

# Characters of the Old Testament

*A Thirteen Lesson  
Bible Class Study*



*a study of characters, both good and bad,  
in The Old Testament*

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## *Introduction*

The list of great characters from the Old Testament would, no doubt, be a quite lengthy one. Hebrews 11 provides a record of some of the greatest and this series of lessons will focus on a few of them. From the age of Genesis through the long Exodus pilgrimage, into the Judges period and subsequent monarchy, all the way through the exile, God's people were blessed with men and women of amazing faith and strength.

None of these characters is perfect and these lessons will not ignore their shortcomings. It will be our main intent to emphasize the successes of such characters, however. It is our hope that we can gain valuable training in being people of great faith ourselves.

## *Syllabus*

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## Lesson I: *Noah*

Noah is the first of many Bible characters to illustrate so well the concept of human fallibility. He, who seems so great as the ark is constructed, deeply denigrates his reputation by sin later in life. Still, Noah leaves behind an example of faithful obedience and finding God's grace.

1. (Genesis 6:1-8) Why was God so angry? What was he planning to do about it? Why was Noah distinguished from the rest of mankind?

2. (Gen. 6:9) How did Noah find grace in God's eyes (cf. Heb. 11:6-8)?

3. Was Noah sinlessly perfect? How do you know (cf. Rom. 3:23)?

4. The ideal that Noah upheld in being "perfect" is more accurately described in our modern language by the word "blameless" or "having integrity." How can a man who commits sins still be described as blameless?

5. What New Testament office specifically requires holders to be blameless?

6. (Gen. 6:13-22) Noah was told to build an ark, an agent of God's grace toward him, in that he would be saved through the same water that was wiping out the infidels and sinners. How did Noah regard the precision of God's blueprints?

7. How is Noah's salvation through water akin to a New Testament command regarding ours (1 Peter 3:20-21)?

8. Just as God gave Noah a pattern for building the ark, He has given us patterns also. Describe each of the following New Testament patterns or forms:

◇ Titus 2:7:

◇ Romans 6:17:

◇ 2 Thessalonians 2:15:

◇ 1 Peter 4:11:

9. (Heb. 11:7) How has man today been divinely warned of things not yet seen? How is he to make preparation (2 Cor. 5:9-11)?

10. What do the following passages say about the place of godly fear in the life of a Christian?

◇ Matthew 10:28:

◇ Eccl. 12:13:

◇ Acts 10:34-35:

◇ Heb. 10:26-31:

11. How did Noah condemn the world? How do Christians likewise condemn the world?

12. (Gen. 9:21-29) What was Noah's new occupation? How did this get him into trouble?

13. Give at least one New Testament passage that condemns drunkenness.

## Lesson 2: *Abraham*

Perhaps no other man in the Bible faced greater challenges than Abraham, and yet he emerges from them with a great record of success. Abraham was by no means perfect and his failures provide important lessons, too.

1. (Gen. 12:1-9) How old was Abraham when God told him to leave his homeland? Why did he do it (Heb. 11:8-10, 13-16)?

2. What spiritual challenges are presented when someone (especially a younger person) is compelled to leave his home and family?

3. (Genesis 12:10-20) What lie (or “half-truth”) did Abraham and Sarah concoct? Why? What weakness did this reveal to God?

4. What are some circumstances that can tempt even good people to lie?

5. (Gen. 13:1-13) Who exhibits the better character in this incident, Lot or Abraham? How? What elements of good character does he show?

6. (Gen. 14:1-16) What further service did Abraham provide to Lot?

7. How does God expect Christians to do for their brethren, according to the following passages?

◇ Romans 12:10-13:

◇ Ephesians 4:32:

◇ Hebrews 13:1-3:

◇ 1 John 3:16-18:

8. (Gen. 15:1-6) Why would human reasoning render this divine promise unlikely? How did Abraham react to it?

9. What is faith (cf. Heb. 11:1-2)?

10. (Gen. 16:1-4) How did Abraham and Sarah try to help God fulfill this promise?

