



Daniel Overview

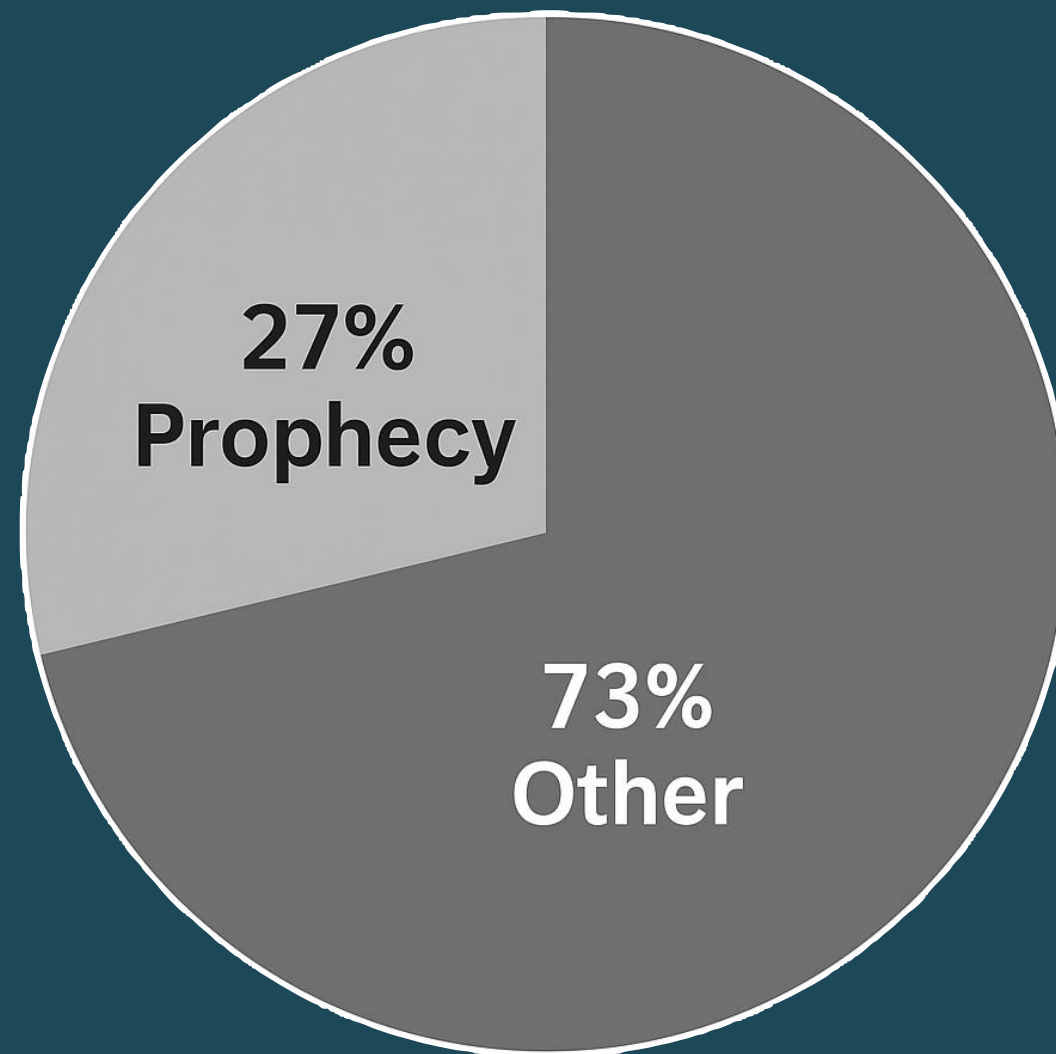
R12:2

by Dr. Ken Boa and Bill Ibsen



Why Study Prophecy?

1. Prophecy is a major part of divine revelation.



2. Revelation 1:3 promises special blessings
on those who study prophecy.

“Blessed is the one who reads,
and those who hear the words
of the prophecy
and keep the things which
are written in it;
for the time is near.”

3. Jesus Christ is the subject of prophecy - it is a witness for Him

“...For the testimony of Jesus
is the spirit of prophecy.”

Revelation 19:10

4. Prophecy gives us a proper perspective in life.

5. Prophecy helps us understand the whole Bible.

6. Prophecy is a tool for evangelism.

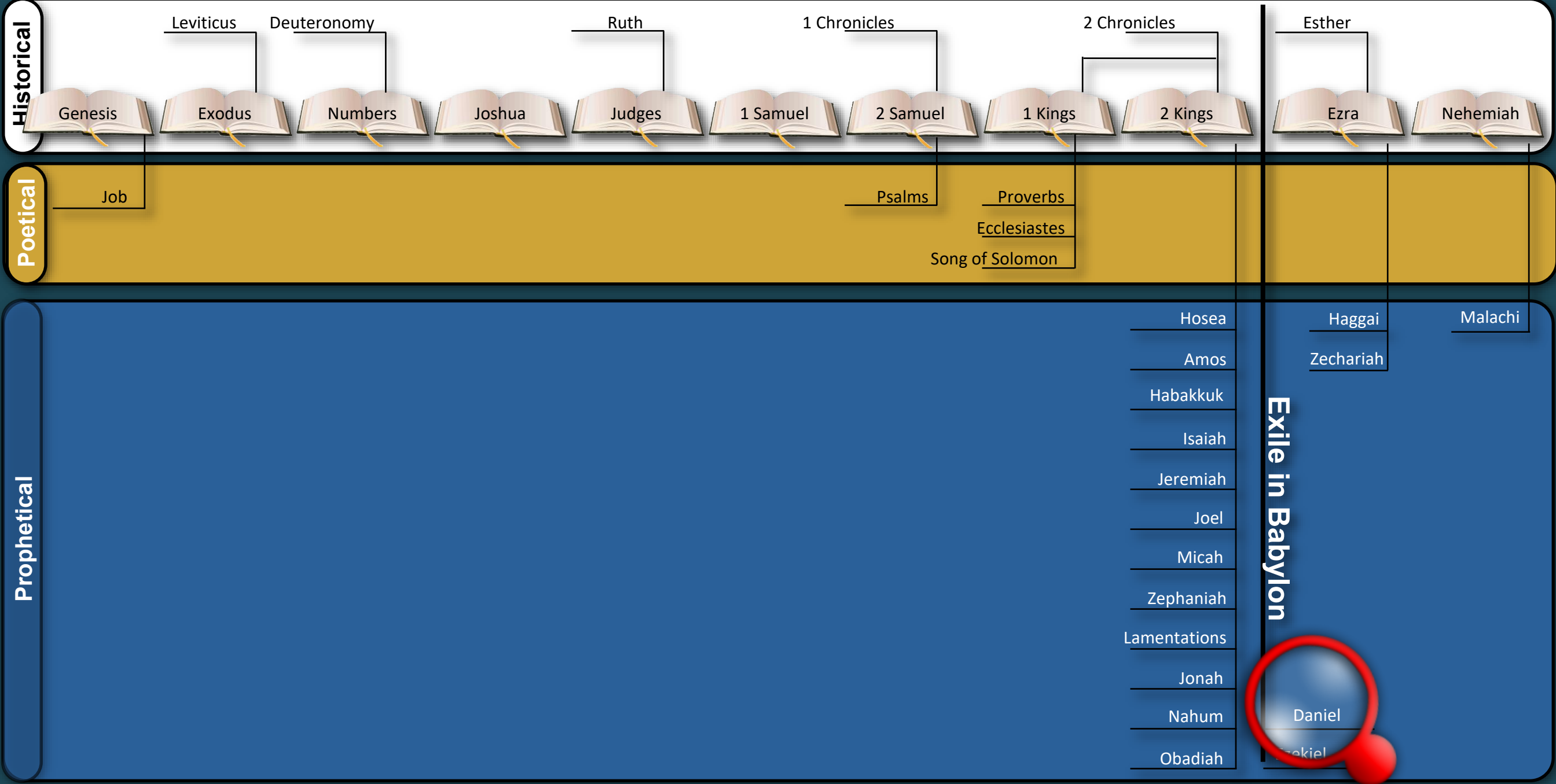
7. Prophecy helps protect people from heresy.

