

Faithfulness

Daniel 6:13-24



Key Concept

We honor God when we live in faith and trust in all situations.

Daniel and his friends serve
Nebuchadnezzar
(Daniel 1-4)

Today's Lesson
Daniel is thrown into
the lions' den
(Daniel 6)

The diagram features a horizontal timeline with five grey circular markers. Vertical lines connect the first four markers to the text above them, while the fifth marker is connected to the text below it. The text describes the fall of Babylon and the rise of Cyrus of Persia.

Babylon is conquered by
Darius the Mede, who is
Cyrus of Persia
(Daniel 5)

Daniel's interprets the
writing on the wall for
Belshazzar
(Daniel 5)

Cyrus of Persia issues
decree allowing the Jews to
return to Judah
(Ezra 1)

Kings & Prophets

Legend

JOSIAH
641-609 BC

Name of king and years of reign

AMOS

Name of prophet and approximate dates of influence

Governor Nehemiah

Leaders of the Jewish people after they returned from the Exile in Babylonia

? Dates Unknown

Daniel Exiled to Babylon 605BC

THE EXILE: Judah fell to King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. Many of the inhabitants were deported to Babylon. In 539 BC, Babylon fell to the Medes and Persians. In 538 BC, King Cyrus of Persia issued a proclamation allowing the Jewish people to return to Palestine. Some Jews stayed in Babylon, but those who returned went back in several groups over many years. The temple was rebuilt in 516 BC, 70 years after its destruction.

NAHUM

ZEPHANIAH

JEREMIAH

ISAIAH

MANASSEH

AMON
643-641 BC

JEHOAHAZ (SHALLUM)
609 BC

JEHOIACHIN (JECONIAH)
598-597 BC

Temple Destroyed

JOSIAH

641-609 BC

JEHOIAKIM (ELIAKIM)
609-598 BC

ZEDEKIAH (MATTANIAH)
597-586 BC

70 years

Temple Rebuilt

HAGGAI **ZECHARIAH**

MALACHI?

JOEL?

