

HEAVEN RULES



A STUDY OF DANIEL

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS • AUDITORIUM
JANUARY-MARCH 2015
TAUGHT BY JASON HARDIN

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- Lesson 1 (Jan 7) **Daniel 1**
The God Who Works Behind the Scenes
- Lesson 2 (Jan 14) **Daniel 2**
The God Who Establishes His Kingdom
- Lesson 3 (Jan 21) **Daniel 3**
The God Who Delivers
- Lesson 4 (Jan 28) **Daniel 4**
The God Who Rules the Kingdom of Men
- Lesson 5 (Feb 4) **Daniel 5**
The God in Whose Hand is Your Breath
- Lesson 6 (Feb 11) **Daniel 6**
The God Who Rescues
- Lesson 7 (Feb 18) Four Great Empires in Old Testament History
- Lesson 8 (Feb 25) **Daniel 7**
The God Who Judges
- Lesson 9 (Mar 4) **Daniel 8**
The God Who Bestows and Breaks Power
- Lesson 10 (Mar 11) **Daniel 9**
The God Who Sees, Hears, and Acts
- Lesson 11 (Mar 18) **Daniel 10**
The God Who Wins the Ultimate Victory
- Lesson 12 (Mar 25) Kings and Kingdoms of Intertestamental History
- Lesson 13 (Apr 1) **Daniel 11-12**
The God Who Reigns Over History

• LESSON 1 (January 7) •

The God Who Works Behind the Scenes

DANIEL: “God is my Judge”

BACKGROUND:

- The third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah (605 B.C. – 2 Kings 23:36-24:7)
- God had promised exile if his covenant with Israel was not respected (Lev 26:27-39; Deut 4:25-27; 28:58-68).
- When God’s prophets warned that Babylon was going to bring disaster, the people refused to listen (Jer 7:1-4; 20:7; 26:1-24).
- Daniel and his three friends were uprooted and transported 500 miles away.
- “The first year of King Cyrus” (Dan 1:21) was 539 B.C.

QUESTIONS WORTH THINKING ABOUT:

1. “And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into [Nebuchadnezzar’s] hand...” (Dan 1:2) What is that statement communicating?
2. What did the names of the four Hebrews originally mean? What did their new Babylonian names mean? (Dan 1:6-7)
3. How do we know God was working behind the scenes in Daniel 1? What impact should that truth have on our everyday lives?
4. How was the resolve of these young men a living answer to the call of Proverbs 3:5-6?

CLOSING THOUGHT: “The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying, ‘Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.’ He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision” (Psalm 2:2-4)