8. Prophecy motivates us to live godly lives
in light of eternity.

9. Prophecy reveals the sovereignty of God
over time and history.

10. Prophecy proves the truth of God's Word.

Old Testament Structure

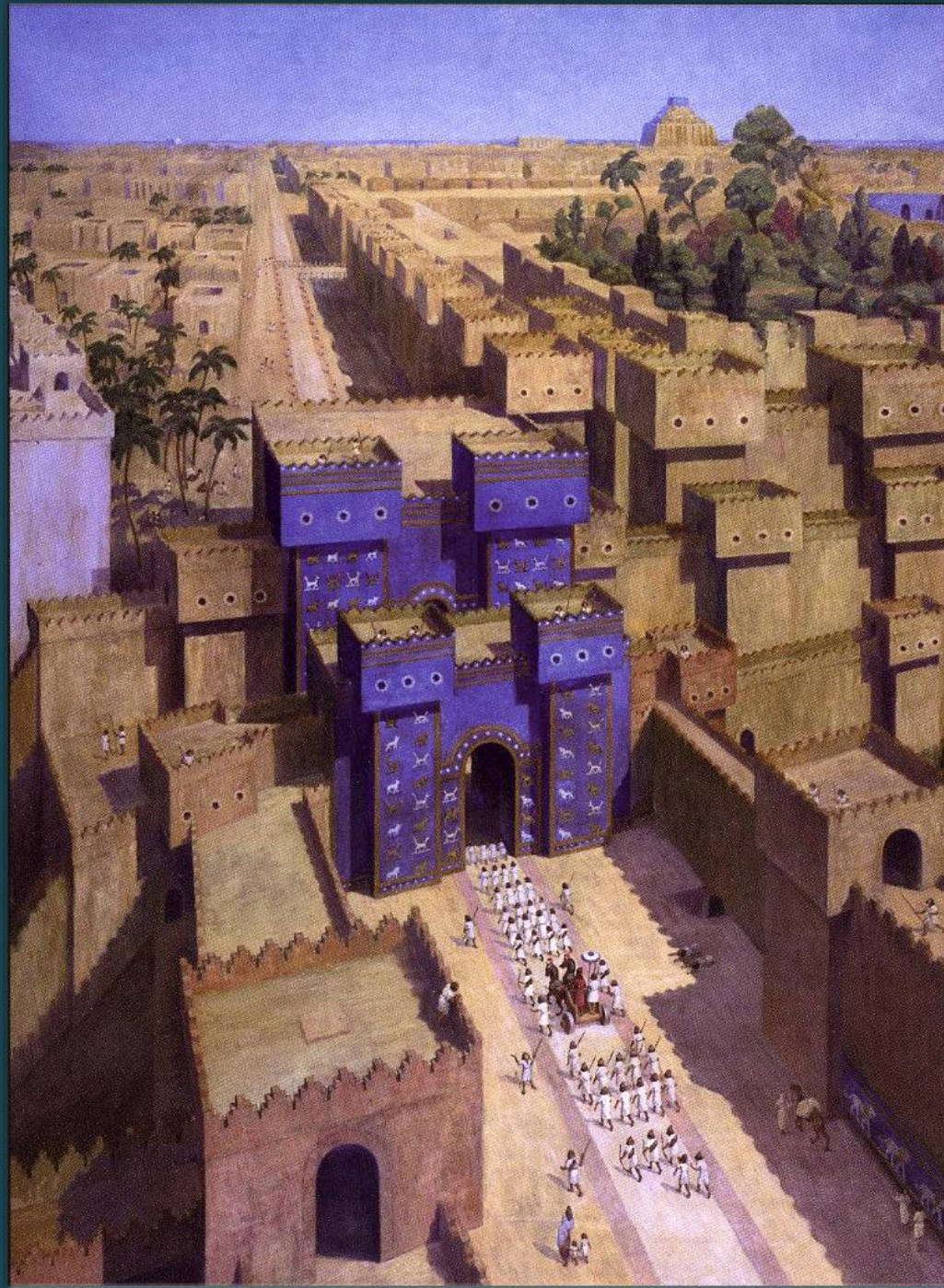




Daniel in the Lion's Den, Peter Paul Reubens, c. 1615

Introduction and Title

Introduction



Babylon's Ishtar Gate, Unknown artist and date

- Daniel's life and ministry
- 70 years of Babylonian Captivity

Introduction



Daniel and His Friends, Unknown artist and date

- Deported at age 16
- Picked for government service
- God's prophetic mouthpiece to Jews and Gentiles

Introduction



Introduction



Belshazzar's Feast, John Martin, 1826

- God's guidance
- God's intervention
- God's power

Title

- Daniyèl or Danìel = “God Is My Judge”
- Named after the author
- Greek, Latin, English: Daniel

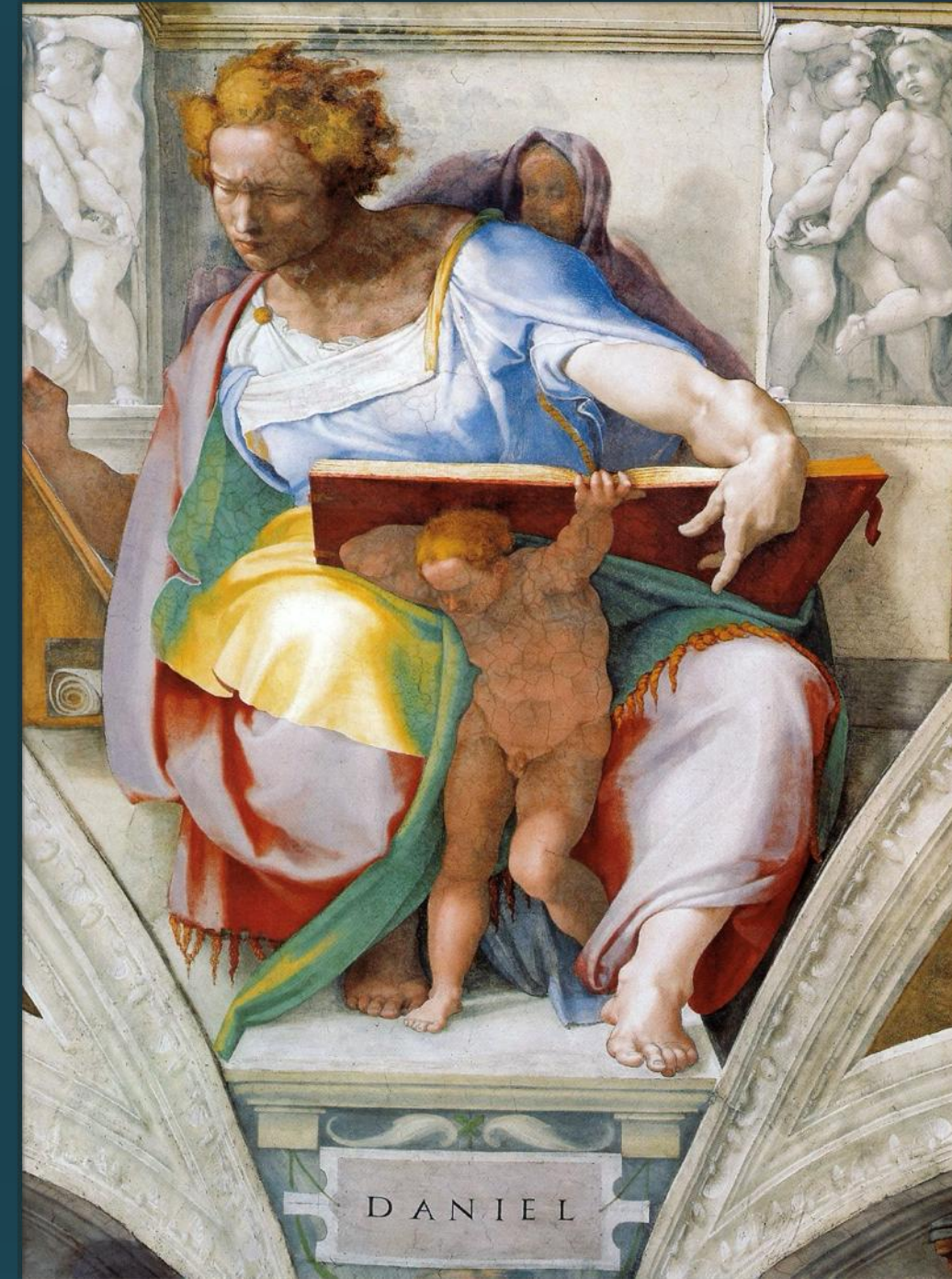


Daniel (detail), Michelangelo Buonarroti, 1511

Author

Author: Daniel

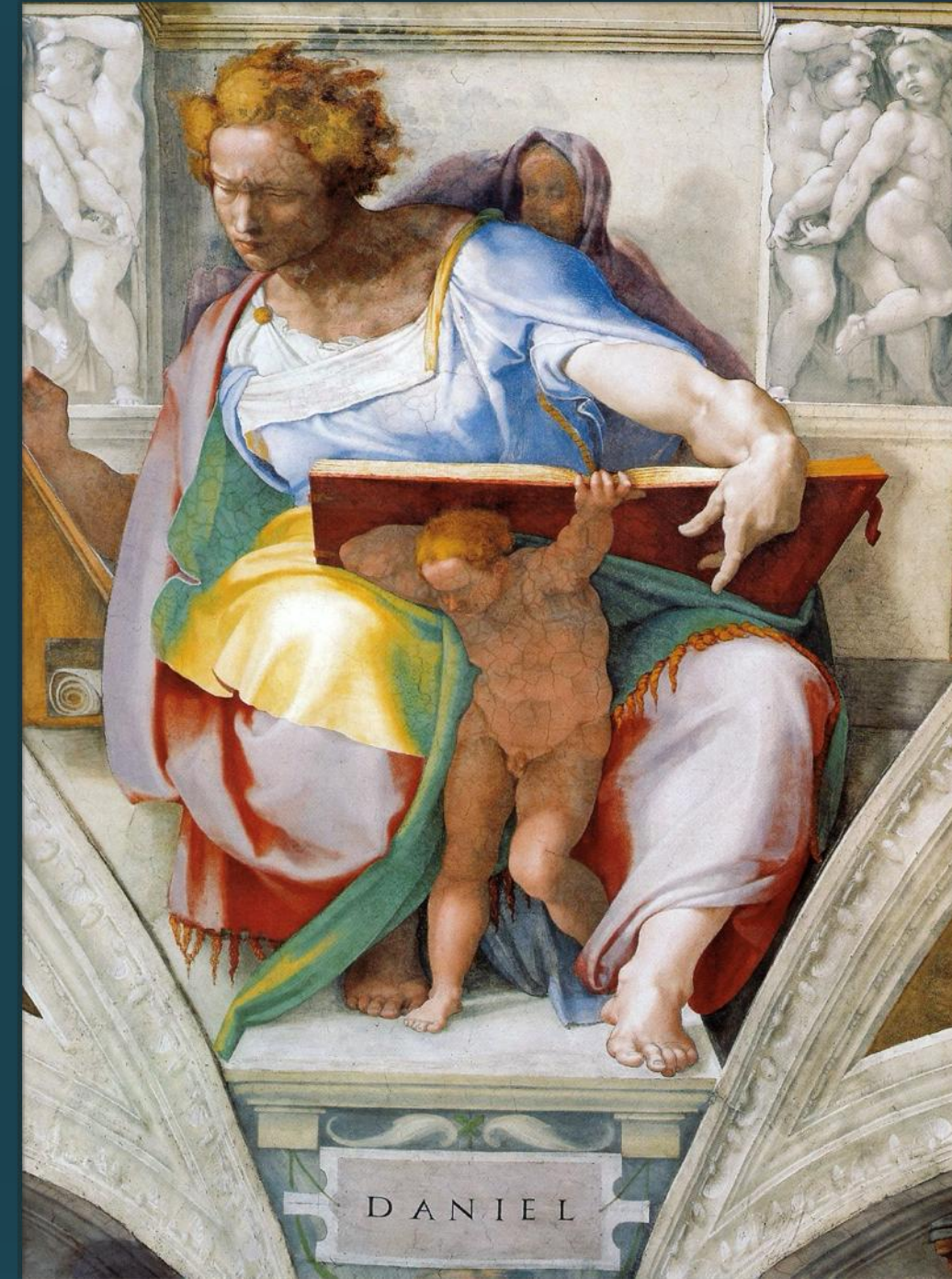
- Judean noble families
- “young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking and gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand” (1:4)



