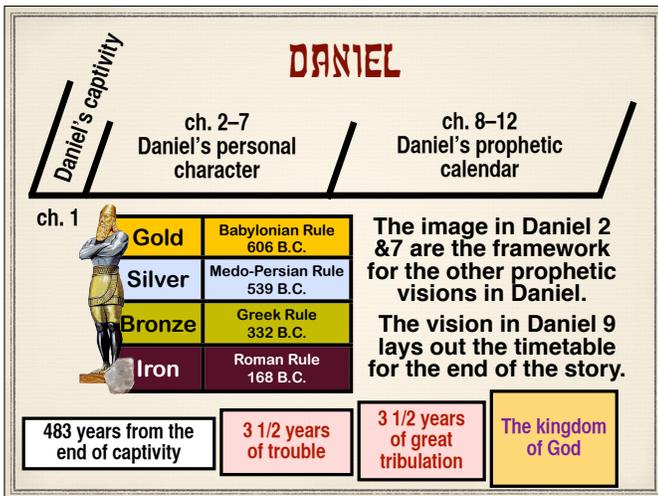
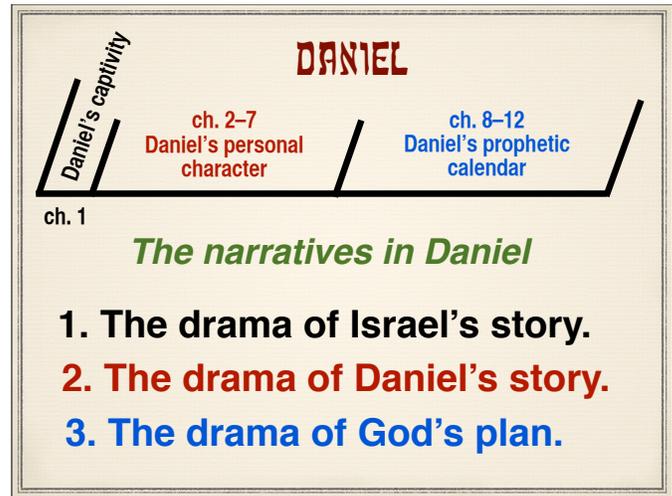


## The role of narrative in the Bible

1. It is one of the most common literary styles in Scripture.
2. It is powerful in connecting principles to life applications.
3. It can convey multiple layers of meaning and application at the same time.



*Daniel 12*

“<sup>4</sup> But as for you, Daniel, conceal these words and seal up the book until the end of time; many will go back and forth, and knowledge will increase. <sup>5</sup> . . . **“How long will it be until the end of these wonders?”** <sup>7</sup> I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be **for a time, times, and half a time (3 1/2 years)**; and as soon as they finish shattering the power of the holy people, all these *events* will be completed.”

“<sup>8</sup> As for me, I heard but could not understand; so I said, **“My lord, what will be the outcome of these events?”** <sup>9</sup> He said, “Go *your way*, Daniel, for *these* words are concealed and sealed up until the end time. <sup>10</sup> Many will be purged, purified and refined, but the wicked will act wickedly; and none of the wicked will understand, but those who have insight will understand. <sup>11</sup> From the time that the regular sacrifice is abolished and the abomination of desolation is set up, *there will be* 1,290 days. <sup>12</sup> How blessed is he who keeps waiting and attains to the 1,335 days! <sup>13</sup> But as for you, go *your way* to the end; then **you will enter into rest and rise again for your allotted portion at the end of the age.**”

*The challenge for us in reading Daniel's prophecies*

1. How are we to understand them?

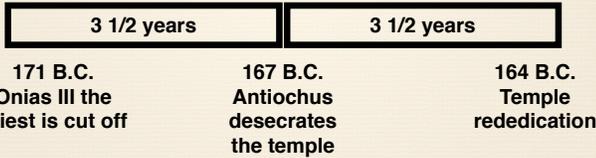
***They will not be clearly understood until the end of time comes.***

***Don't worry.***

*Three times of fulfillment*

1. 2nd century B.C. (Antiochus Epiphanes)
2. 1st century A.D. (1st Advent of Christ)
3. End of time (Antichrist & 2nd Advent)

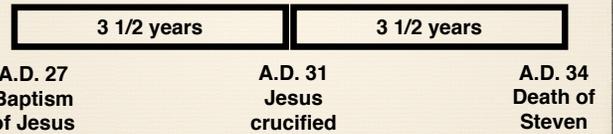
**2nd cent. B.C. view of the 70th week  
(fulfilled by Antiochus Epiphanes)**



*Galatians 4:4*

“But when the **fulness of time** came, God sent forth His Son,”

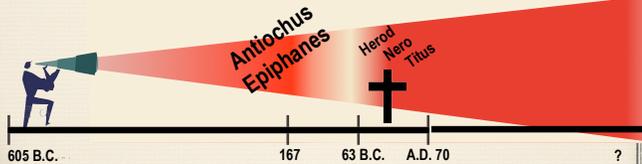
**1st cent. A.D. view of the 70th week  
(fulfilled at Christ’s first advent)**



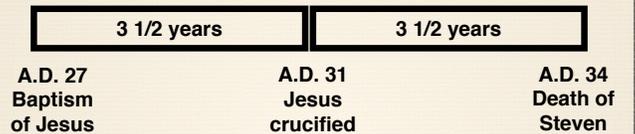
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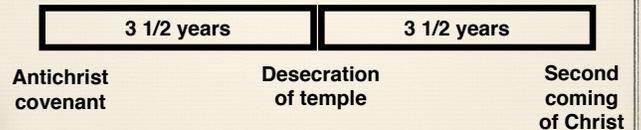
**Timeline of events for Daniel**