11. (Gen. 20:1-13) What is Abraham's error in dealing with Abimelech? What does this show about Abraham?

12. (Gen. 22:1-14) What challenge is presented to Abraham in this passage? How does he respond?

13. (Heb. 11:17-19) Why was Abraham able to obey this challenge?

14. What are some commands or doctrines of the New Testament that people question and dismiss?

## Lesson 3: *Lot*

The New Testament speaks glowingly of Lot and the way in which he handled life in an immoral society. Yet, when we examine the decisions Lot made, we find that he often put himself in those very trying circumstances.

1. (Gen. 13:1-13) Why was there strife between the entourages of Abraham and Lot?
  
2. Why was Abraham so intent on preventing this strife (verse 8)?
  
3. Consider the following passages and identify what caused the strife between brethren in each:
  - ◇ Mark 10:35-45:
  
  - ◇ Acts 15:36-41:
  
  - ◇ 1 Corinthians 1:10-13:
  
  - ◇ 1 Corinthians 6:1-6:
  
  - ◇ Galatians 2:11-21:
  
4. How did Lot end up living in Sodom?
  
  
5. (Gen. 19:1-3) Lot's character certainly includes a hospitable nature. The Hebrew writer seems to have had this even in mind when writing "Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels" (13:2). Why is it more difficult to show hospitality to strangers than family or brethren?
  
  
6. How did the Samaritan handle his situation (Luke 10:30-37)?



7. (2 Peter 2:7-8) What was Lot's attitude about the sin around him in Sodom?
  
8. In what circumstances do we commonly see and hear lawless deeds? What effect does it have on us?
  
9. (Genesis 19:4-11) How did Lot attempt to protect his guests? What does this show about him?
  
10. (Genesis 19:12-14) What pressures arise when one's family does not agree with a Christian's faith or heed his attempts at conversion? How should the Christian handle the situation?
  
11. (Genesis 19:15-17) Why do some people linger when they need to be baptized or restored?
  
12. (Genesis 19:18-26) Why did Lot's wife die?
  
13. (Genesis 19:30-38) What sinful thing led to this incestuous event?
  
14. What societal problems can be traced to alcohol use and abuse?

## Lesson 4: *Joshua*

Although Moses is better known for leading the nation of Israel on its long pilgrimage, it was Joshua who conducted the final charge through Jericho and Ai into possession of the promised land. Joshua led an exciting life, one that kept him close to God and His law. He was a great general and an impartial judge of men.

1. (Exod. 17:8-16) Joshua is introduced to the Bible student in this passage as a competent military leader. What lesson might have impressed Joshua in realizing just how he was able to win this particular battle?

2. (Exod. 24:12-15) What was Joshua's office according to Moses? Where was Joshua when God delivered the law to Moses? What attitude could this position have nurtured in Joshua's heart?

3. (Num. 14:6-10) Moses sent twelve spies into Canaan to develop a strategy for conquering it. Instead, the spies came back with a pessimistic report about fortifications and giants, causing the population to doubt and complain. Joshua was among the spies; what was his opinion of Israel's prospects?

4. Many New Testament passages work along the same theme, soothing the fear of saints who think that all may be lost. Consider the following passages and summarize how each of them is an encouragement to us not to fear our adversaries and circumstances.

◇ Romans 8:31-39:

◇ 2 Corinthians 12:7-10:

◇ 2 Timothy 1:3-7:

◇ Hebrews 13:5-6:

5. (Num. 27:18-21) What role is Joshua about to assume? Why him (verse 18)?

6. This phrase probably has less to do with a miraculous measure of ability than a willful attitude of obedience and faith. Paul commands Christians to be filled with the Spirit in Ephesians 5:17-21. What elements of godliness accompanied this description?

1. (verse 17)
- (verse 18)
- (verse 19)
- (verse 20)
- (verse 21)

7. (Josh. 1:7-8) How did God tell Joshua to speak as the oracles of God?

8. Should the Christian's relationship to the New Testament bear any similarity to Joshua's with the Old Testament (cf. Matt. 7:21-23, 1 Peter 4:11)? If so, how?