Daniel, Michelangelo Buonarroti, 1511

Author: Daniel

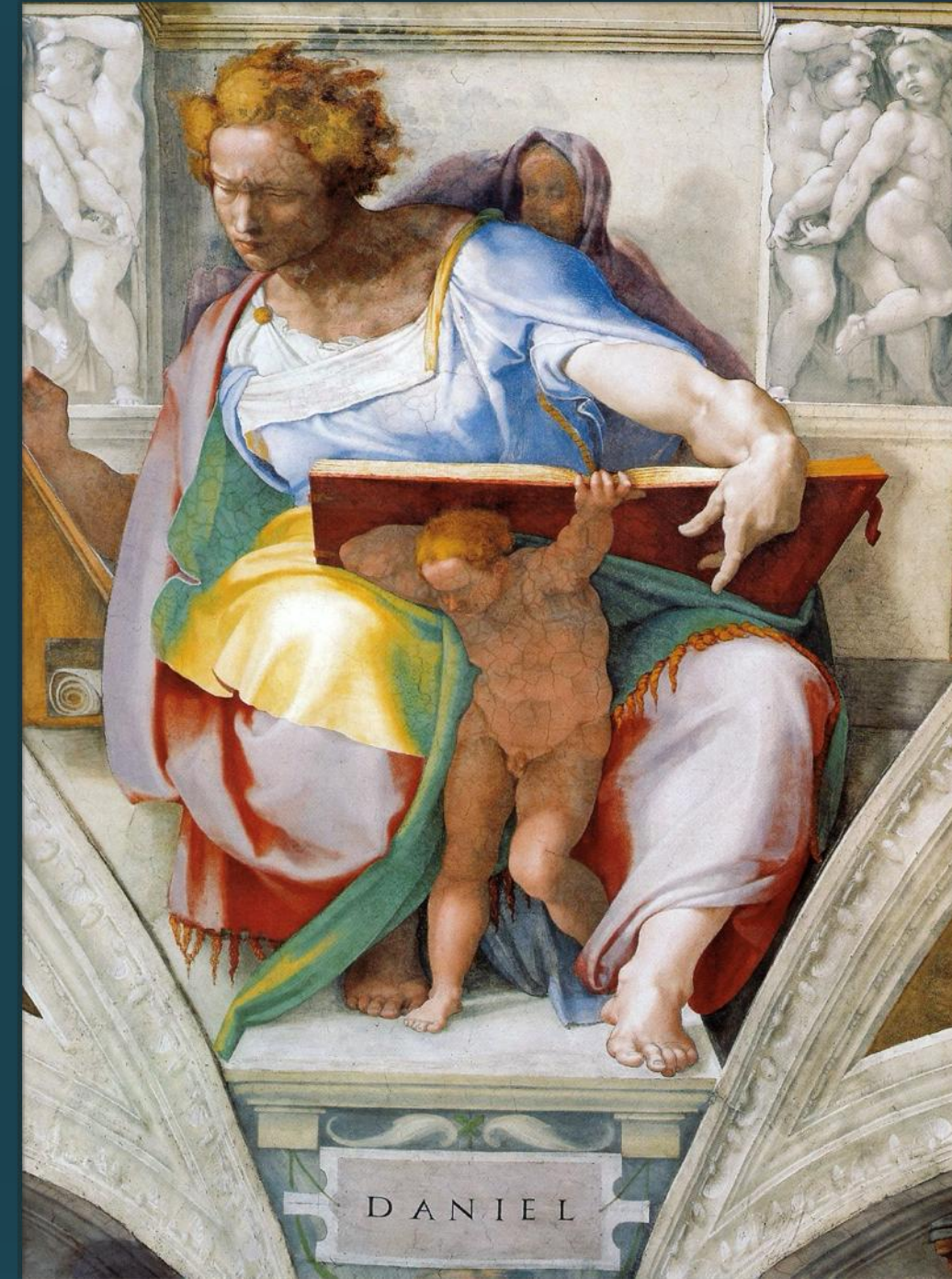
- Re-identification process
- Belteshazzar = “Bel Protect His Life”
(see 1:7; 4:8)



Daniel, Michelangelo Buonarroti, 1511

Author: Daniel

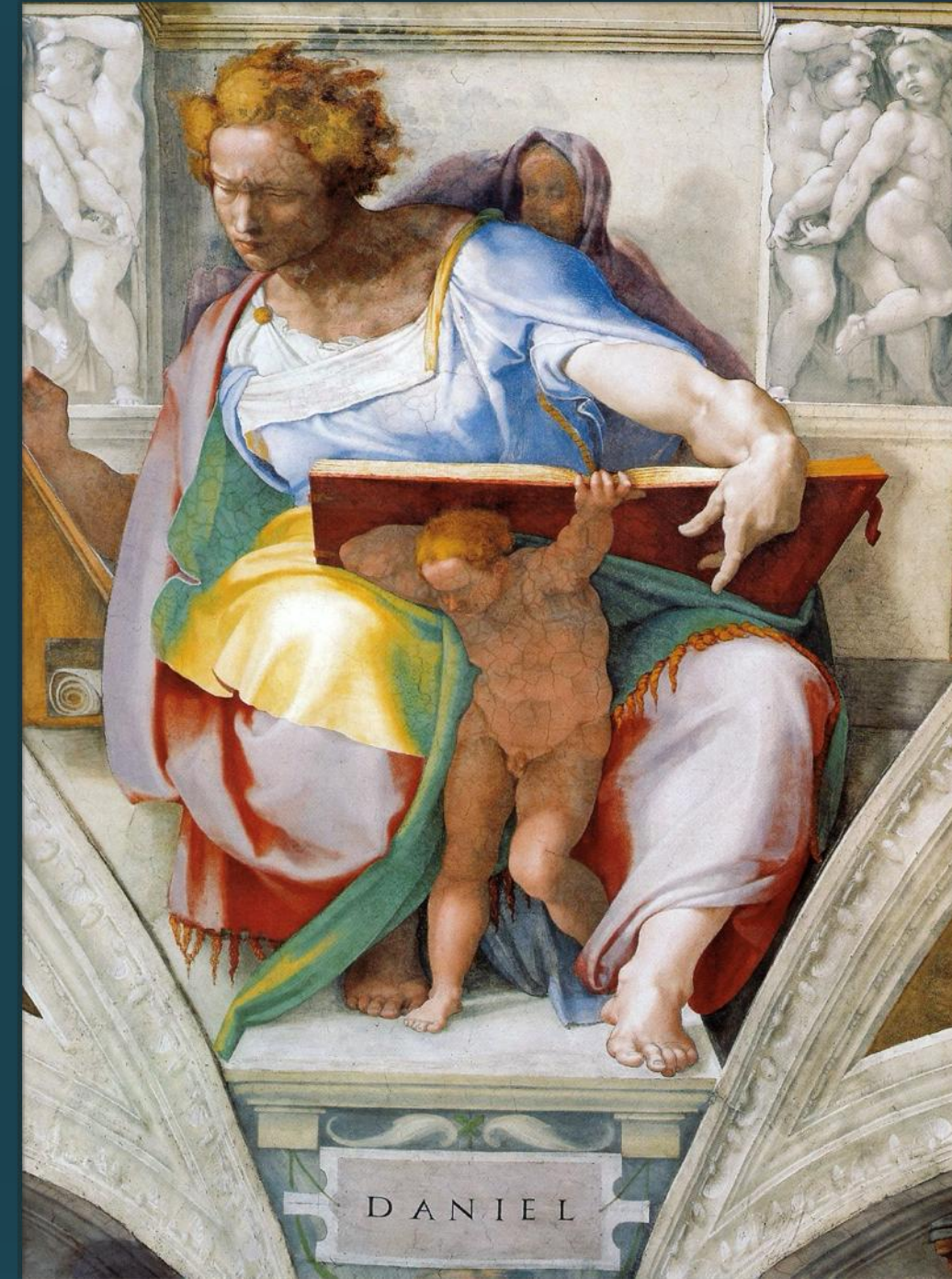
- Daniel's wisdom and interpretative abilities
- Served Nebuchadnezzar and Darius



Daniel, Michelangelo Buonarroti, 1511

Author: Daniel

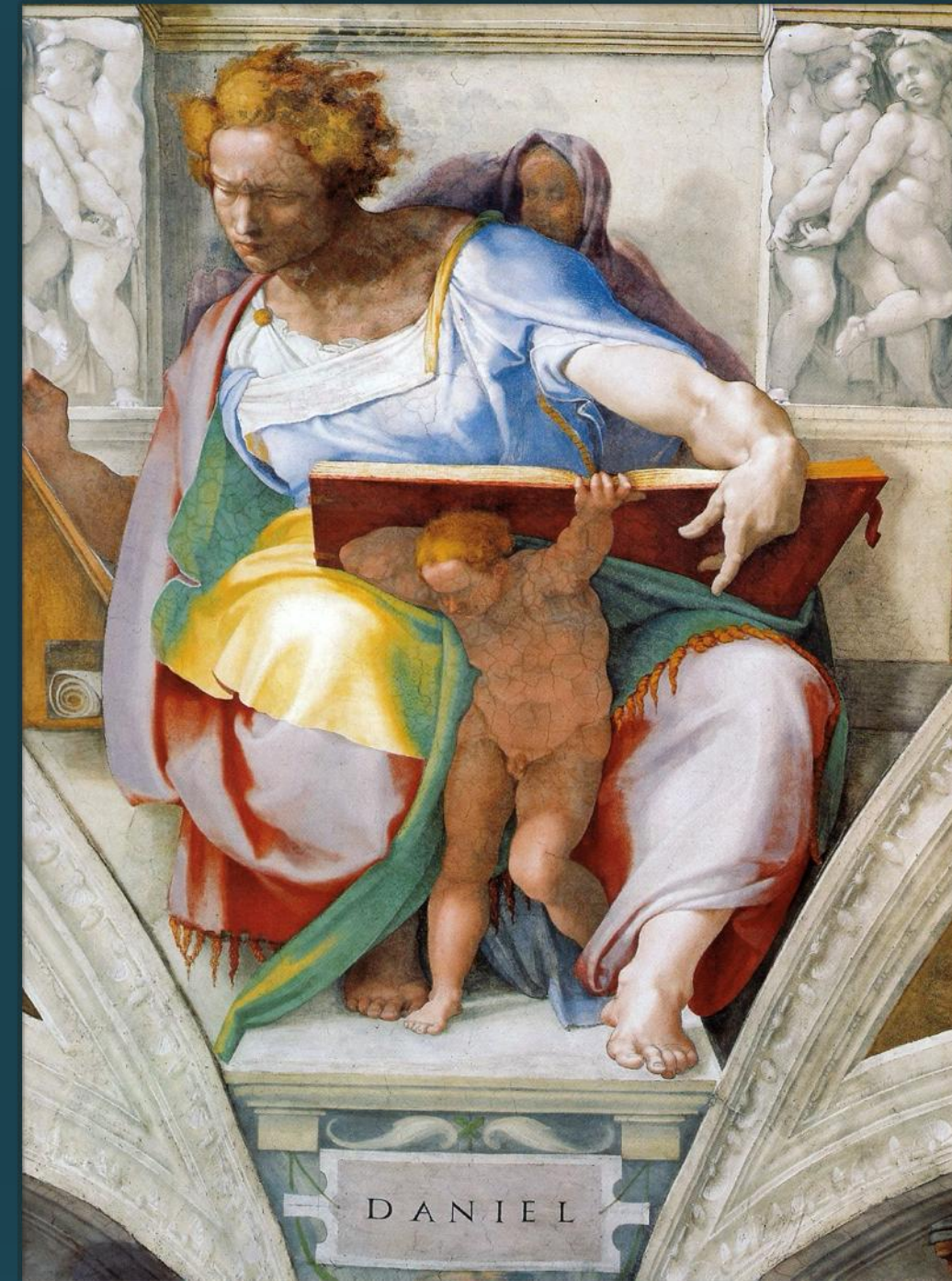
- Nothing negative is written about Daniel
- Life characterized by faith, prayer, courage, consistency, and lack of compromise



