



Book
— **By** —
Book

OUR GOAL

To encourage you to read at least one book of the Bible each month so that you may:

- 1) better understand who God is
- 2) where you fit into His story.

BIBLE STUDY METHOD

OBSERVATION

What does the text say?

INTERPRETATION

What does it mean?

APPLICATION

What did I learn that should affect my life?

BASIC BIBLE NAVIGATION

OLD TESTAMENT

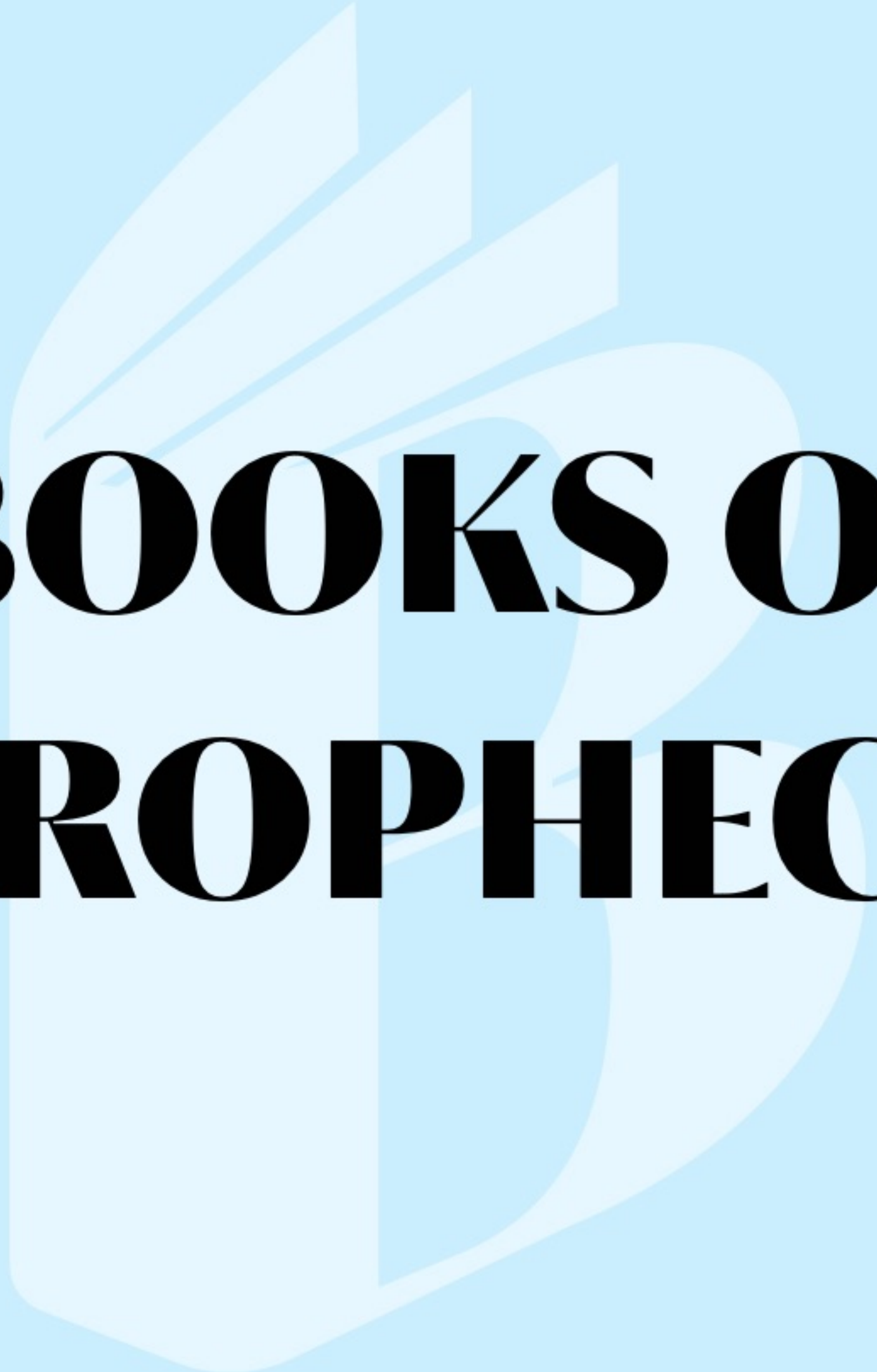
39 Books

NEW TESTAMENT

27 Books

YOU ARE HERE

- Law (Genesis - Deuteronomy)
 - History (Joshua - Esther)
 - Poetry (Job - Song of Solomon)
 - Major Prophets (Isaiah - Daniel)
- ➔ Minor Prophets (Hosea - Malachi)