Governor Sheshbazzar
536? - ? BC

Governor Zerubbabel
Dates unknown

Governor Ezra
457 - ? BC

Governor Nehemiah
444-432 BC

690 BC

680

670

660

650

640

630

620

610

600

590

580

570

560

550

540

530

520

510

500

490

480

470

460

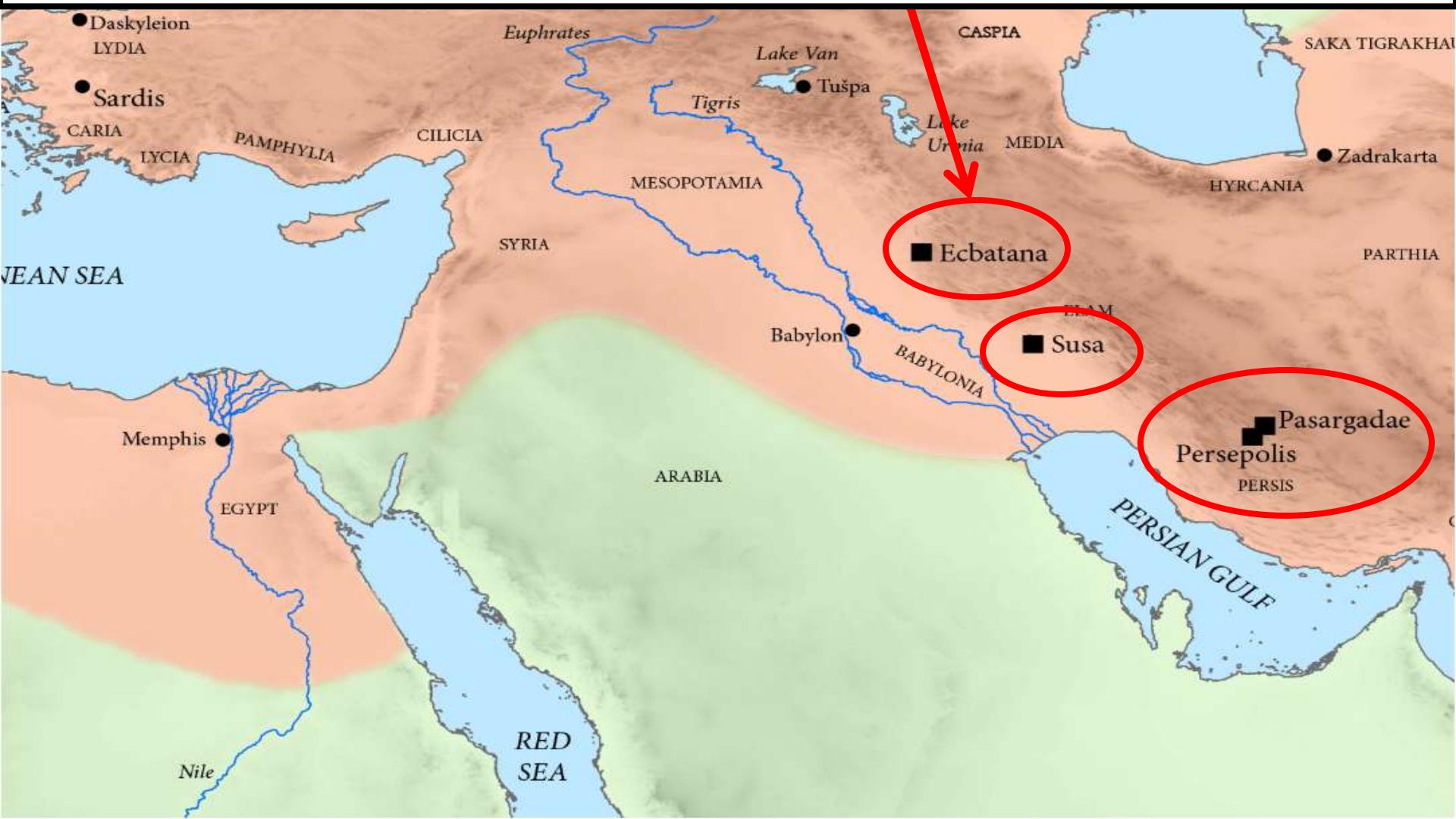
450

440

430

Possible locations for the lion's den.

Ecbatana is located about 250 miles NE from Babylon



**Ecbatana is the historical capital of
Medo-Persian empire and believed to be
the site of Daniel Chp 6 lion's den**



**6th Century Christian relief fragment
discovered in Greece, on display in
museum (Istanbul, Turkey)**



**Artifact from 640 BC Babylon that
showed facilities were keeping captive
lions for royal sport as in
Daniel 6**



•What are some key attributes of how Daniel responded to what he knew could likely be his death sentence for not worshipping Darius?

- 1) *He showed unwavering faith***
- 2) *He boldly proclaimed God's control (over man's authority / worldly things)***
- 3) *Trust in God's will. It is not wrong to say “if its God's will” Because you have your own will that may not be aligned with God's will***
- 4) *Non-negotiable obedience where God is the priority***
- 5) *Public witness and testimony to God's sovereignty***

- How old was Daniel when he was throw into the lion's den?
~ 82 – 83 years old

- Why was Darius prohibited from changing any law once sealed?

Medo-Persians believed that the king's word was divine and infallible / constitutional monarchy

- What exactly is a satrap and what was their purpose?
 - A high-ranking provincial governor
- They were responsible for taxes, order, and justice, holding significant civil / military authority
- The main reason any satrap would wish to have Daniel killed?
 - Daniel was placed over them to prevent corruption and accurate reporting of taxes / empire mgmt
- (T/F) Daniel returned to Jerusalem once Darius declared the decree to the exiles?
 - False – Daniel was advanced aged and a valuable adviser to the new Persian rulers

•What are some significant lessons we should learn from Daniel chapter 6?

1. *Prioritize God over human laws*
2. *Maintain consistent prayer life*
3. *Trust God's sovereignty and provision*
4. *Use your faith as testimony*
5. *Remain humble and develop your wisdom*
6. *Live a life of integrity*
7. *Remain honorable in your behavior*
8. *Rid your life of jealousy and anger*
9. *Remain or become faithful in the routine of reading God's word*
10. *Fellowship will strengthen you*