

Names, Titles, and Descriptions of God in the Book of Daniel

THE NAMES BELOW are listed in the order of their first appearance in the book of Daniel. Different Bible translations render some of these slightly differently, but the essence is the same. In cases where a name has many references, I have listed representative verses.

Rather than just glancing at this list, I hope you'll take a deeper dive into these names, one at a time, over the course of the next days, weeks, or even months. Read the verses where each one appears. Look it up in a Bible dictionary or commentary or on a site like BlueLetterBible.org. Jot down what you learn about the meaning and significance of each name or description, along with any personal reflections on what it means for faithful believers living in a faithless world.

- 1. God (1:2, 9, 17; 2:20; 5:23, 26; 9:11, 18, 23; 10:19)
- 2. The Lord (1:2; 9:7, 16, 17, 19)
- 3. The God of the heavens/God in heaven (2:18, 19, 28)

- 4. God of my ancestors (2:23)
- 5. God in heaven (2:28)
- 6. Your God (2:47)
- 7. God of gods (2:47)
- 8. Lord of kings (2:47)
- 9. Revealer of mysteries (2:47)
- 10. The God we serve (3:17)
- 11. The Most High God (3:26; 4:2; 5:18, 21)
- 12. The Most High (4:17, 24, 25, 32, 34; 7:18, 22, 25, 27)
- 13. The God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (3:28)
- 14. Ruler over human kingdoms (4:17)
- 15. The King of the heavens (4:37)
- The God who holds your life-breath in His hand and who controls the whole course of your life (5:23)
- 17. His God (6:5, 10)
- 18. Your God, whom you continually serve (6:16)

- 19. The living God (6:20, 26)
- 20. My God (6:22)
- 21. The God of Daniel (6:26)
- 22. The Ancient of Days (7:9, 13, 22)
- 23. The LORD (9:2, 8, 14)
- 24. The Lord God (9:3)
- 25. The LORD my God (9:4, 20)
- 26. The Lord our God (9:9)
- 27. The LORD our God (9:10, 13)
- 28. Our God (9:17)
- 29. Him who lives eternally (12:7)

Recommended Resources

Numerous resources have been valuable to me in sorting through the historical details (who lived and ruled when and where) as well as various interpretive matters (mostly related to visions and prophecies) in the book of Daniel. I have not included citations for facts that are widely known and agreed upon or for interpretations gleaned from multiple commentaries where there is general consensus among conservative interpreters.

The following websites offer many Greek and Hebrew language tools as well as study Bibles, concordances, dictionaries, and commentaries that I often refer to for help in understanding particular passages:

- BibleGateway.com
- BibleHub.com
- BibleStudyTools.com
- BlueLetterBible.org
- EnduringWord.com
- PreceptAustin.org

As helpful as these tools can be, of course, there's no substitute for careful, repeated, prayerful reading and meditation on the Scripture itself.

Notes

Preface: Samuel's Story

1. Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth, "When You Need Courage (Daniel 1)," Heaven Rules: Seeing God's Sovereignty in the Book of Daniel podcast series, Revive Our Hearts, September 29, 2021, www.reviveourhearts.com/podcast/ revive-our-hearts/when-you-need-courage-daniel-1. This transcription of the podcast episode has been lightly edited for flow.

Chapter One: A Single Lens

Epigraph: Margaret Clarkson, Grace Grows Best in Winter (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984), 40–41, accessed January 27, 2022, https://gracequotes.org/topic/god-sovereignty.

- Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth and Robert Wolgemuth, You Can Trust God to Write Your Story: Embracing the Mysteries of Providence (Chicago: Moody Publishers, 2019), 60–61.
- 2. Ibid.

Chapter Two: The Story behind the Story

Epigraph: John Piper, "God Is Always Doing 10,000 Things in Your Life," Desiring God, January 1, 2013, www.desiringgod.org/articles/god-is-always-doing-10000-things-in-your-life.