Daniel, Michelangelo Buonarroti, 1511

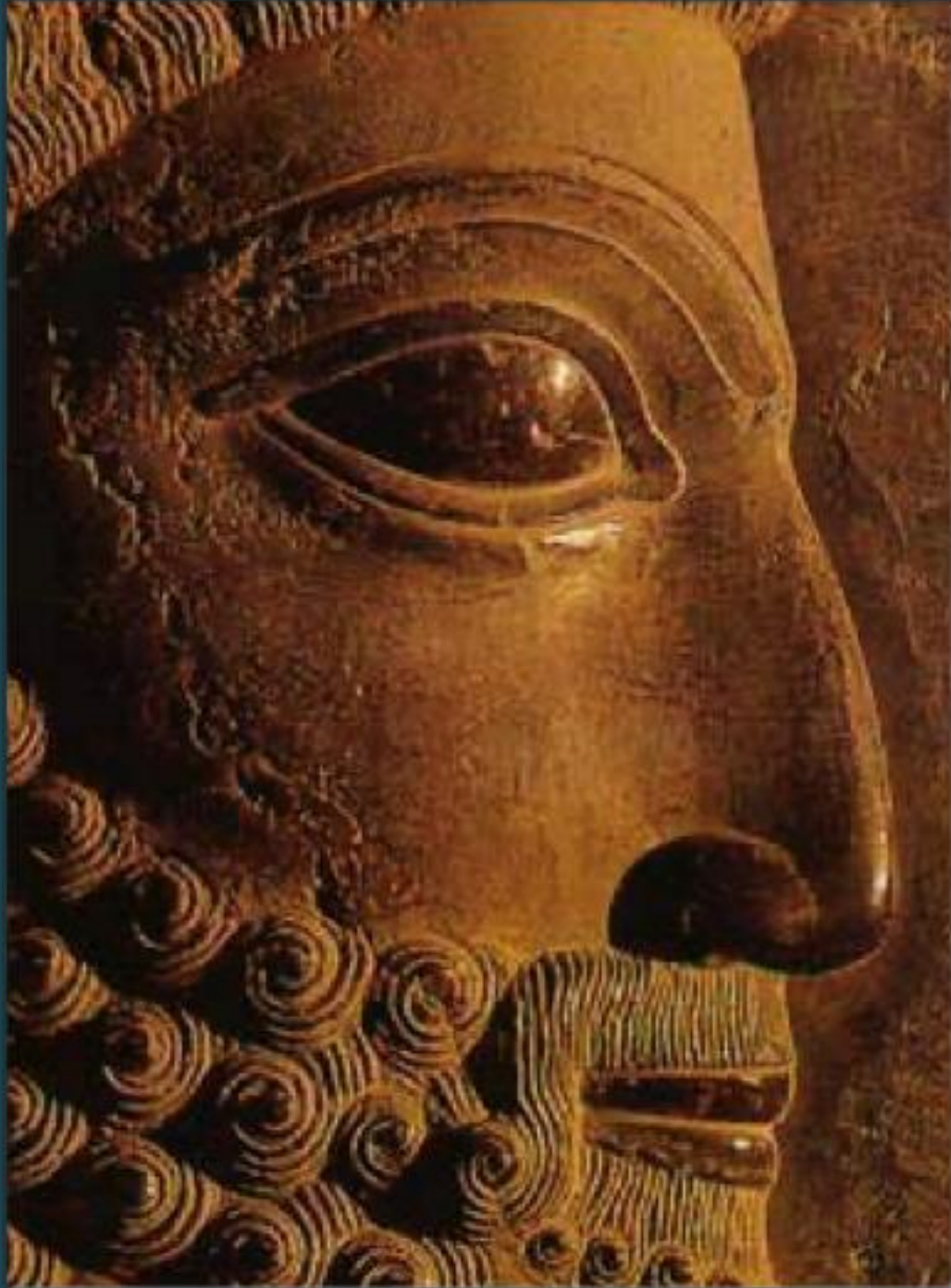
Author: Daniel

- “Greatly beloved” (9:23; 10:11, 19)
- Mentioned 3x by Ezekiel



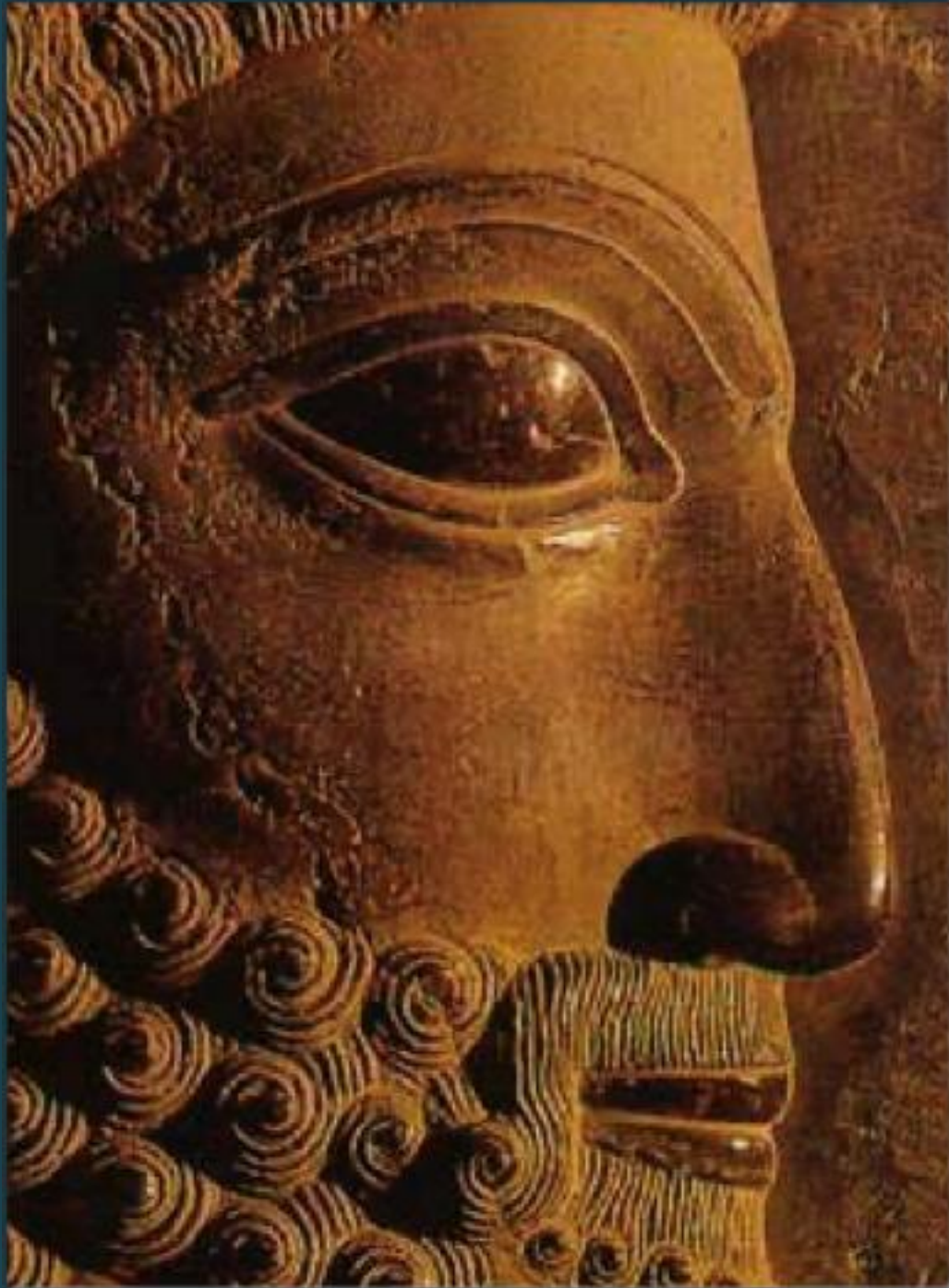
Daniel, Michelangelo Buonarroti, 1511

Author: Daniel



- Daniel claimed authorship (12:4)
- Uses autobiographical first person from 7:2 onward

