

DANIEL THE LION
DANIEL 1:1 / 8-12-18 / PM

I. FIRST, WHEN DID DANIEL LIVE?

- A. A date for Daniel is mentioned —1:1.
 - 1. There were three military campaigns and exiles of Jerusalem.
 - a. 605 B.C. ---Daniel exiled.
 - b. 597 B.C.—Ezekiel exiled.
 - c. 586 B.C.—Jeremiah kidnapped to Egypt
 - 2. The book of Daniel extends to the third year of King Cyrus in 536 B.C. According to 10:1. This covers a time span of about 70 years.
- B. Daniel was thought to be around 15 when exiled, thus at the close of the book he would be around 85.
 - 1. He was educated as a Babylonian along with other young men—1:6-7.
 - 2. Daniel became a respected advisor to the King when he interpreted the king's dream in chapter 2.
 - 3. Daniel was resented by the other advisors.
 - 4. Daniel's three friends thrown into the fire for not bowing down to the king's image in chapter 3.
 - 5. Daniel was thrown into a lion's den for his refusal to stop praying in chapter 6.

II. SECOND, WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE BOOK OF DANIEL?

- A. There is little doubt that Daniel is the author of the book that bears his name.
 - 1. He speaks in second person in chapters 1-6.
 - 2. Beginning in chapter 7 he starts speaking in first person.

3. Daniel is mentioned in five other places in the Bible outside of his book.

Ezekiel 14:14 (Repeated in 14:20)

Ezekiel 28:3

Matthew 24:15 (Repeated in Mark 13:14)

- B. What kind of person was Daniel?

1. He was dedicated to God—1:8.
2. He was a man of prayer.
3. He was humble—3:30.
4. He was courageous—6:10a.
5. He trusted God—6:23.
6. He was a prophet—chapters 7-12.

- C. The book is written in two languages.

1. Hebrew—1:1-2:4a and 8:1-21:13.
2. Aramaic—2:4b-7:28.

III. LESSONS FROM DANIEL'S LIFE.

1. We should defend our faith but not be obnoxious about it—1:11-13.
2. We should ask others to pray for us—2:17.
3. We should be quick to give thanks and praise to God—2:19 and 23.
4. Be willing to take a stand for God even if it's unpopular—3:16-18.
5. Pray and intercede for others—9:19.