BOOKS OF PROPHECY

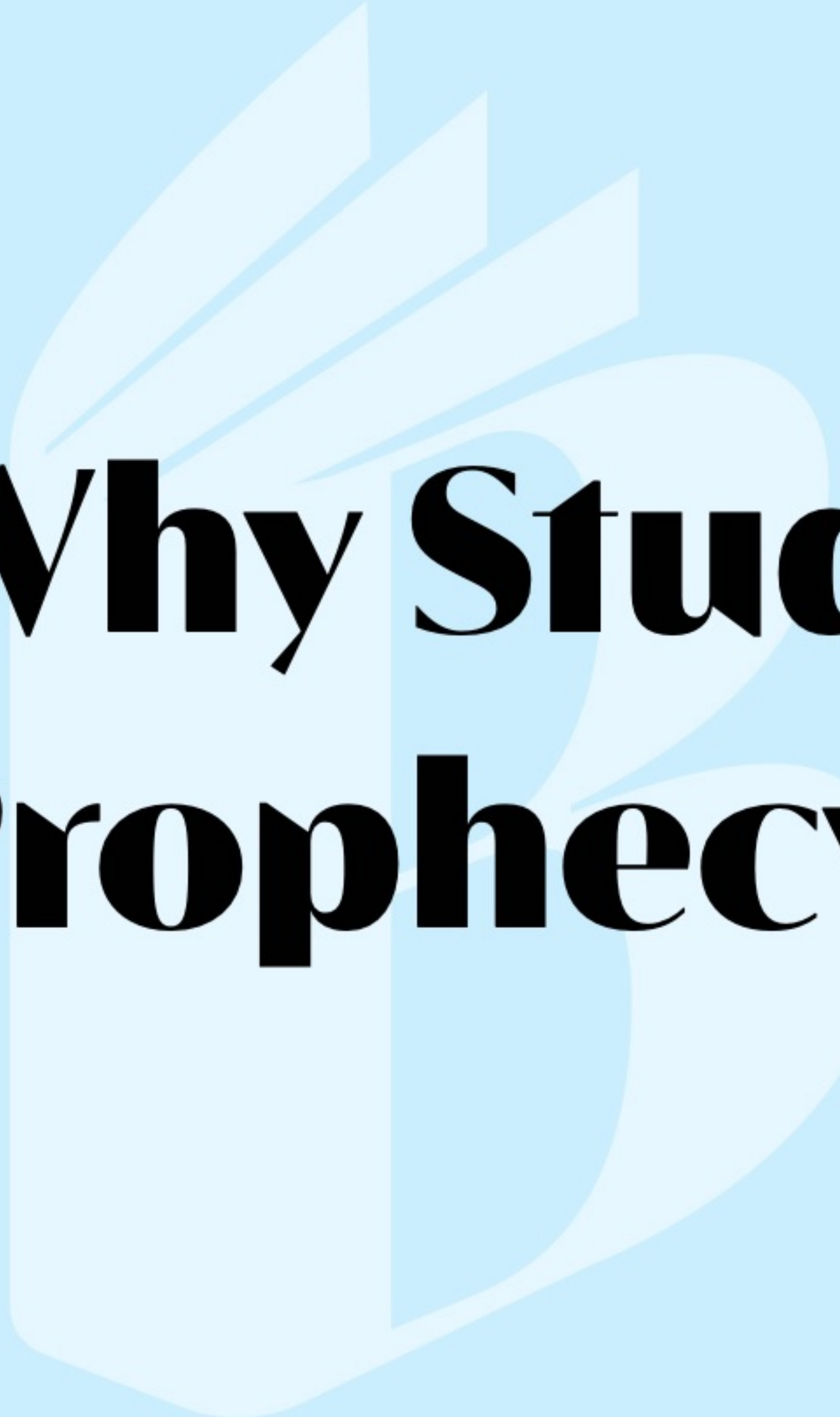
MAJOR PROPHETS

- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Lamentations
- Ezekiel
- Daniel



MINOR PROPHETS

- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah
- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi



Why Study Prophecy?

WHY PROPHECY?

1) A call to godly living

“Come now, let’s settle this,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, I will make them as white as wool.”

Isaiah 1:18

WHY PROPHECY?

2) To build faith and confidence in the God who miraculously foretold events.

I have told you these things before they happen so that when they do happen, you will believe. John 14:29

OFFERS HOPE AND COMFORT

Prophecy provides assurance that evil will be defeated, the world will be restored, and God will fulfill His promises.