Authorship Affirmation

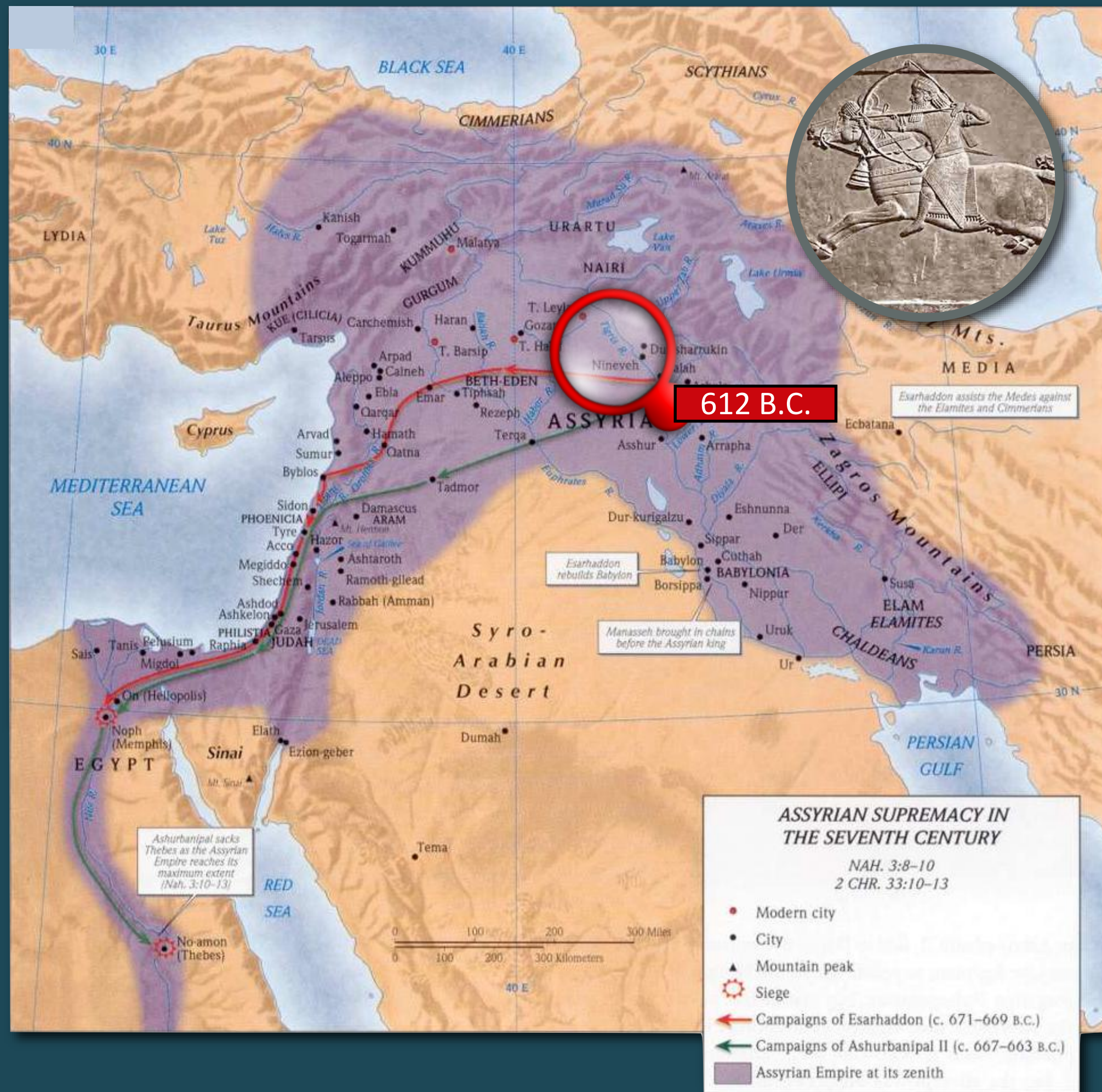


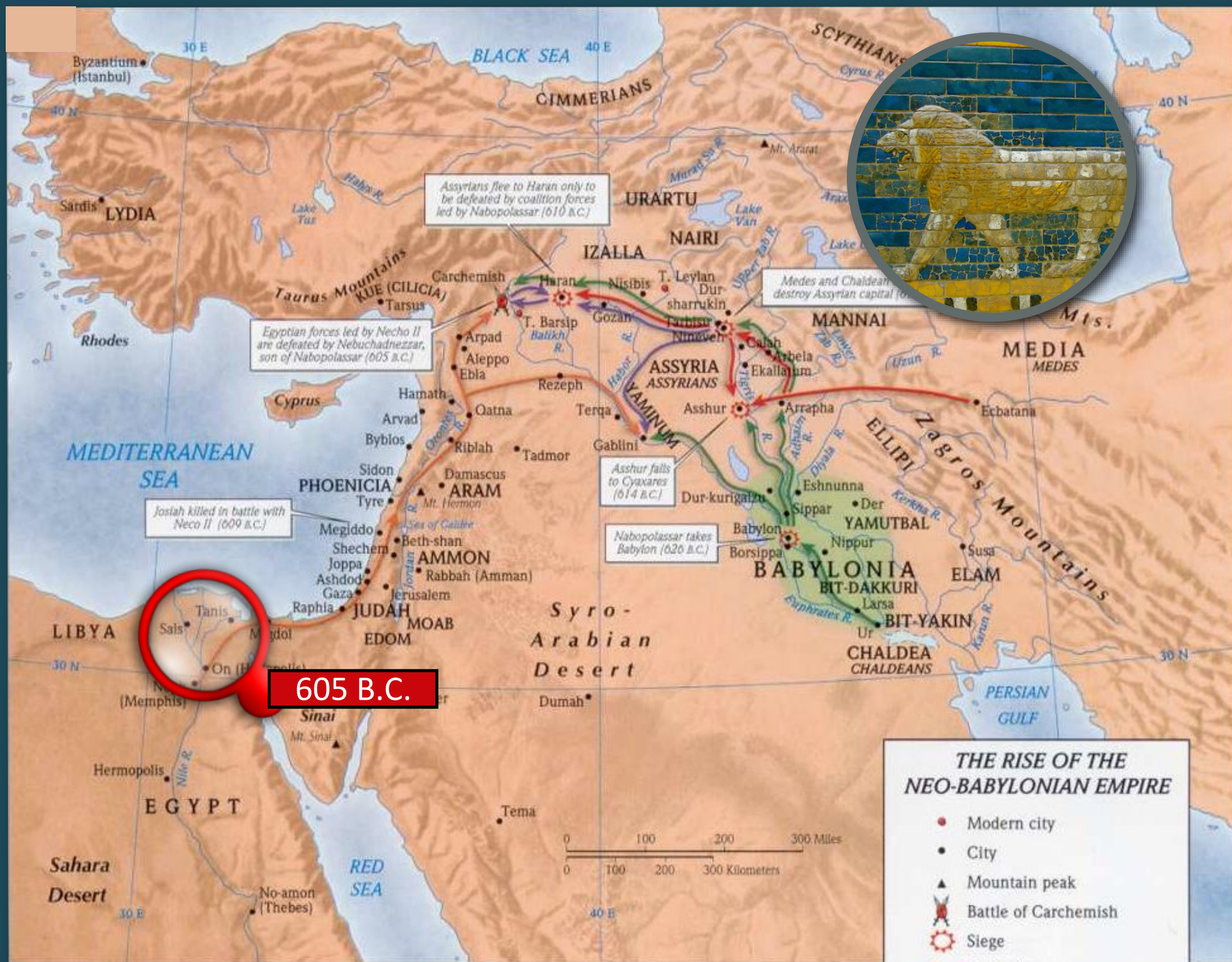
- Jewish Talmud agrees that Daniel was the author
- Christ attributes a quote from “Daniel the prophet” (Matthew 24:15)



Ishtar Gate Brick Frieze, Pergamon Museum, Berlin, Germany

Date and Setting









Dating Questions

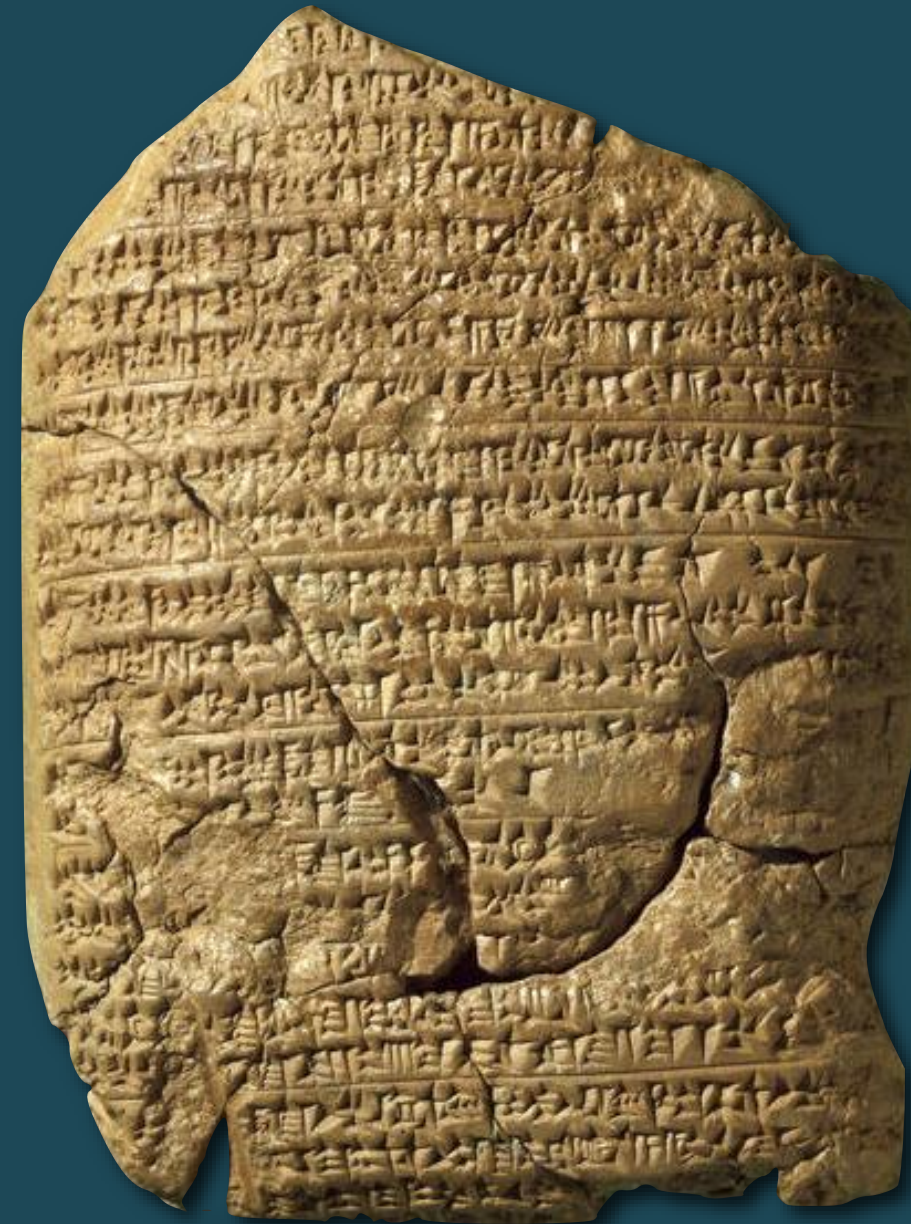
- 2nd century B.C. vs. 6th century B.C.



Ishtar Gate Brick Frieze (Detail), Pergamon Museum, Berlin, Germany

6th Century B.C. Dating

- Prophetic argument
- Ch. 11: >100 specific prophecies
- Theological bias



Babylonian Chronicle, 550-400 B.C.
Tells of Jehoiakim and Nebuchadnezzar
British Museum, London

6th Century B.C. Dating

- Linguistic argument
- Aramaic (2-7)
- Persian and Greek words



Nebuchadnezzar's Statue, Artist's rendition

6th Century B.C. Dating

- Historical argument
- Haran inscriptions
- Darius the Mede (5:31; 6:1) = Gubaru



Nabonidus Cylinder, Sippar, (556-539)