9. (Josh. 7:1, 19-26) After overseeing a mass circumcision and the defeat of Jericho, Joshua faces his first crisis, the defeat at Ai. Why did Israel lose the initial battle there? What did Joshua do about it?

10. What does this event prove in Joshua's character?

11. (Josh. 24:14) Joshua gives three points of advice just before his own demise. List them.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

12. How do the following New Testament passages reiterate those concepts for Christians today?

- ◇ Rev. 14:7:
- ◇ John 4:23-24:
- ◇ 1 John 5:21:

13. (Josh. 24:15) What decision did he compel the people to make? What decision did he make?

14. How do parents today have a major role in whether their children will serve idols or God?

## Lesson 5: *Caleb*

One of the greatest, but most overlooked, characters of the Old Testament is Caleb. He dwells perpetually in the shadow of his fellow spy, Joshua, who was to lead the nation after Moses's demise. Caleb, however, has his day in the limelight, as he inspires Israel to fight the good fight of faith and not shrink from a mountain of apparent adversity.

1. (Num. 13:3-15) Which of the twelve tribes did Caleb represent among those who spied out Canaan?
2. (Num. 13:26-33) After hearing his fellow spies report on the formidable challenge posed by the Canaanites, how did Caleb respond?
3. (Num. 14:6-9) What is the source of Caleb's rare optimism?
4. What lesson does Caleb provide those who decide right and wrong based on majority opinion?
5. What was promised to those of the minority and majority opinions in the following scriptures?
  - ◇ Matthew 7:13-14:
  - ◇ 1 Peter 3:20-21:
  - ◇ Revelation 3:1-5:
6. What does Peter mention about the power of peer pressure (1 Peter 4:3-4)?
7. What does Paul say about the power of peer pressure (1 Cor. 15:33)?

8. (Num. 14:10) How were the people ready to reward Caleb's optimism and courage?
  
9. List some New Testament characters who were killed for their godly beliefs.
  
10. (Josh. 14:1-12) What does Caleb say was the effect of the ten spies' report on the people?
  
11. How can our optimism or pessimism affect new Christians or young Christians or even older ones?
  
12. How old is Caleb here? What inheritance does he request? What does this show about Caleb's character?
  
13. What characteristics does Paul want to see in older Christian men (Titus 2:2)?
  
14. What characteristics does Paul want to see in older Christian women (Titus 2:3-4)?

## Lesson 6: *Gideon*

The book of Judges has long been known as a concise example of the way in which man and the world at large seek God, receive His blessing, and then summarily express ingratitude by pursuing the intoxicant of excess and iniquity from the world. The reign of Gideon, the fifth of the judges, displays one such period in the cycle and teaches us today how to break it.

1. (Judges 6:1-10) in what kind of society did Gideon reside?
2. (Judges 6:11-16) What was Gideon doing when the angel of the Lord called him? What did the angel call him?
3. With what question does Gideon respond to the angel's promise that God is with Israel?
4. What is Gideon's fundamental misunderstanding about God's covenant with Israel?
5. In God's covenant with Christians, he promises not to forsake his people just as he promised Israel. Yet, this promise is also just as conditional. Summarize what the following passages indicate about that conditionality of the new covenant. Look for the word "if" which indicates a condition.
  - ◇ John 8:29-32:
  - ◇ 1 John 2:3:
  - ◇ 2 Peter 1:5-9:
  - ◇ 2 Peter 1:10-11:
  - ◇ Galatians 6:7-9:
  - ◇ Hebrews 3:14:

6. What mission did the angel present to Gideon?
  
7. (Judges 6:25-32) What did God tell Gideon to do next? Why did he do it by night?
  
8. Gideon's character caused him to do right even though he anticipated his family would object. What did Jesus say about obeying the gospel in the face of such objection in Matthew 10:34-39?
  
9. How did Gideon's father foil the idolater's plan to kill his son?
  
10. (Judges 6:33-40) Is it wise for us to put God to the test the way Gideon did (cf. Matt. 4:5-7)?
  