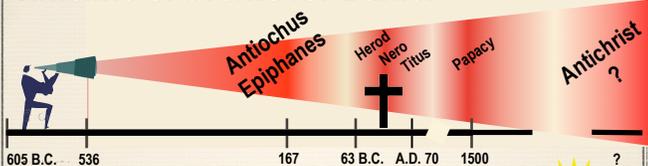
**1st cent. A.D. view of the 70th week  
(fulfilled at Christ’s first advent)**



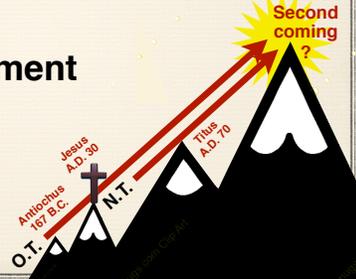
**End of time view of the 70th week  
(fulfilled at Christ’s second advent)**



**Timeline of events for Daniel**



**Multiple fulfillment  
of Biblical  
prophetic  
visions**



*The challenge for us  
in reading Daniel’s prophecies*

**1. How are we to understand them?**

*They will not be clearly understood until the end of time comes.*

*Don’t worry.*

**2. How are we to respond until the end comes?**

## Matthew

Beginning of birth pangs	Great Tribulation	2nd Coming of Christ	Parables	Final Judgment
24:4-14	24:15-28	24:29-31	24:32-25:30	25:31-46
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ False Christs will come</li> <li>✓ Wars &amp; rumors of wars</li> <li>✓ Famine &amp; earthquakes</li> <li>✓ Believers hated by all</li> <li>✓ Conflict within the ch.</li> <li>✓ False prophets</li> <li>✓ Many are misled</li> <li>✓ Increased lawlessness</li> <li>✓ Love will grow cold</li> <li>✓ World evangelism</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Desecration</li> <li>✓ Tribulation</li> <li>✓ False signs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cosmic signs</li> <li>✓ Christ is seen</li> <li>✓ Trumpet sounds</li> <li>✓ Elect gathered</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Fig Tree</li> <li>✓ Servants</li> <li>✓ Virgins</li> <li>✓ Talents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li></li> <li>✓ Sheep</li> <li>✓ Goats</li> </ul>

### Matthew 24 (the fig tree)

“32 Now learn the parable from the fig tree: when its branch has already become tender, and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near; 33 even so you too, **when you see** all these things, recognize that He is near, right at the door. . . 36 But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father alone. . . 44 For this reason you be ready too; for the Son of Man is coming at an hour when you do not think He will.”

✓ God’s people are on **alert** with a unique **understanding** of culture and **expectation** of history.

# Sound expectations

### Matthew 24 (the faithful slave)

“45 Who then is the faithful and sensible slave whom his master put **in charge of his household** to give them their food at the proper time? 46 Blessed is that slave whom his master finds so doing when he comes. . . 48 But if that evil slave says in his heart, ‘My master is not coming for a long time,’ 49 and shall begin to beat his fellow slaves and eat and drink with drunkards; 50 the master of that slave will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour which he does not know,”

✓ God’s people are on **alert** with a unique sense of ethical (personal and social) **responsibility**.

Sound expectations

# Social responsibility

### Matthew 25 (the ten virgins)

“1 Then the kingdom of heaven will be comparable to ten virgins, who took their lamps, and went out to meet the bridegroom 2 And five of them were foolish, and five were **prudent**. 3 For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, 4 but the prudent took oil in flasks along with their lamps. 5 Now while the bridegroom was **delaying**, they all got drowsy and began to sleep. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ 7 Then all those virgins rose, and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the prudent, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 9 But the prudent answered, saying, ‘No, there will not be enough for us and you too; go instead to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ 10 And while they were going away to make the purchase, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding feast; and the door was shut.”

✓ God’s people are on the **alert** and **prepared** to wait for **delayed** gratification in life.

Sound expectations  
Social responsibility

## Delayed gratification

### *Matthew 25 (the talents)*

“14 For it is just like a man about to go on a journey, who called his own slaves, and **entrusted** his possessions to them. 15 And to one he gave five talents, to another, two, and to another, one, each according to his own ability; and he went on his journey. . . 19 Now after a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.”

- ✓ God’s people are on the **alert** and responsible **stewards** of God’s kingdom.

Sound expectations  
Social responsibility  
Delayed gratification

## Faithful stewardship

### *Implications*

- ✓ Know the game plan
- ✓ Care for one another
- ✓ Prepare to endure
- ✓ Don’t act out of fear

### *Matthew 28:20*

“I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”

### *Christ in the book of Daniel?*

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| ✓ Chapter 1<br>- The cup of life.                  | ✓ Chapter 5<br>- The hand writing on the wall. | ✓ Chapter 8<br>- One who looks like a man.     |
| ✓ Chapter 2<br>- The stone.                        | ✓ Chapter 6<br>- The angel in the lion’s den.  | ✓ Chapter 9<br>- The Anointed One, the Ruler.  |
| ✓ Chapter 3<br>- The fourth person in the furnace. | ✓ Chapter 7<br>- The Son of man.               | ✓ Chapter 10,12<br>- The man dressed in Linen. |
| ✓ Chapter 4<br>- The angelic watcher.              |  |  |