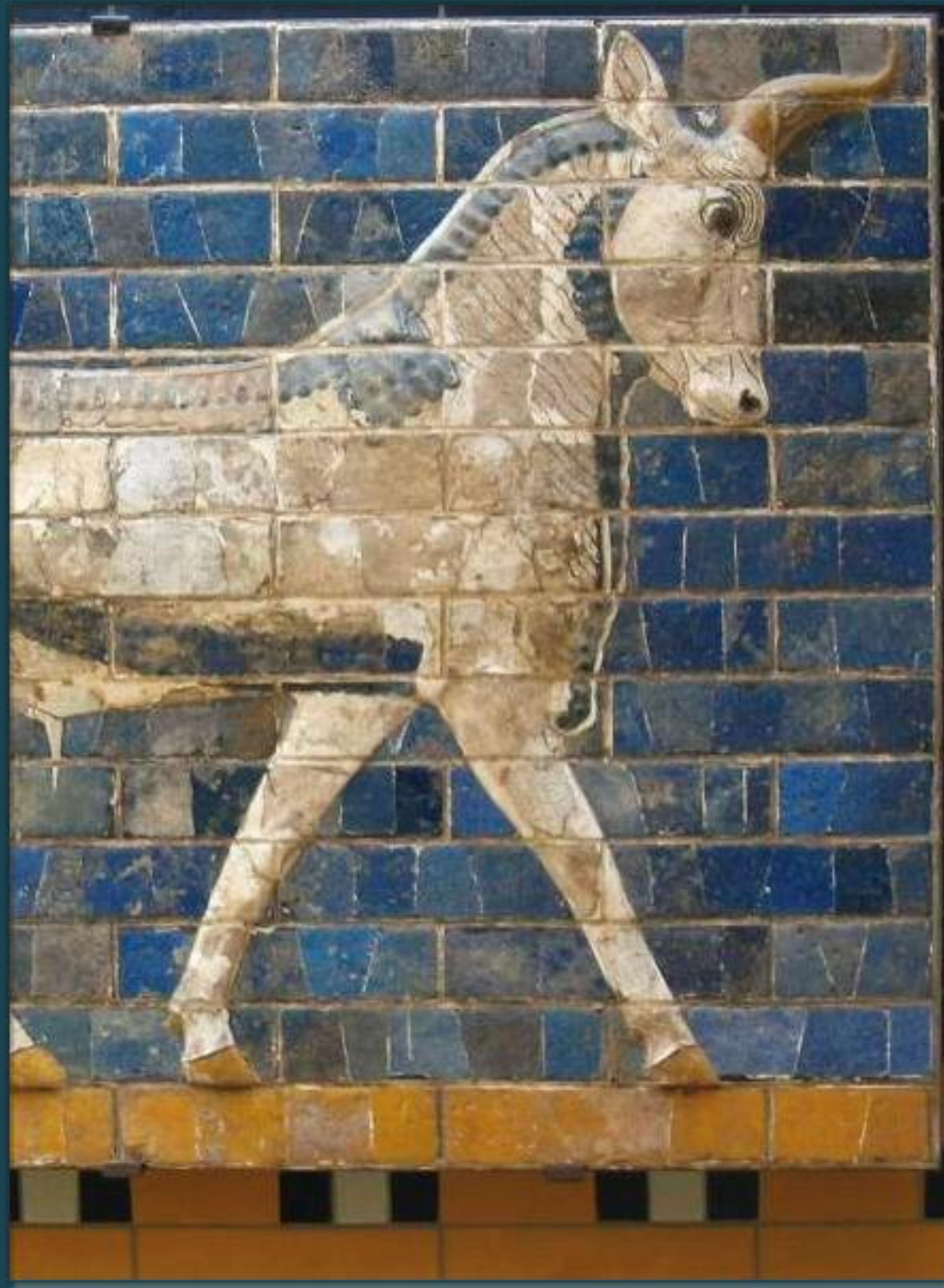
Talk Thru

The Apocalypse of the Old Testament



- Detailed and comprehensive sweep of prophetic history
- Hebrew - Aramaic - Hebrew

The Apocalypse of the Old Testament



- Theme: God's sovereign control of world history
- Human kingdoms will come and go, but God's will last forever

Talk Thru Daniel

Focus	History of Daniel 1:1 1:21		Prophetic Plan for the Gentiles 2:1 7:28				c Plan of Israel 8:1 12:13					
Divisions	Personal Life of Daniel 1:1 1:21		Vision of Nebuchadnezzar 2:1 4:37	Vision of Belshazzar 5:1 5:31	Decree of Darius 6:1 6:28	Four Beasts 7:1 7:28	Vision of Ram & He-Goat 8:1 8:27	Vision of Seventy Weeks 9:1 9:27	Vision of Israel's Future 10:1 12:13			
Topics	Daniel's Background		Daniel Interprets Others' Dreams				Angel Interprets Daniel's Dreams					
	Hebrew		Aramaic				Hebrew					
Place	Babylonia/Persia											
Time	c. 605-536 B.C.											



Throne (Detail), Pergamon Museum, Berlin, Germany

Theme and Purpose

Theme



- Written to encourage the exiled Jews
- Revealed God's program
- Times of the Gentiles
- Coming Messianic Kingdom

Nebuchadnezzar's Throne, Pergamon Museum, Berlin, Germany

Purpose



Orant Idol from Babylonian Temple, c. 2900-2330 B.C.

- Sovereignty and power of God over human affairs
- “The Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses” (4:25b)
- Promise of preservation and restoration



Babylonian Cuneiform Tablet, c. 600 B.C.

Keys to Daniel

Key Word

God's Plan for
Israel

Key Verse

“Daniel answered and said:
‘Blessed be the name of God forever and ever,
for wisdom and might are His.
And He changes the times and the seasons;
He removes kings and raises up kings;
He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to
those who have understanding...”

Key Verse

“He reveals deep and secret things;
he knows what is in the darkness,
and light dwells with Him.” (2:20–22)

Key Verse

“And in the days of these kings the God of heaven
will set up a kingdom
which shall never be destroyed;
and the kingdom shall not be left to other people;
it shall break in pieces and consume
all these kingdoms,
and it shall stand forever.” (2:44)

Key Chapter: 9

- Prophecy of the Seventy Weeks (9:24–27)
- First sixty-nine weeks were fulfilled at Christ's first coming
- Seventieth week



Babylonian Cuneiform Tablet, c. 600 B.C.



Contribution to the Bible

Contribution

- Ezekiel's emphasis: Israel's religious restoration
- Daniel's emphasis: Israel's political restoration
- Placed in the Writings, rather than the Prophets



Ezekiel and Daniel, Michelangelo Buonarroti, 1511

Contribution

- Imagery and symbolism similarities to Revelation
- Fulfillment before or during first century A.D.
- Fulfillment in the future



Babylon, Unknown artist and date



Belshazzar's Feast, Rembrandt, c. 1635, National Gallery, London

Christ in Daniel

Types of Christ

- The Great Stone crushing the kingdoms of this world (2:34-35, 44)
- The Son of Man who is given dominion by the Ancient of Days (7:13-14)
- The coming Messiah who will be cut off (9:25-26)

Daniel's vision in 10:5-9



Christ, the Great Stone, will crush all and date

Vision of the 69 Weeks

- Decree (9:25) took place on March 4, 444 B.C. (Neh. 2:1-8)
- $69 \text{ weeks} \times 7 \text{ years} = 483 \text{ years}$
- $= 173,880 \text{ days (360 day yr.)}$
- March 29, A.D. 33 (Triumphal Entry)



*Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego and the Angel in the Fiery Furnace,
Bible Historiale, 1372, France*

Vision of the 69 Weeks

- 444 B.C. to A.D. 33 = 476 years
- 476×365.24219 days per year = 173,855 days
- + 25 for the difference between March 4 and March 29 = 173,880 days



*Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego and the Angel in the Fiery Furnace,
Bible Historiale, 1372, France*



Daniel's Vision, Rembrandt, 1606-1669

Applications

Application 1



Daniel and Friends, unknown artist/date

- God uses weakness for His glory

Application 1



Daniel and Friends, unknown artist/date

- 4 exiled teens
- Youngest examples
- Severe trials
- Spiritual warfare



Moses




Peter




Gideon



David



“And He has said to me,
‘My grace is sufficient for you,
for power is perfected in **weakness.**’
Most gladly, therefore,
I will rather boast about my **weaknesses,**
that the power of Christ may dwell in me.”
2 Corinthians 12:9



“...opposes the proud,
but gives grace to the humble.”