11. (Judges 7:1-8) What two methods did God use to whittle down Gideon's army?
  
12. Why did God reduce the size of Gideon's fighting force?
  
13. (Judges 7:9-25) Who won the battle?
  
14. (Judges 8:22-27) Gideon says one noble thing and then does one stupid thing. What are they?
  
15. (Judges 8:33-35) What was Gideon's legacy?

## Lesson 7: *Samson*

One of the most romantic and human characters of the Old Testament is Samson. Like Homer's Odysseus, we read of Samson being built up, but the end of his tale is marred by sin and tragedy. What lessons can we learn from Samson? The fuller the cup, the more easily is it to spill the contents. That is, the more we are blessed, the greater our responsibility. Samson was fatally flawed by worldliness and although he accomplished great things in the scheme of God's intentions for Israel, he was little better morally than Pharaoh or Nebuchadnezzar. It is only at his life's end that Samson's vow to God takes on true meaning for him. Samson's character is a lesson to us about flirtation with sin, the penalty of unfaithfulness and the true power of God.

1. (Judges 13:1) What was Hebrew society like when Samson was conceived?
  
2. (Judges 13:2-5) The Nazirite vow was generally taken by a person for a period of 30-100 days, but the Bible does tell of a few men who were under that vow permanently. Can you name two others?
  
3. What were the four parts of the Nazirite vow (Num. 6:1-8)?
  - a. Numbers 6:3-4:
  - Numbers 6:5:
  - Numbers 6:6:
  - Judges 13:4:
4. (Judges 13:6-8) What was Manoah's concern? How should this attitude be reflected in all fathers (Eph. 6:4)?
  
5. (Judges 14:1-19) Why did Samson's parents object to his choice for a mate?
  
6. Unfortunately, Samson's character would not lead him to attempt to convert this woman. In the New Testament, marriages between races are not forbidden. The apostle Peter even gave advice on how Christian women could attempt to convert their unbelieving husbands. What advice did he give (1 Peter 3:1-6)?
  
7. How did Samson get into trouble with his wife's people? How did she "help"?



8. Samson was very reckless. What do the following passages reveal about the goodness of a sense of moderation or temperance (also self-control in some translations)?

◇ Galatians 5:23-26:

◇ 1 Corinthians 9:25-26:

9. (Judges 15:1-8) Without making a judgment about Samson's desire for vengeance under the Old Testament law, what does the New Testament teach about vengeance in the following passages?

◇ Matthew 5:38-39:

◇ Matthew 5:43-48:

◇ Romans 12:17-21:

◇ Colossians 3:12-14:

10. (Judges 15:9-20) How did Samson overcome his Philistine enemies? How long did he judge Israel?

11. (Judges 16:1-20) What was Samson's first mistake with Delilah? What does this reveal about the character of Samson, even after this long period of time?

12. How did she finally get what she wanted from him?

13. In reality, what was the source of Samson's strength? When do you think he truly understood this?

14. (Judges 16:21-31) Why did God return to him at this moment (James 4:7-10)?

## Lesson 8: *Samuel*

Samuel's character is molded in a rather unusual way. He is blessed with two godly parents who dedicate him to the service of God, in which he is practically reared by Eli the priest, who failed to train his own sons properly. Samuel becomes an honorable man despite the presence of Phinehas and Hophni.

1. (1 Samuel 1:1-18) Describe what is revealed about Samuel's parents, Hannah and Elkanah.
2. What promise did Hannah make God?
3. (1 Samuel 1:19-28) How did Elkanah handle Hannah's promise now that his son was born?
4. (1 Samuel 2:12-21) One would think that Eli's sons would have a great influence on Samuel. What kind of influence would that have been? Why?
5. God is also very concerned about evil influences in the church. Consider 1 Corinthians 5. What was the dangerous influence in the church at Corinth? How did the brethren feel about the situation?
6. What did Paul instruct them to do about it? With what reasoning?
7. (1 Samuel 3:1-21) What kind of character and determination would have been required for Samuel to tell Eli this awful truth?