- 1. My telling of this story is based on information from the following three sources: John McNeill, "Lessons from Korean Mission in the Former Soviet Region," *International Bulletin of Mission Research* 36, no. 2 (April 2012), 78–82, www.internationalbulletin.org/issues/2012-02/2012-02-078-mcneill.html; James Won, "How Stalin's Paranoia Led to a Whole Ethnic Group Being Forcibly Relocated to a Foreign Land," https://history ofyesterday.com/how-stalins-paranoia-led-to-a-whole-ethnic-group-being-forcibly-relocated-to-a-foreign-land-2ab31fb4f7a8; Jae Kyeong Lee, "South Korea's Great Missionary Movement—God's Sovereignty, Our Obedience," IMB, February 9, 2018, www.imb.org/2018/02/09/south-korea-mission-movement.
- History.com editors, "Perestroika," History.com, updated November 14, 2019, www.history.com/topics/cold-war/perestroika-and-glasnost.
- King Jehoiakim was captured at this time and taken as a prisoner to Babylon along with a number of his subjects, including Daniel and his

- three friends. Nebuchadnezzar later reinstated Jehoiakim on his throne as a vassal king. See "Daniel 1 Commentary," Precept Austin, under the heading "Three Invasions of Judah by Babylon," updated May 19, 2020, www .preceptaustin.org/daniel_1_commentary.
- 4. Interpreters debate exactly *how* the food and wine would defile Daniel. Although many have assumed that the food wasn't kosher (i.e., in accordance with the Mosaic law), there were no Mosaic restrictions on drinking wine. According to Daniel 10:3, he only refused royal food temporarily, so it doesn't seem to be a kosher issue. Some commentators suggest that Daniel and his friends were seeking not to be dependent on the king. By not eating "the *king's* food" (1:8, 13, 15), they were expressing dependence on and devotion to the Lord for their sustenance and success.
- For more about the names of God in Daniel, see the epilogue and appendix of this book.

Chapter Three: No Need to Panic

Epigraph: Free Grace and Dying Love: Morning Devotions by Susannah Spurgeon, previously published as A Carillon of Bells (Edinburgh, Scotland, UK: Banner of Truth, 2006), 31.

- The information on Louis XIV in this and the next two paragraphs has been gleaned from Will Durant and Ariel Durant, *The Age of Louis XIV*, The Story of Civilization, vol. 8 (New York: Simon and Schuster, 1963), 3–18.
- 2. Durant and Durant, Age of Louis XIV, 3, 685.
- Matthew Henry, Matthew Henry's Commentary on the Whole Bible, vol. 4 (Isaiah to Malachi) (1896; repr., Old Tappan, NJ: Revell, 1985), 1187.
- Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth, "He Cares," Coronavirus, Cancer, and Christ podcast series, Revive Our Hearts, December 29, 2020, www.reviveourhearts .com/podcast/revive-our-hearts/he-cares.
- Mercifully, the Lord spared my mother's life and eventually restored her to health.

Chapter Four: Can I Get a Witness?

Epigraph: Joni Eareckson Tada, "Paralysis Was His Good Plan: How Predestination Changed My Suffering," Desiring God, October 12, 2020, www.desiringgod.org/articles/paralysis-was-his-good-plan. NOTES 249

- This explanation is widely stated in commentaries. See, for example, David Guzik, "Daniel 3—Saved in the Fiery Furnace," Enduring Word, accessed February 10, 2022, https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/ daniel-3.
- 2. According to Open Doors, an organization that publishes the World Watch List, an annual ranking of the fifty most dangerous countries for Christians, "In just the last year [2021], there have been . . . over 340 million Christians living in places where they experience high levels of persecution and discrimination." See "Christian Persecution," Open Doors (website), accessed January 27, 2022, www.opendoorsusa.org/christian-persecution.
- "Jason Crabb—'There's Something about That Name," Grand Old Opry, performance recorded live December 18, 2021, YouTube video, 5:29, accessed February 10, 2022, www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQTXGiS5yno.
- 4. Jill Lyman, "Bremen Man Loses Home to Tornado, Stops to Play Piano in Praise," 14 News, December 13, 2021, https://www.14news.com/2021/12/13/bremen-man-loses-home-tornado-stops-play-piano-praise/.
- Jill Lyman, "From Destroyed Home to Grand Ole Opry Stage, Bremen Man Continues Song of Praise," 14 News, December 18, 2021, https:// www.14news.com/2021/12/18/destroyed-home-grand-ole-opry-stagebremen-man-continues-song-praise/.

Chapter Five: Humbled

Epigraph: C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*, rev. and enlarged ed. (New York: HarperOne, 2015), 227.

Chapter Six: Look Up!

Epigraph: David Jeremiah with C. C. Carlson, *The Handwriting on the Wall:* Secrets from the Prophecies of Daniel (Nashville: W Publishing, 2019), 174.