PROVIDES A PROPER PERSPECTIVE

It shifts focus from immediate, earthly struggles to an eternal perspective.

KEEP IN MIND

The prophets did not always indicate intervals of time between events nor did they always write in chronological order.

Always consider the historical context of that writing, remembering that God was delivering His prophecy to a particular people at a particular time.

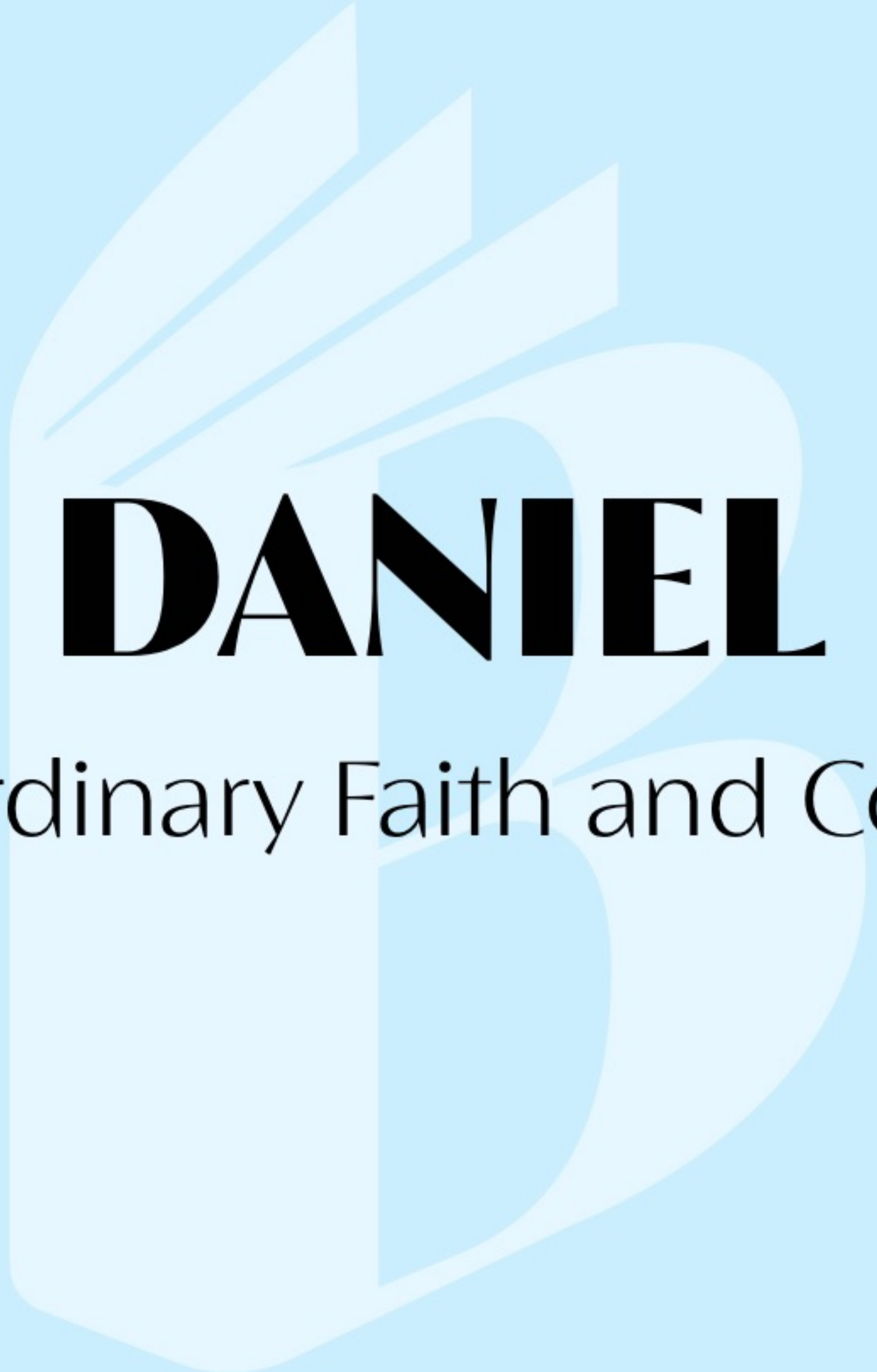
KEEP IN MIND

The meaning of a specific prophecy could not always be understood by the prophet or by the people who heard the message.

I heard what he said, but I did not understand what he meant. So I asked, “How will all this finally end, my lord?”