8. Today's preachers are called upon through the New Testament to have similar character. What do the following passages reveal about that requirement?

◇ 2 Timothy 4:1-5:

◇ Ephesians 6:19:

◇ 1 Peter 4:11:

9. (1 Samuel 7:1-17) What did Samuel call on Israel to do? What was the result of his leadership against the Philistines?

10. (1 Samuel 8:1-9) How did Israel repay him and God for this peace? Why did Samuel take it so personally?

11. (1 Samuel 12:1-5) What do we learn of Samuel's character here?

12. (1 Samuel 12:18-25) What did Samuel promise to do for the people?

13. (1 Samuel 13:7-14) Why did Saul perform the sacrifice? What did Samuel think of his reasoning?

14. List some instances in which we are tempted to lie, cheat or steal and justify it as reasonable under the circumstances.

15. (1 Samuel 15:1-14) Was Samuel satisfied that Saul claimed to have done all God's will? Why (James 2:10-11)?

16. (1 Samuel 15:21-25) What do you think of Samuel's character now? When are men like him needed today (Titus 1:11, 3:10)?

## Lesson 9: *Elijah*

Elijah is one of the most remarkable characters in the Bible. It is rare to see a man like him these days. Elijah was actually called upon to stand up against his government because it was evil. Today's Christian is often put in the difficult position of taking stands against his government as well. Elijah's character is about boldness, but even he has his weak moments. We must learn from both.

1. (1 Kings 17:1-7) The New Testament uses this event as an example of what (James 5:16-18)?
2. (1 Kings 18:17-40) What did King Ahab call Elijah? Was this justified?
3. Who are the troublers of spiritual Israel today (Rom. 16:17-18, Titus 3:10-11, Matt. 23:15, Eph. 5:11)?
4. What question, similar to Joshua's final challenge (Josh. 24:15), did the prophet ask the people before the contest began?
5. How did Elijah treat the Baalists when their god failed to appear in the contest?
6. What was the great effect of God's victory in this contest (verse 37)?
7. (1 Kings 19:1-18) How did Jezebel repay Elijah for executing her prophets? How did Elijah react?
8. Being kind in your estimation of this great man, what does this solitary event show about his character?

9. How can Christians today be encouraged when they feel as if they are alone in their faith?

10. (1 Kings 21:20-29) What message did Ahab's enemy bring him in this passage?

11. Why did Elijah stand against his government?

12. None of us is a prophet and yet we feel compelled to express disagreement with some of our own government's policies, including legalized abortion, the teaching of sexual irresponsibility in school and the giving of welfare benefits to the lazy able-bodied. How can we express our disagreement while remaining subject to the governing authorities and rendering honor to whom honor is due (Acts 5:29)?

13. (2 Kings 1:1-8) What did Elijah say to the king's messengers who went to inquire of Baalzebub?

14. Elijah's character led him utterly to disdain every false way, including this attempt by King Ahaziah. What should be our attitude toward the false philosophies and religions of this world (Psalm 119:104, Isaiah 8:19-20)?

## Lesson 10: *Elisha*

Elijah's bald-headed successor willingly, but sadly, took up his mantle and carried on as God's prophet. Like his predecessor, Elisha is a very bold man who tells the truth no matter what trouble it might land him and no matter with whom.

1. (1 Kings 19:19-21) How did Elijah signify to Elisha that he wanted him to follow?
2. How did Elisha respond to Elijah's call?
3. Although Elijah allows Elisha this, Jesus faced a similar question by his potential disciples. Consider Luke 9:57-62. What did each of the following men say and how did Jesus respond?

<u>PASSAGE</u>	<u>POTENTIAL DISCIPLE'S COMMENTS</u>	<u>RESPONSE</u>
1. 9:57-58		
9:59-60		
9:61-62		

4. (2 Kings 2:1-14) What do we learn of Elisha's character when he refuses to stay behind as Elijah instructed him?
5. Why did Elisha tell the sons of the prophets to go ahead and look for Elijah when he knew better?
6. (2 Kings 2:23-24) How did Elisha respond to the 42 young rogues' ridicule of him?
7. Most all of us have been the victims of name-calling and probably most of us have been guilty of it as well. What is Christ's law for name-calling in the New Testament (Matt. 5:22)?
8. (2 Kings 4:1-7) How did Elisha provide for the poor widow?

