:9–14

Historical Context

The courtroom image overturns imperial propaganda: history ends before God's throne, and true dominion is received rather than seized.

Theological Meaning

Hope is anchored in God's judgment and the Son of Man's reign, so suffering and violence are neither final nor meaningless.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Listen · Interpret · Practice

Eight questions for a group or personal study; let the text lead the conversation.

01

ICEBREAKER

Daniel 1:1–21

Where do you feel pressure to fit in or keep a part of your faith private? What makes that pressure subtle rather than dramatic?

Leader note: Read slowly, name what is observable, and make room for more than one faithful application.

02

OBSERVATION

Daniel 1:8

In Daniel 1, what does Daniel accept about life in Babylon, and what boundary does he keep? What does this combination teach about faithful presence?

Leader note: Read slowly, name what is observable, and make room for more than one faithful application.

03

INTERPRETATION

Daniel 2:31–35; 7:2–14

Compare the statue in Daniel 2 with the beasts in Daniel 7. What do these images reveal about human kingdoms and their claims to permanence?

Leader note: Read slowly, name what is observable, and make room for more than one faithful application.

04

OBSERVATION

Daniel 3:16–18; 6:10

What do Daniel 3 and Daniel 6 show about public worship, ordinary habits, and courage before a crisis comes?

Leader note: Read slowly, name what is observable, and make room for more than one faithful application.

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Listen · Interpret · Practice

Eight questions for a group or personal study; let the text lead the conversation.

05

INTERPRETATION

Daniel 4:17; 7:13–14

Read Daniel 4:17 and 7:13–14. How do they reshape the way you evaluate leaders, nations, institutions, or your own influence?

Leader note: Read slowly, name what is observable, and make room for more than one faithful application.

06

PRAYER PROMPT

Daniel 9:4–19

What is modeled by Daniel 9's confession? Which words of the prayer help you speak honestly about both communal need and God's mercy?

Leader note: Read slowly, name what is observable, and make room for more than one faithful application.

07

APPLICATION

Daniel 7:2–8

What would it mean to resist “beastly” patterns—pride, dehumanization, coercion, fear—in one relationship, workplace, or online setting this week?

Leader note: Read slowly, name what is observable, and make room for more than one faithful application.

08

APPLICATION

Daniel 12:13

Where do you need the hope of Daniel 12:13: “Go your way till the end... and you will rest”? Name one patient, faithful next step.

Leader note: Read slowly, name what is observable, and make room for more than one faithful application.

KEY CHARACTERS

People who show the pressure and promise of Daniel

Daniel

Skilled public service joined to an unhidden rhythm of prayer.

His friends

Worship that does not depend on guaranteed rescue.

Nebuchadnezzar

Power humbled into praise when he learns who gives kingdoms.

Ancient of Days

The holy judge before whom beastly empires lose their final claim.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION — LIVING IT OUT TODAY

Name the pressure: Where is fear asking for your ultimate loyalty?

Keep one rhythm: Choose a daily prayer, truthful practice, or act of worship this week.

Hope actively: Let God's enduring kingdom free one costly but faithful action.

PERSONAL JOURNAL & REFLECTION



Illuminate Your Journey with BibleLum Premium.

Start your 3-day full-access journey today. Explore every Study Pack, AI insights, and visual guide — unlocked for your personal growth.

Full Access Trial

3 days to explore all 66 books.

AI Theological Guide

Get instant answers as you study.

Seamless Experience

Ad-free, focused, and deeply visual.

Activate your trial now to download the Complete 66-Bible-Book Study Pack PDF — yours to keep forever.



Scan to Start Your 3-Day Full-Access Trial

www.biblelum.com/study-pack/daniel

"His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away." — Daniel 7:14