But he said, “Go now, Daniel, for what I have said is kept secret and sealed until the time of the end.

Daniel 12:8-9



DANIEL

Extraordinary Faith and Courage

THE BACKSTORY

A Kingdom United

Under Saul, David & Solomon

A Kingdom Divided

Northern Kingdom (Israel)

Southern Kingdom (Judah)

TWO KINGDOMS

Israel (North) 19 Kings — all evil

Judah (South) 20 Kings — 8 followed God

KINGDOMS CONQUERED

Israel Conquered by the Assyrians in 722 BC

Judah Conquered by Nebuchadnezzar
(Three Phases)
605, 597 & 586 BC

DANIEL & FRIENDS

Daniel and his friends were taken in 605 BC

Daniel (Belteshazzar)

Hannah (Shadrach)

Mishael (Meshach)

Azariah (Abednego)

CHOSEN BECAUSE...

Strong

Healthy

Good-looking

Well educated

Gifted with knowledge and good judgment.

Suited to serve in the royal palace.

THREE YEAR TRAINING PLAN

Learn Aramaic

Study Literature of Babylon

Diet from the king's kitchens

THE DANIEL DIET

Vegetables and water



GROUP TALK

Daniel did not push back against the name change, but eating food dedicated to idols was a line he couldn't cross.

As we live in our current culture, how do you determine what lines you cannot cross?

CHAPTER 2

One night during the second year of his reign, Nebuchadnezzar had such disturbing dreams that he couldn't sleep.

Daniel 2:1

Nebuchadnezzar's Dream



KINGDOMS REPRESENTED

Head of fine gold
Babylonian Empire

Breast and arms of silver
Mede and Persian Empires

Belly and thighs of brass
Macedonian Empire

Legs of iron
Roman Empire

Feet and toes of clay
Kingdoms that arose after
the fall of the Roman Empire

DON'T MISS THIS!

⁴⁴ “During the reigns of those kings, the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed or conquered. It will crush all these kingdoms into nothingness, and **it will stand forever.** ⁴⁵ That is the meaning of the rock cut from the mountain, though not by human hands, that crushed to pieces the statue of iron, bronze, clay, silver, and gold. The great God was showing the king what will happen in the future. The dream is true, and its meaning is certain.”

Daniel 2:44-45

FROM PRISONER TO PRIME MINISTER

⁴⁷ The king said to Daniel, “Truly, your God is the greatest of gods, the Lord over kings, a revealer of mysteries, for you have been able to reveal this secret.”

⁴⁸ Then the king appointed Daniel to a high position and gave him many valuable gifts. He made Daniel ruler over the whole province of Babylon, as well as chief over all his wise men.

Daniel 2:47-48

A SHORT MEMORY (CHAPTER 3)

King Nebuchadnezzar made a gold statue ninety feet tall and nine feet wide and set it up on the plain of Dura in the province of Babylon.

Daniel 3:1



BOW OR BURN

¹⁴ Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you refuse to serve my gods or to worship the gold statue I have set up? ¹⁵ I will give you one more chance to bow down and worship the statue I have made when you hear the sound of the musical instruments. But if you refuse, you will be thrown immediately into the blazing furnace. And then what god will be able to rescue you from my power?”

Daniel 3:14-15

GOD ACCEPTS THE CHALLENGE

²³ So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, securely tied, fell into the roaring flames.

²⁴ But suddenly, Nebuchadnezzar jumped up in amazement and exclaimed to his advisers, “Didn’t we tie up three men and throw them into the furnace?”

“Yes, Your Majesty, we certainly did,” they replied.

²⁵ “Look!” Nebuchadnezzar shouted. “I see four men, unbound, walking around in the fire unharmed! And the fourth looks like a god!”

GOD ACCEPTS THE CHALLENGE

²⁶ Then Nebuchadnezzar came as close as he could to the door of the flaming furnace and shouted: “Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!” So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego stepped out of the fire. ²⁷ Then the high officers, officials, governors, and advisers crowded around them and saw that the fire had not touched them. Not a hair on their heads was singed, and their clothing was not scorched. They didn’t even smell of smoke!

Daniel 3:23-27

A NEW DECREE

²⁹ Therefore, I make this decree: If any people, whatever their race or nation or language, speak a word against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, they will be torn limb from limb, and their houses will be turned into heaps of rubble. There is no other god who can rescue like this!”

Daniel 3:29

THE KING'S STORY (CHAPTER 4)

The Dream

The Meaning

The Warning

The Fulfillment (12 months later)

The Return



A CHANGED HEART (CHAPTER 4)

³⁶ “When my sanity returned to me, so did my honor and glory and kingdom. My advisers and nobles sought me out, and I was restored as head of my kingdom, with even greater honor than before.