9. How should widows be cared for under New Testament law, according to the following passages?

◇ James 1:27:

◇ 1 Timothy 5:4, 8, 16:

◇ 1 Timothy 5:9-10:

◇ 1 Timothy 5:11-14:

10. (2 Kings 4:8-17) Why did Elisha make it possible for this Shunammite woman to have a son?

11. (2 Kings 5:1-14) What effect did Elisha's refusal to treat Naaman in person have on the Syrian commander?

12. What is the worst thing you can do for a conceited and arrogant person (Job 32:21, 1 Thess. 2:5)?

13. (2 Kings 5:15-27) Gehazi did not share his master's selflessness and honesty. What got him into trouble with Elisha?

14. What does the Holy Spirit counsel us to do with selfish ambition like Gehazi's (Phil. 2:3)? What will be the outcome of those who practice dishonesty (Rev. 21:8)?

## Lesson II: *David*

No other Bible character is called by the designation fit for David: “a man after God’s own heart.” David’s life, however, is marked by both greatness and lowness. It was his intent to do good and diligence in righting wrongs that made him a man after God’s heart.

1. (1 Sam. 16:1-13) After Saul had been promised a dismissal from the throne, God sent Samuel to anoint his successor as king. He went to the house of Jesse in Bethlehem, possibly anticipating a physical specimen like the failed king of the present. Whom did he find instead (verse 12)?

2. (1 Sam. 16:14-23) What was David’s occupation in Saul’s household?

3. (1 Sam. 17:1-11) How well were Saul and Israel standing up to Goliath’s ridicule of their God? Why?

4. (1 Sam. 17:12-19) Why was David not regularly at the battle front? Why was he sent there this day?

5. (1 Sam. 17:20-30) What did David think of a Hebrew champion’s chances against Goliath? How did his brothers respond to David’s courage?

6. (1 Sam. 17:31-51) With what was David able to slay Goliath (47-49)?

7. Consider Ephesians 6:14-17. List the individual components of the whole armor of God.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

8. Saul became very jealous of David because of this upset victory and the appreciation of Israel’s population, especially the women. Throughout the remainder of 1 Samuel, Saul attempts to kill David. How does David react to this threat (1 Sam. 24:1-22)?



9. (2 Sam. 11:1-5) What was the first sign that David is not the great warrior and brave patriot he was when Goliath threatened Israel?

10. Paul often described the good fight of faith that is the Christian life. Summarize what the following passages say about enduring that fight from youth to old age.

◇ Phil. 2:17-18:

◇ Phil. 3:12-14:

◇ 1 Cor. 9:26-27:

◇ 2 Tim. 4:6-8:

11. What should David have done when he saw beautiful Bathsheba bathing across the way? What should he have done when he found that she was a married woman?

12. All this points out the number of opportunities God gives us to escape temptation. What did Paul say about this divine promise in 1 Corinthians 10:13?

13. (2 Sam. 11:14-27) How did David attempt to hide his sin? What does Proverbs 28:13 advise concerning this option?

14. (2 Sam. 12:1-12) How did Nathan cunningly get David to accuse and convict himself?

15. (Psalm 51) How does David handle the guilt of his sin?

## Lesson 12: *Josiah*

Few would have expected much from King Josiah, considering the decline of the nation into which he was born, the wickedness of his father, and the young age at which he ascended to the throne of all Judah. Yet, Josiah goes down in Hebrew history as one of the greatest kings to grace David's seat.

1. (2 Kings 21:19-26) Children learn a great deal from the example set by their parents. What might Josiah have picked up from Amon in the eight years he spent in his household?

2. What does a parent need to do to set a godly example before his children and impress upon them the importance of spiritual things? (List some specific things as well as noting general principles.)

