

THE BOOK OF DANIEL

Study

By Elder W. T. Russell

1988-89

Faith Missionary Baptist Church

INTRODUCTION

“Tapes are being made of this study to go with others in past years, that even men who have not yet been called, that will be called into the ministry may hear these tapes long after I am laid under the sod. You have no idea unless you have been in this place how great the feeling of responsibility is on me. You know, they sing that song, *‘After I leave this world below, what shall I leave behind?’* And we’re all going to leave something, so it’s either going to be for good or for bad. I’d like for all mine to be good, but I know it hasn’t been. In order for it to have been, it would have had to have been perfect and we are not. I’m glad tonight to be able to stand here before you who have seen fit to come and be in this study. I’m glad to be numbered among this type and this kind of people. I’m glad I’m saved and on my way to heaven. We don’t know how soon we’re going to make the trip, but it’s not bothering me. The one thing that I am deeply concerned about and that is that this age-old doctrine be continued and that we stand and walk in the old paths. You know, the prophet said long ago, *“Stand ye in the ways.”* There are a lot of ways today but the old paths are not found in some of these ways. He said, *“see and ask for the old paths where is the good way and walk therein and ye shall find rest for your soul.”* So that’s what I am concerned about tonight and if I can just leave some impression on the minds of you preachers who are younger than I am that you might be able to pass on to those that will come after you, that God would use it to His honor and glory, that’s the reason I’m here tonight, for His honor and glory.”

These are Brother Russell’s words included in this study on one night of the study. It exemplifies his heart’s desire to help young preachers and others.

It is with much love and respect for this old-time Baptist soldier that we have distributed tapes and CD’s to as many people as we can. He carried his oxygen with him in the pulpit and preached as long as God gave him life and it seems to be the least we can do to try to get his wealth of knowledge of the Scriptures out to those interested in studying. Bro. Russell asked that Sonny distribute these tapes after he is gone.

This transcription has been approved by Brother Russell before he passed away. Any errors that he might have overlooked were likely the transcriber’s and not his.

Sonny and Joyce Callis

STUDY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

By Elder W. T. Russell
December, 1988

Sometime I would like to take the subject of Heaven and preach on it. I don't know when I ever did, but that writer of this song said about as much as anyone can, "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be." We just don't have much said about it in the Bible, I mean outlining it, giving us a view of it to the extent that we could take it up as a subject and actually find the scripture to say very much about it. But it must be a wonderful place and another thing that I have thought about as a reason for not being able to say much about it is the one that exists now is going to be destroyed. The Bible tells us that it will be rolled up as a scroll and cast into a mighty wind and be carried away. I have been asked the question, just why is that anyway? Because sin has been there. The angels sinned, driven out. That's why it is going to be destroyed. Wherever sin has been is going to be destroyed.

Pray for me tonight. I hope that we may be able to get started on this subject, the Book of Daniel. I was tempted today, in reviewing the Book to go into the prophesies of the Book, but that won't work. If we're going to get it all, we had better start at the beginning. We might ask ourselves the question to begin with, just why was Israel taken captive into Babylon for seventy long years? Why? Well, the answer to that is sin and God dealt with the children of Israel because of their iniquities in many ways and at one time He was just about to cast them off and Moses said, you can't do that because if you do, you know what the other nations are going to say about that, they'll say you are unable to take care of your people. Now don't get me wrong tonight. I think all things that we read about in the scriptures are done for a purpose, but God knew what He was doing and even though Moses thought He might not, He had His feet on the ground, so to speak. So all these things that we reason about sometimes have a far deeper meaning than we are able to comprehend.

There are a lot of scriptures that we might use but this one in particular in II Kings, the 24th Chapter is pertinent. Now we don't want to hold these studies too long and I'm not saying that because I don't want to spend the time but I think that short lessons are preferable to be able to understand them and comprehend them rather than a lot of things being said and most of it forgotten about. So we're going to try to limit our studies to 30 minutes or maybe 35, we could go to 40 if it is necessary.

Let's notice this first verse: II Kings, 24:1

- 1 In his (Jehoiakim's) days, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, came up, and Jehoiakim became his servant three years: then he turned and rebelled against him.
- 2 And the Lord sent against him bands of the Chaldees and bands of the Syrians, and bands of the Moabites and bands of the children of Ammon, and sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the Lord, which he spake by his servants the prophets.
- 3 Surely, at the commandment of the Lord came this (now listen to this) upon Judah to remove them out of his sight, for the sins of Manasseh (now that's your cause right there), according to all that he did;