³⁷ “Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and glorify and honor the King of heaven. All his acts are just and true, and he is able to humble the proud.”

Daniel 4:36-37

10 YEARS AND 4 KINGS LATER... (CHAPTER 5)

King Belshazzar's feast and defiance of God

Handwriting on the wall

Daniel's Explanation & Condemnation

But you have not honored the God who gives you the
breath of life and controls your destiny! Daniel 5:24

Prophecy Fulfilled

³⁰ That very night Belshazzar, the Babylonian king, was killed.

A NEW KING & A LION'S DEN (CHAPTER 6)

King Darius the Mede

Daniel will not be intimidated

God's Protection

THE KING'S PROCLAMATION

²⁶ “I decree that everyone throughout my kingdom should tremble with fear before the God of Daniel.

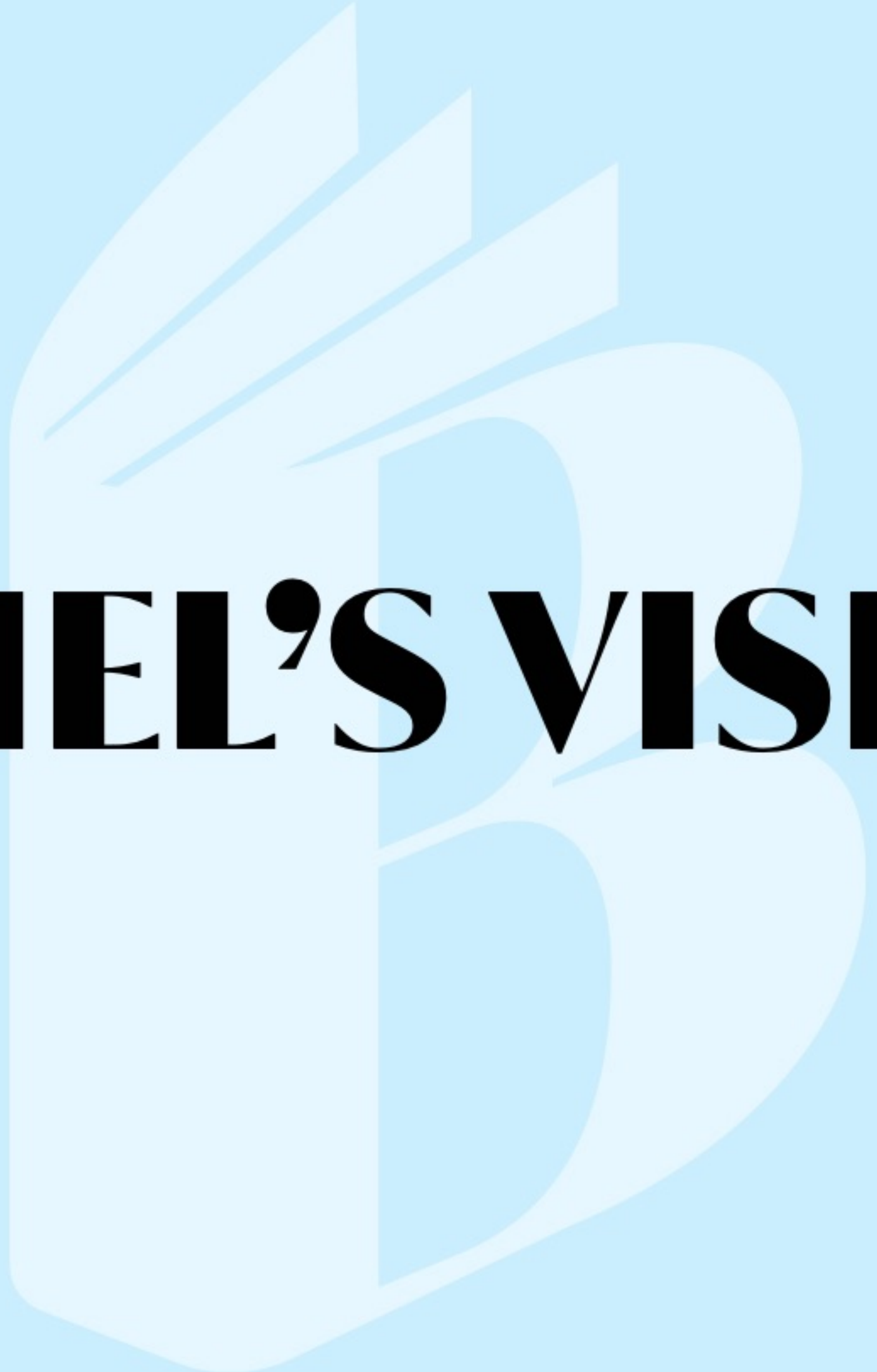
For he is the living God, and he will endure forever.

