

The background of the image is a composite of two scenes from the 1956 film 'The Ten Commandments'. On the left, Moses, played by Charlton Heston, stands on a high platform, looking out over a vast, ancient city. He is wearing a purple and gold robe. On the right, a close-up of a man with curly brown hair and a light beard, likely representing a character from the film, looks directly at the viewer. The background is a hazy, golden-hued landscape of ancient Mesopotamia, featuring the massive, tiered ziggurat of the Tower of Babel under a bright, low sun. The overall atmosphere is one of grandeur and historical drama.

# Dreams & the Destiny of Man

# DANIEL

## FLOURISHING IN A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT



## Main theme of the narrative in Ch 1-6:

*God rules over all kingdoms and nations and sets over them anyone he wishes.*

## Main theme of Visions in Ch 7-12:

*Human Kingdoms will come to an end but God will set up a kingdom that will never end & will rule with his faithful people*

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# Goals of main themes:

1. *To show the sovereignty and power of God in uncertain and difficult times*
2. *To give courage and hope to God's people living in hostile environments*



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## So Far in the book of Daniel...

- 3 stories of faithfulness in hostile environments
- 2 visions emphasizing God's sovereignty over nations and rulers and that he will eventually set up his own kingdom that will never fall
- 2 wicked kings who are arrogant and fall under God's judgement
- Chapter 7 is the centrepin of the book uniting the visions and the stories into its common theme

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*Daniel 7*

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# How Does this Vision Relate to Us?

1. We can be confident that God will work out his plan in his time according to his purposes

- 2 Peter 3:9... The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.
- The book of Daniel is designed to show us how powerful and sovereign God is over time & history
- This is meant to give God's people hope, faith and patience in difficult times

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# How Does this Vision Relate to Us?

1. We can be confident that God will work out his plan in his time according to his purposes
2. We can be confident in God's right and perfect judgements
  - No one is getting away with anything – everyone will stand before God and give an account of their lives

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# How Does this Vision Relate to Us?

1. We can be confident that God will work out his plan in his time according to his purposes
2. We can be confident in God's right and perfect judgements
3. We can be confident that God will keep his promises and will rescue his people
  - a. **Pattern:** The human drift will always be away from the things of God and towards rebellion (become beasts)
  - b. **Promise:** God will confront the beasts and "the beast" and will rescue his people

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# How Should the Book of Daniel Impact You?

1. Are you finding yourself responding differently in difficult situations?
2. Has your view of God's power and authority changed?
3. Have you been encouraged and has your hope been built up?

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