

CLASH^{OF} KINGDOMS

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

PERSONAL STUDY GUIDE

Chapter 3: July 4 - July 9

MONDAY

- **Read:** Daniel 3
- **Highlight** or note some interesting words, sentences or paragraphs.
- **Write** down any questions you might have.

Tip: Try reading it twice, in two different translations



Questions

TUESDAY

- **Read:** Daniel 3:1-7
- We are not told when the building of this image took place, but the first six chapters of Daniel are in chronological order so it was after the dream and its interpretation. Do you think that the dream had anything to do with Nebuchadnezzar's decision to build the image?
- How tall was the image in centimetres?
- Nebuchadnezzar calls a group of officials to the unveiling of the statue. The description of the group is verbose, and repetitive. There's a similar feature with the list of musical instruments. This is a curious literary feature, why do you think it's written this way?

CLUE 1 cubit = 45cm

CLUE

The author (Daniel) is being funny here...

- For your own amusement, read ahead and count how many other times the list of instruments comes up in the chapter!
- The commandment extends to "peoples, nations, and languages" (v4). What is the significance of the global scope of Nebuchadnezzar's command?

WEDNESDAY

- **Read:** Daniel 3:8-18
- Why were the Chaldeans out to accuse (and ultimately execute!) Shadrach, Meshach & Abednego?
- List the three accusations that the Chaldeans bring against these young Jewish men (v12):



CLUE Read Daniel 2:48-49

Notes

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

- Nebuchadnezzar is clearly furious, but offers the youth a 'lifeline'. Why does he do this?
- Why did the youth refuse to obey the king's command?



CLUE Read Exodus 20:3-5

THURSDAY

- **Read:** Daniel 3:19-23
- In Aramaic (the language in which this passage is written) the phrase '*and the expression of his face*' (v19 ESV) is literally translated '*and the **image** of his face*'. This is the same word for the 'statue' in v1: "*King Nebuchadnezzar made an **image** of gold...*" (3:1 ESV). What is the significance of this?
- The description of the attempted murder of the Jewish youth describes exaggerated rage on Nebuchadnezzar's behalf. What does this tell you about him as a ruler?



CLUE Think about the implications of chapter 2, as it pertains to God's intended plan for human rule.

- Why do you think there's an explicit description of the Jewish youth's clothing?

CLUE

Read Daniel 3:27

FRIDAY

- **Read:** Daniel 3:24-27
- Compare v25 in at least three different translations.
- Who, or what, do you think this is referring to?
- How does Nebuchadnezzar describe the God who has rescued these young men?

Tip: Read it in the NET version, available at netbible.org



CLUE

Read Isaiah 43:1-2

SATURDAY

- **Read:** Daniel 3:28-30
- What has Nebuchadnezzar learned from the example of the Jewish youth? List three things:

Notes

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

- Compare Nebuchadnezzar's view of Israel's God in Daniel
 - 2:47
 - 3:15
 - 3:28-30
- Reflect on how Nebuchadnezzar's view of the 'Most High God' is gradually forming.

Extra: Sneak a peak at chapter 4:1-3 for extra insight!