His kingdom will never be destroyed, and his rule will never end.

²⁷ He rescues and saves his people; he performs miraculous signs and wonders in the heavens and on earth.

He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.”

Daniel 6:26-27



DANIEL'S VISIONS

THE FOUR BEASTS (CHAPTER 7)

Lion with Wings of Eagle = Babylon

Bear = Medo-Persian Empire

Leopard = Greek Empire (Alexander the Great)

Four Heads = Asia Minor, Syria, Egypt, Macedonia

Fourth Beast with 10 horns = Rome

Little Horn = Antichrist

KEY VERSES

As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. He was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal—it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed.

Daniel 7:13-14

NEW TESTAMENT

²⁴ After that the end will come, when he will turn the Kingdom over to God the Father, having destroyed every ruler and authority and power. ²⁵ For Christ must reign until he humbles all his enemies beneath his feet. ²⁶ And the last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For the Scriptures say, “God has put all things under his authority.” (Of course, when it says “all things are under his authority,” that does not include God himself, who gave Christ his authority.) ²⁸ Then, when all things are under his authority, the Son will put himself under God’s authority, so that God, who gave his Son authority over all things, will be utterly supreme over everything everywhere.

1 Corinthians 15:24-28

THE RAM AND GOAT (CHAPTER 8)

Ram = Medo-Persia

Goat = Greece (Alexander the Great)

Four Horns = Alexander's Four Generals

Small Horn = Antiochus Epiphanes & later, Antichrist

THE END OF TIME (CHAPTER 8)

As Gabriel approached the place where I was standing, I became so terrified that I fell with my face to the ground. “Son of man,” he said, “you must understand that the events you have seen in your vision relate to the time of the end.”

¹⁹ Then he said, “I am here to tell you what will happen later in the time of wrath. What you have seen pertains to the very end of time.

Daniel 8:17,19

DANIEL'S CONFESSION (CHAPTER 9)

We have sinned and done wrong.

We have rebelled against you

We have refused to listen

We have not obeyed the Lord our God

DANIEL'S PRAYER (CHAPTER 9)

¹⁸“O my God, lean down and listen to me. Open your eyes and see our despair. See how your city—the city that bears your name—lies in ruins. We make this plea, not because we deserve help, but because of your mercy.

¹⁹“O Lord, hear. O Lord, forgive. O Lord, listen and act! For your own sake, do not delay, O my God, for your people and your city bear your name.”

GABRIEL RETURNS

²¹ As I was praying, Gabriel, whom I had seen in the earlier vision, came swiftly to me at the time of the evening sacrifice. ²² He explained to me, “Daniel, I have come here to give you insight and understanding. ²³ The moment you began praying, a command was given. And now I am here to tell you what it was, for you are very precious to God. Listen carefully so that you can understand the meaning of your vision.

Daniel 9:21-23

SEVENTY SEVENS (9:24–27)

²⁴ “A period of seventy sets of seven has been decreed for your people and your holy city to finish their rebellion, to put an end to their sin, to atone for their guilt, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to confirm the prophetic vision, and to anoint the Most Holy Place.²⁵ Now listen and understand! Seven sets of seven plus sixty-two sets of seven will pass from the time the command is given to rebuild Jerusalem until a ruler—the Anointed One—comes. Jerusalem will be rebuilt with streets and strong defenses, despite the perilous times.

SEVENTY SEVENS (9:24-27)

²⁶ “After this period of sixty-two sets of seven, the Anointed One will be killed, appearing to have accomplished nothing, and a ruler will arise whose armies will destroy the city and the Temple. The end will come with a flood, and war and its miseries are decreed from that time to the very end. ²⁷ The ruler will make a treaty with the people for a period of one set of seven, but after half this time, he will put an end to the sacrifices and offerings. And as a climax to all his terrible deeds, he will set up a sacrilegious object that causes desecration, until the fate decreed for this defiler is finally poured out on him.”