1 Peter 5:5

Application 1



Daniel and Friends, unknown artist/date

- Never underestimate how God can use weakness

Application 2



- Daniel was a great example of lay ministry

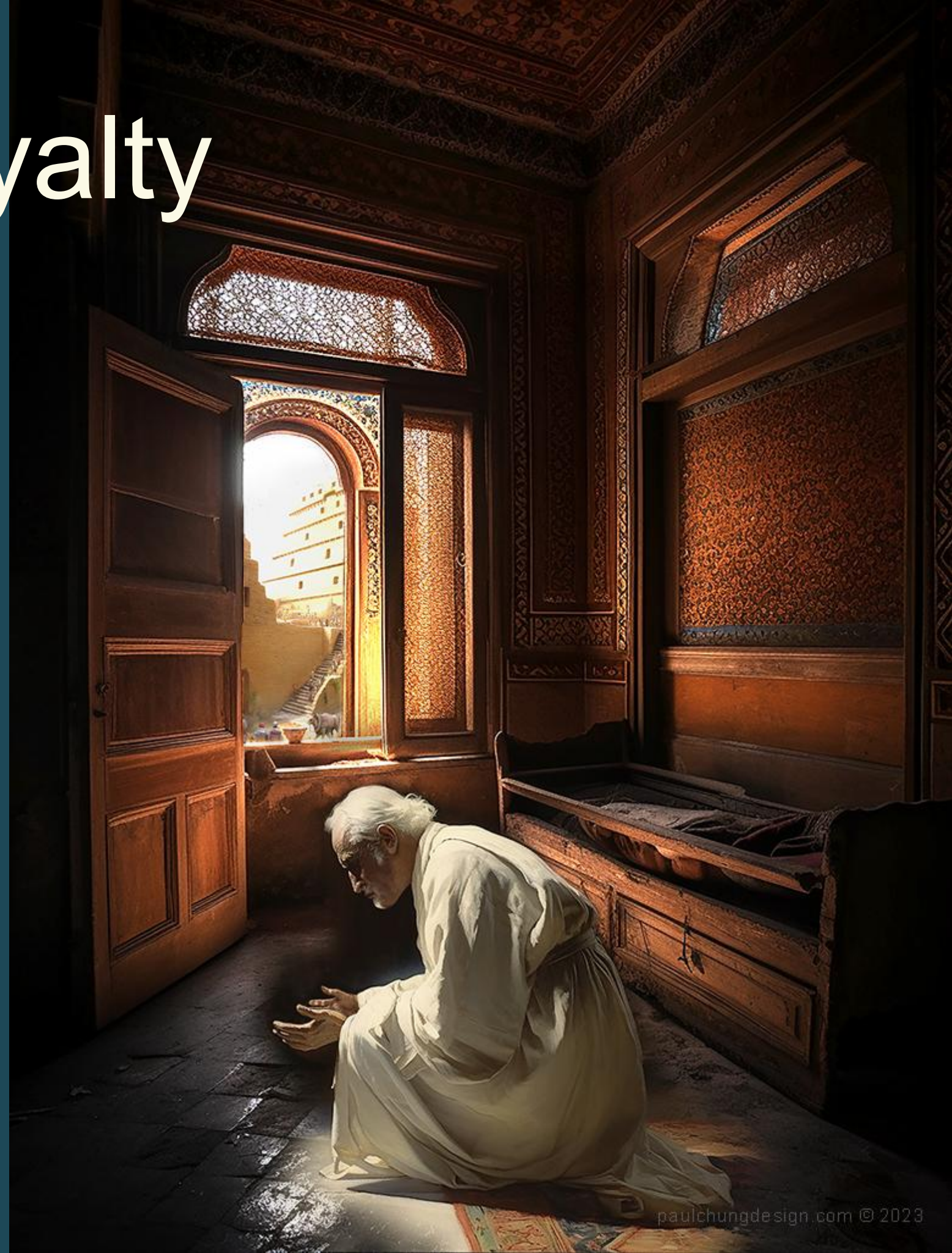
Daniel's Lay Ministry



Daniel, Michelangelo Buonarroti, 1511

- Ruler/leader
- Dream interpreter
- Man of prayer
- Prophet

Not a Priest - Royalty



Aaronic Priesthood



INDIVIDUAL
PRIESTHOOD


AARONIC
PRIESTHOOD

INDIVIDUAL
PRIESTHOOD

Hebrews 11 Hall of Faith

- ABEL • ENOCH • NOAH • ABRAHAM • ISAAC
- JACOB • SARAH • JOSEPH • MOSES • RAHAB
- GIDEON • SAMSON • JEPHTAH • DAVID

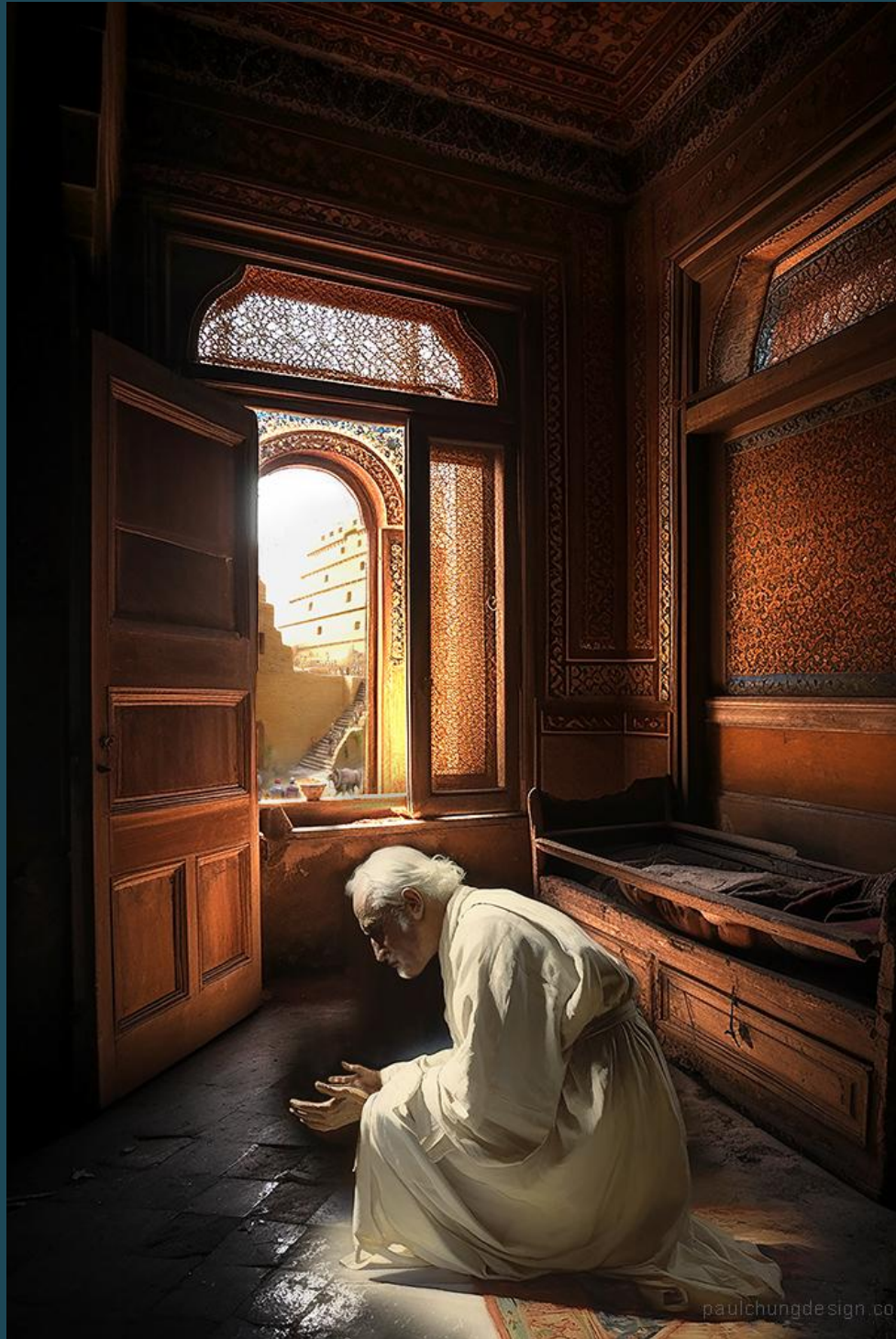
No Priests



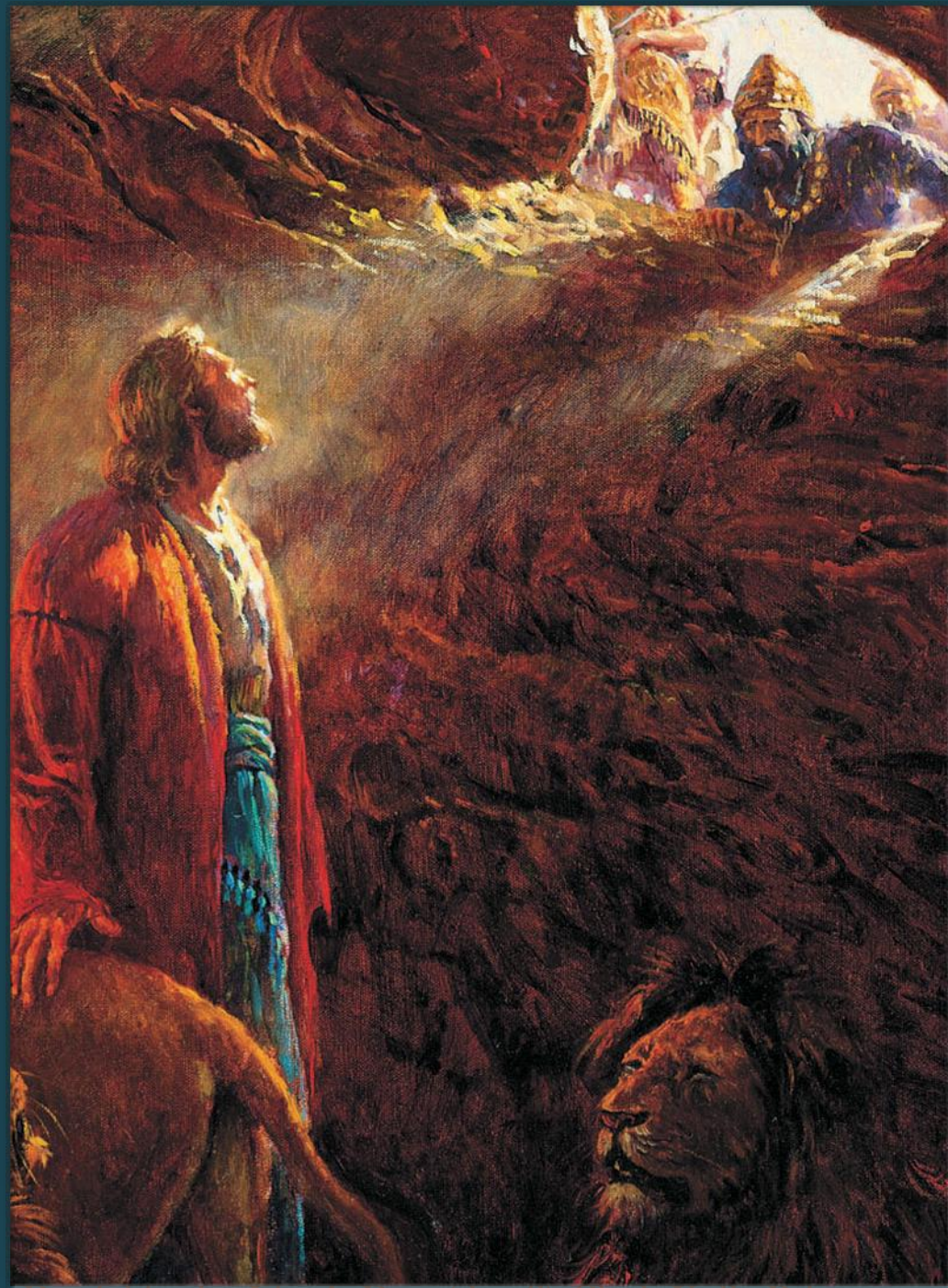
“But you are a chosen race,
a royal priesthood,
a holy nation,
a people for God’s own possession
that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him
who has called you out of darkness
into His marvelous light.”