 This story was first told by British evangelist Charles Inglis (1848–1936), who got it directly from the ship's captain. See Charles Inglis, "Mr Müller and the Fog," Müllers.org, accessed February 10, 2022, www.mullers.org/ find-out-more-1875.

Chapter Seven: Battle Cry

Epigraph: Bobby Scott, "Suffering Taught Me the Sovereignty of God," Desiring God, November 22, 2021, www.desiringgod.org/articles/ suffering-taught-me-the-sovereignty-of-god.

- Revive Our Hearts has produced a moving video of Colleen's story: Revive Our Hearts, "She Laughs at the Time to Come | Colleen's Story," video, Revive Our Hearts (website), accessed February 10, 2022, www.reviveour hearts.com/videos/she-laughs-at-the-time-to-come-colleens-story.
- 2. The actual word antichrist (Greek antikhristos) appears in the Bible in the epistles of 1 and 2 John, which speak of both this ultimate "Antichrist" as well as "many antichrists" throughout history who oppose Christ through false teaching and persecution of the saints. Sometimes the term is also applied to false messiahs and vicious rulers described in biblical prophecies.
- 3. The quotes from Mark and Michelle in this section are based on an update they gave to their local church family. You can view their testimony at Brandywine Grace Church Media, "Testimony on Self-Reliance from Mark and Michelle Leach," from the May 2, 2021, service at Brandywine Grace Church, Downingtown, PA, YouTube video, 14:45, accessed February 10, 2022, www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rf-vTj64VkM.
- 4. This passage is a reminder that we are to be, as Paul says, praying "at all times in the Spirit with every prayer and request" (Eph. 6:18) as a key aspect of spiritual warfare.

Chapter Eight: The Long View

Epigraph: Randy Alcorn, Money, Possessions, and Eternity, rev. ed. (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House, 2021), 38.

- On Demand Entertainment, "Gal Gadot Leads a Star-Studded Cover of John Lennon's 'Imagine," YouTube video, 3:09, accessed February 10, 2022, www.youtube.com/watch?v=0fDIZj9BX9U.
- "Heidelberg Catechism," translation approved by Synod 1975 of the Christian Reformed Church, Christian Reformed Church (website), accessed February 10, 2022, www.crcna.org/welcome/beliefs/confessions/ heidelberg-catechism.
- 3. If you think you've read this phrase before, it's because you have, just a few pages back. This phrase is repeated verbatim both in Daniel 11:35 and Daniel 12:10. How kind is it of God to remind Daniel—and us—not once, but twice, that our tribulations are purposeful and will result in our greater sanctification.
- 4. This wonderful spiritual seems to have been collected by John Wesley Work II, known as the first African American compiler of folk songs and spirituals. The first known publication was in *Folk Songs of the American Negro*, published in 1907 under the name of Work's brother, Frederick

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Jerome Work. It was popularized in an arrangement by William L. Dawson in the 1930s and has been sung by many well-known artists, including Mahalia Jackson. See Azizi Powell, "Early Published Versions of the African American Spiritual 'Soon I Will Be Done (with the Trouble of the World)," *pancocojams* (blog), September 29, 2019, https://pancocojams.blogspot.com/2019/09/early-published-versions-of-african.html.

Chapter Nine: Stars Shining Bright

Epigraph: My dear friend Dawn Wilson has served as a researcher with Revive Our Hearts for many years. As I am writing this book, she is undergoing chemotherapy for a recurrence of multiple myeloma. This is how she signed an email to me recently.

- 1. "Lexicon: Strong's H7919 śākal," Blue Letter Bible, accessed February 15, 2022, www.blueletterbible.org/lexicon/h7919/kjv/wlc/0-1.
- 2. Daniel 1:4, 17; 9:13, 22, 25; 11:33, 35; 12:3, 10.
- 3. Briton Rivière was a British artist with Huguenot roots who lived from 1840–1920. *Daniel's Answer to the King* was painted in 1890. You can see an image of it at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Briton_Rivi%C3%A8re#/media/File:Briton_Riviere_-_Daniel's_Answer_to_the_King_ (Manchester_Art_Gallery).jpg.

Epilogue: Those Who Know Their God

1. See Deuteronomy 32:17, Psalm 106:37, and 1 Corinthians 10:20.