A NEW KING AND AN ANGEL (CHAPTER 10)

Look closely at verse 12:

¹² Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you **began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God**, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DANIEL

Instructions given to Daniel:

- Listen carefully
- Stand up
- Don't be afraid
- Be encouraged
- Be Strong



POWERS OF THE FUTURE (CHAPTER 11)

Persia (verse 2)

Alexander the Great (verses 3-4)

Ptolemies & Seleucids (verses 5-20)

Antiochus Epiphanes (verses 21-35)

Antichrist (verses 36-45)

THE TIME OF THE END (CHAPTER 12)

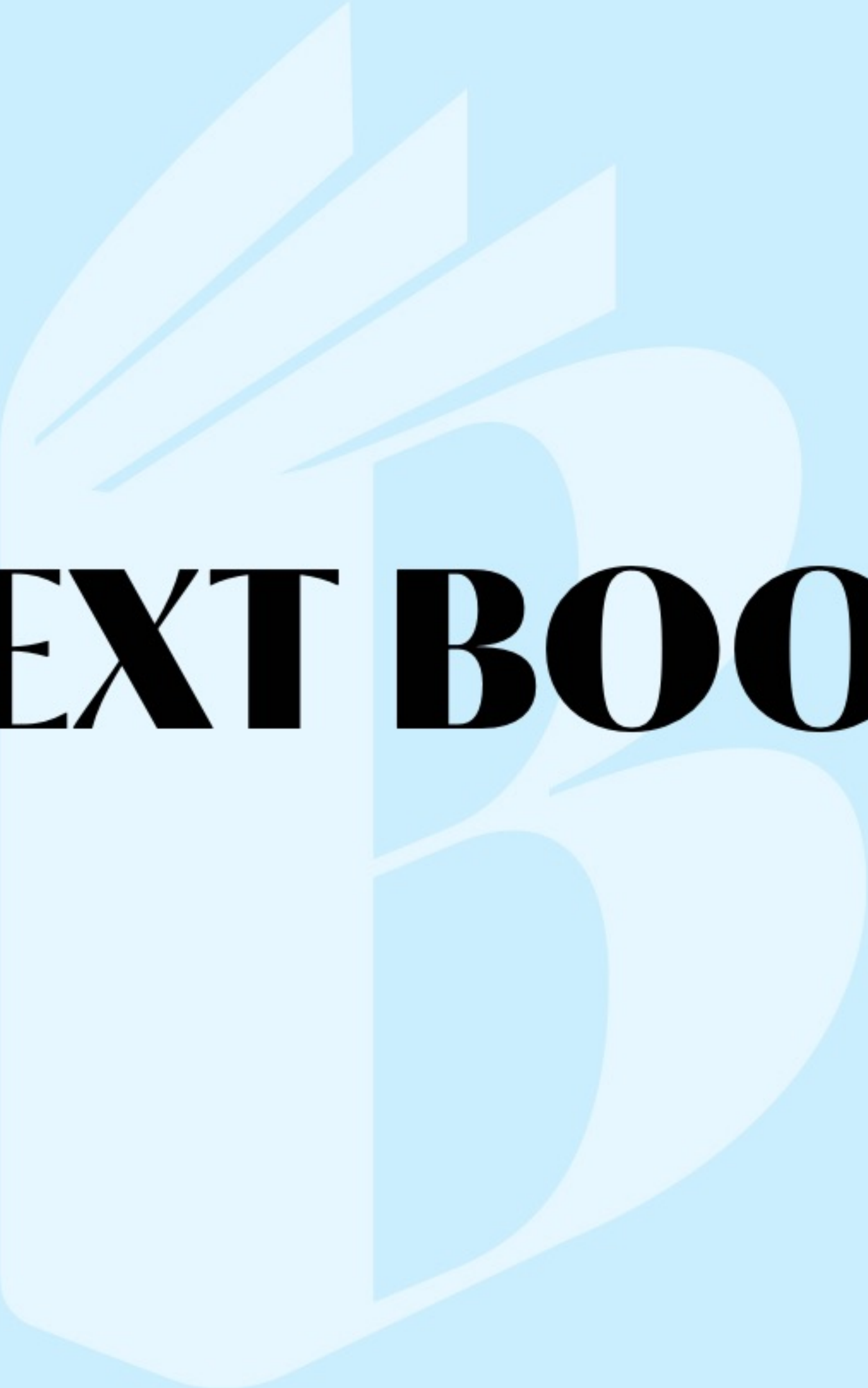
“At that time Michael, the archangel who stands guard over your nation, will arise. Then there will be a time of anguish greater than any since nations first came into existence. But at that time every one of your people whose name is written in the book will be rescued.