1 Peter 2:9

Not a Priest - Royalty



Application 3



Daniel in the Lion's Den (detail), Clark Kelly Price, 1990

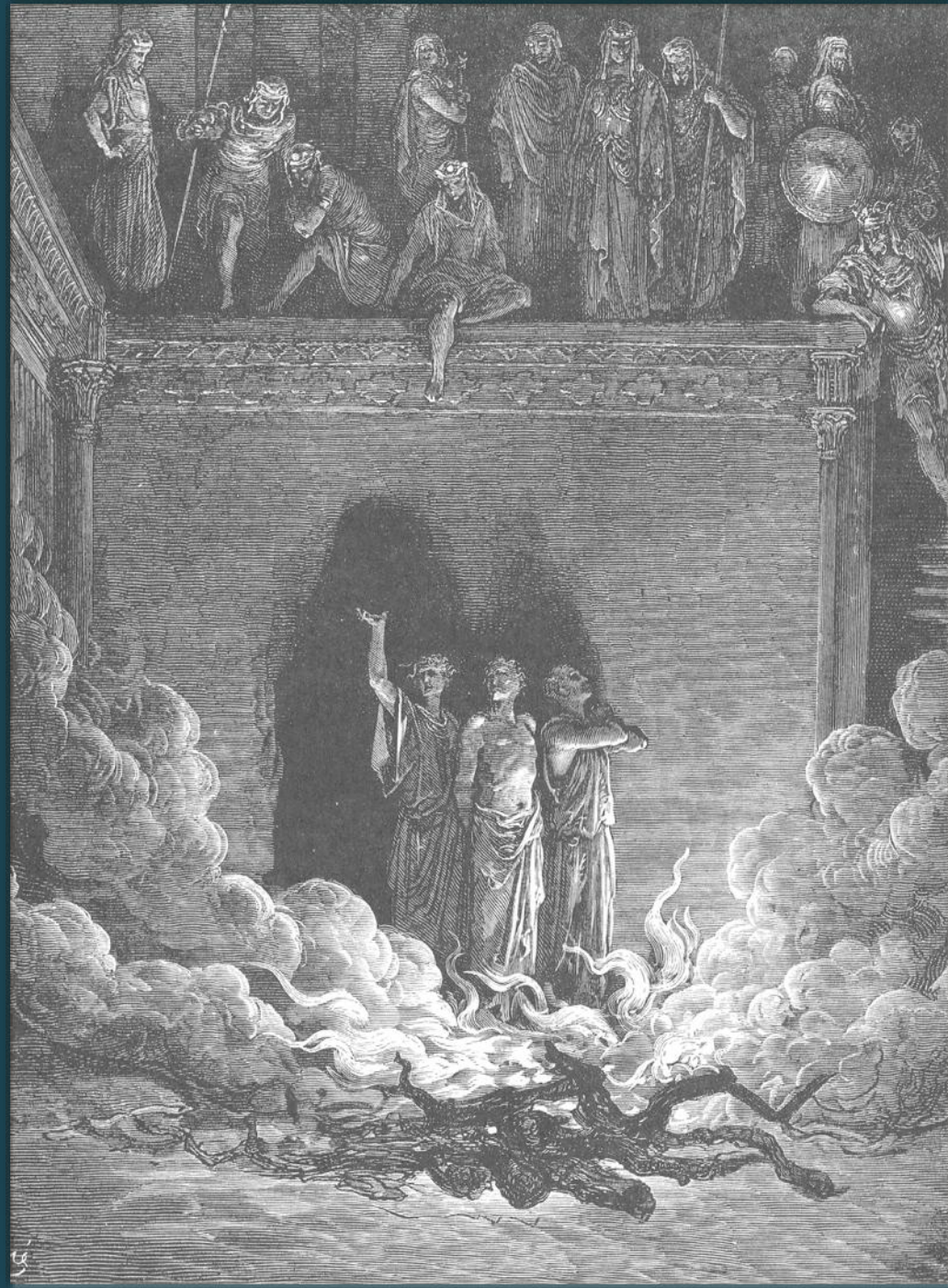
- Three ways God delivers from the book of Daniel

Deliverance From



- Daniel 1
- Spared from the trial
- Will survive

Deliverance Through

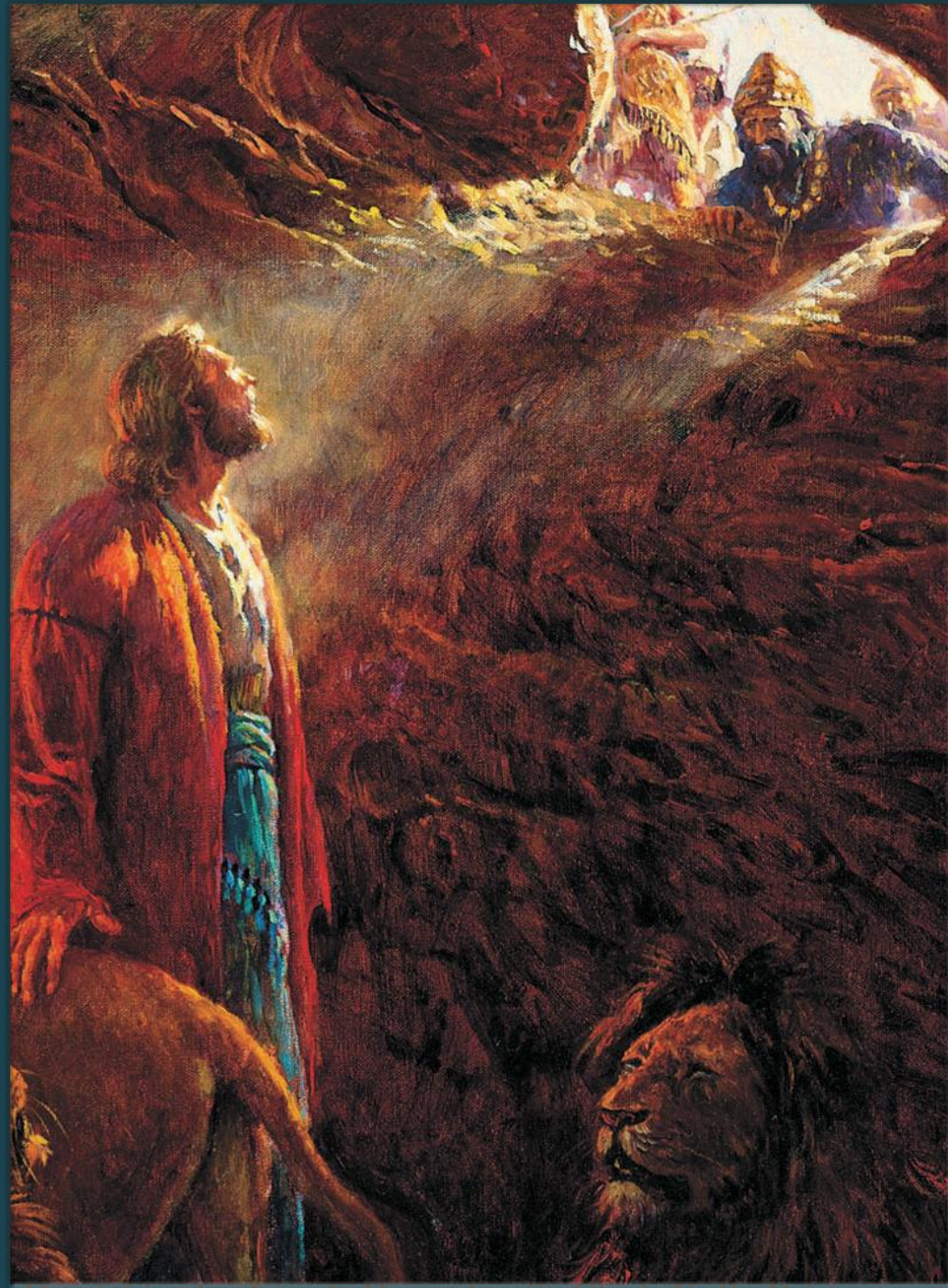


*Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego in the
Furnace, Gustave Dore, c. 1880*

■ Daniel 3




Deliverance By



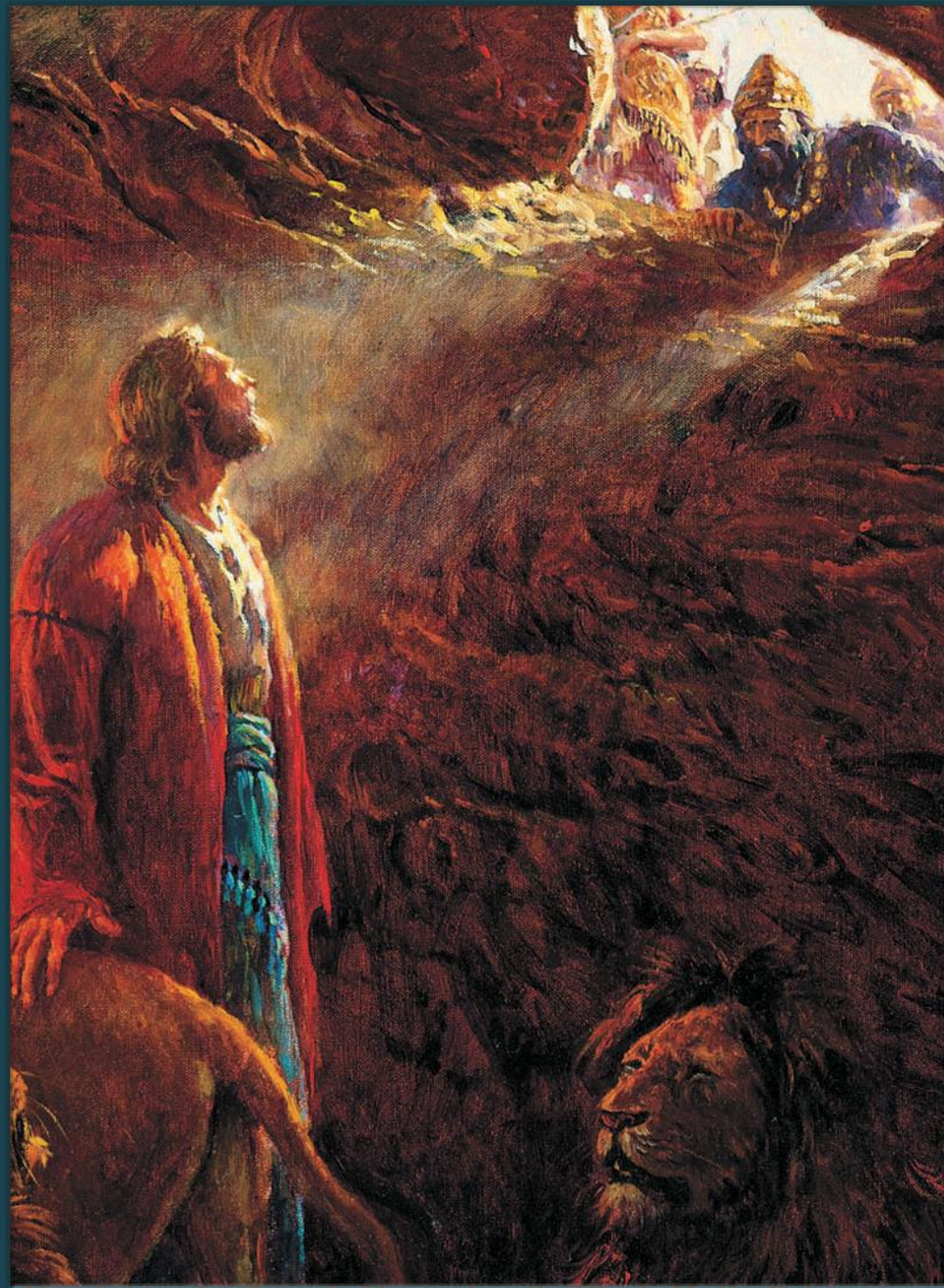
Daniel in the Lion's Den (detail), Clark Kelly Price,
1990

- Into the arms of Jesus




“...experienced mockings and scourgings,
yes, also chains and imprisonment.
They were stoned,
they were sawn in two,
they were tempted,
they were put to death with the sword”
Hebrews 11:36-37

Deliverance By




Daniel in the Lion's Den (detail), Clark Kelly Price,
1990

- Must endure
- Will not survive
- Delivered into Jesus' arms



“For to me, to live is Christ,
and to die is gain.”

Philippians 1:21



“Things which eye has not seen
and ear has not heard,
and which have not entered the heart of man,
all that God has prepared
for those who love Him.”

1 Corinthians 2:9

The End