3. (2 Kings 22:1-2) What does it mean when the historian claims that Josiah "did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left" (cf. Prov. 4:20-27)?

4. How does the New Testament advise a similar path for Christians (Matt. 7:13-14)?

5. (2 Kings 22:3-13) How old was Josiah when the book of the Law was found?

6. How did Josiah react when he heard the law book being read? Why?

7. (2 Kings 22:14-20) What did the prophetess predict for Judah? For Josiah?

8. Why was Josiah's fate softened somewhat by God?

9. Josiah had a soft heart. What do the following passages say about having a hard heart?

◇ Romans 2:1-5:

◇ Ephesians 4:17-19:

◇ 1 Timothy 4:1-3:

10. What is the difference between godly sorrow and worldly sorrow (see 2 Cor. 7:8-11)?

11. (2 Kings 23:1-3) For what did the people take a stand?

12. (2 Kings 23:4-27) Briefly describe the reforms that Josiah instituted. Would these great reforms prevent the destruction of Judah?

13. What are some cases in which a person may repent of sin but still be faced with its temporal consequences?

13. (2 Chron. 35:20-24) How did Josiah fatally disobey God?

14. (2 Chron. 35:25-27) How was Josiah remembered?

## Lesson 13: *Daniel*

Daniel is among the group of writers known as the major prophets, although his work is far shorter than those of Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel. Daniel prophesied while a captive in Nebuchadnezzar's court and provides an example of faith that refuses to back down.

1. (Dan. 1:1-4) How did Daniel end up in Nebuchadnezzar's court?
  
2. (Dan. 1:5-16) Why did Daniel object to partaking of the king's delicacies?
  
3. How did Daniel's stand turn out?
  
4. List some occasions in which Christians might have to take stands like Daniel's.
  
5. What do the following passages say about taking such stands?
  - ◇ Romans 12:1-2:
  - ◇ 1 John 2:15-17:
  - ◇ 1 Peter 4:3-5:
  
6. (Dan. 2:27-30, 46-49) How do we see Daniel's humility in his conversation with Nebuchadnezzar? How does Daniel's ability pay off?
  
7. (Dan. 6:1-5) Why did Daniel distinguish himself among the other governors and the satraps?

8. The apostle Paul describes the greatness of an excellent spirit like Daniel's in Philippians 4:4-9. Summarize the points of that excellent spirit:

◇ verse 4:

◇ verse 5:

◇ verse 6:

◇ verse 7:

◇ verse 8:

◇ verse 9:

9. (Dan. 6:6-10) How did Daniel react to the new statute which forbade prayer to Jehovah?

10. Why did Daniel blatantly break the law of the land (Acts 5:29)?

11. (Dan. 6:11-22) How was Daniel able to survive the lions' den?

12. Lions often pursue the Christian in another way. What was the danger of the imaginary lion in Proverbs 22:13?

13. What lion does Peter describe in 1 Peter 5:8?





## *Other Class Material By This Author*

### **A Passage Through the Old Testament**

OT1 In The Beginning	OT5 Israel and Judah
OT2 From Egypt to Canaan	OT6 The Major Prophets
OT3 Taming Canaan	OT7 The Minor Prophets
OT4 The Throne of David	OT8 Wisdom Lit./Post-Exile

### **A Passage Through the New Testament**

NT01 Harmonized Gospels	NT07 Prison Epistles
NT02 Acts of the Apostles	NT08 Preacher Epistles
NT03 Early Epistles	NT09 Hebrew Epistle
NT04 Liberty Epistles	NT10 Minor Epistles
NT05 First Corinthians	NT11 Revelation to John
NT06 Second Corinthians	

### **Topical Studies**

Biblical Typology	Proverbs
Brotherly Love	Sermon on the Mount
Characters of The Acts	Special Studies
Characters of The Old Testament	The 10 Commandments Today
Golden Rules	The Church of Christ
Great Themes of Isaiah	The Life and Times of Jesus
New Testament Churches	The Spirit World
Parables of Jesus	Walking In The Spirit



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