Daniel 12:1

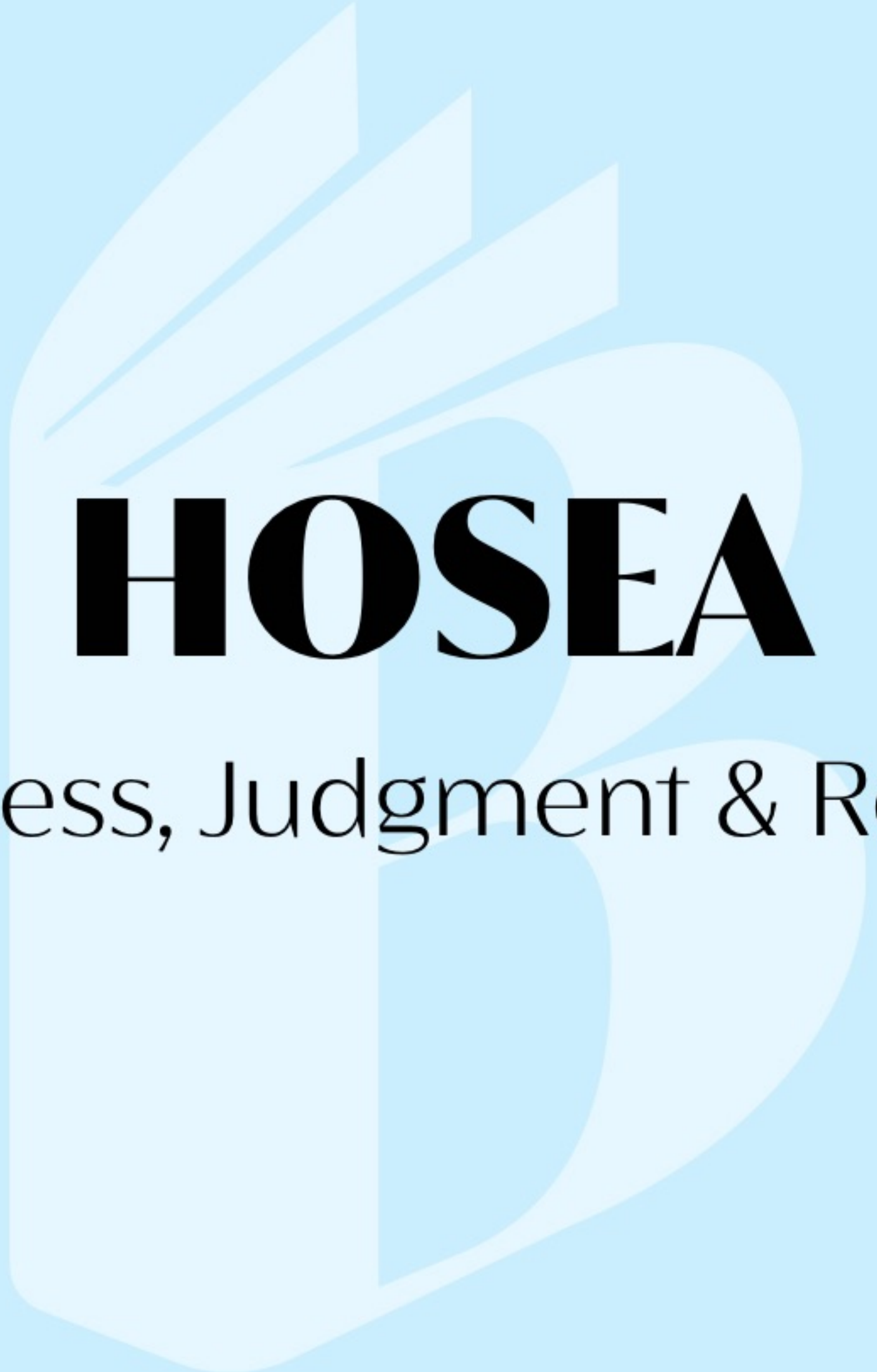
THE TIME OF THE END (CHAPTER 12)

³ Those who are wise will shine as bright as the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever. ⁴ But you, Daniel, keep this prophecy a secret; seal up the book until the time of the end, when many will rush here and there, and knowledge will increase.”

Daniel 12:3-4



NEXT BOOK



HOSEA

Unfaithfulness, Judgment & Redemption

MEET HOSEA

A contemporary of Isaiah (a century before Daniel)
Ministered primarily in the Northern Kingdom
Served as a prophet for 60-70 years

GOAL FOR THIS MONTH

Read the book of Hosea
(There are 14 chapters.)

As you follow the handout, be sure to make notes of any insights you gain as you read and study along with any questions you encounter.

PREVIOUS NOTES

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