

DANIEL

SUSANNA

There dwelt a man in Babylon, called Jehoiakim. ²And he took a wife, whose name was Susanna, the daughter of Hilkiah, a very fair woman, and one that feared the Lord. ³Her parents also were righteous, and taught their daughter according to the law of Moses. ⁴Now Jehoiakim was a very rich man, and had a fair garden joining unto his house; and to him resorted the Jews; because he was more honourable than all others. ⁵The same year were appointed two of the ancients of the people to be judges, such as the Lord spake of, that wickedness came from Babylon from ancient judges, who seemed to govern the people. ⁶These kept much at Jehoiakim's house, and any that had suits in law came unto them. ⁷Now when the people departed away at noon, Susanna went into her father's garden to walk. ⁸And the two elders saw her going in every day, and walking; so that their lust was inflamed toward her. ⁹And they perverted their own mind, and turned away their eyes, that they might not look unto heaven, nor remember just judgments. ¹⁰And albeit they were both wounded with her love, yet durst not one shew another his grief. ¹¹For they were ashamed to declare their lust, that they desired to have do with her. ¹²Yet they watched diligently from day to day to see her. ¹³And the one said to the other, Let us now go home: for it is dinner time. ¹⁴So when they were gone out, they parted the one from the other, and turning back again they came to the same place; and after that they had asked one another the cause, they acknowledged their lust: then appointed they a time both together, when they might find her alone. ¹⁵And it fell out, as they watched a fit time, she went in as before with two maids only, and she was desirous to wash herself in the garden: for it was hot. ¹⁶And there was nobody there but the two elders, that hid themselves, and watched her. ¹⁷Then said she to her maids, Bring me oil and washing balls, and shut the garden doors, that I may wash. ¹⁸And they did as she bade them, and shut the garden doors, and went out themselves at private doors to fetch the things that she had commanded them: but they saw not the elders, because they were hid. ¹⁹Now it came to pass, when the maids were gone forth, that the two elders rose up, and ran unto her, saying, ²⁰Behold, the garden doors are shut, that no man can see us, and we are in love with thee; therefore consent unto us, and lie with us. ²¹If thou wilt not, we will bear witness against thee, that a young man was with thee: and therefore didst thou send away thy maids from thee. ²²Then Susanna sighed, and said, I am straitened on every side: for if I do this thing, it is death unto me: and if I do it not, I cannot escape your hands. ²³It is better for me to fall into your hands, and not do it, than to sin in the sight of the Lord. ²⁴With that Susanna cried with a loud voice: and the two elders cried out against her. ²⁵Then ran the one, and opened the garden door. ²⁶So when the servants of the house heard the cry in the garden, they rushed in at a private door, to see what was done unto

her. ²⁷But when the elders had declared their matter, the servants were greatly ashamed: for there never was such a report made of Susanna.

²⁸And it came to pass the next day, when the people were assembled to her husband Jehoiakim, the two elders came also full of mischievous imagination against Susanna to put her to death; ²⁹and said before the people, Send for Susanna, the daughter of Hilkiah, Jehoiakim's wife. And so they sent. ³⁰So she came with her father and mother, her children, and all her kindred. ³¹Now Susanna was a very delicate woman, and beauteous to behold. ³²And these wicked men commanded to uncover her *face* (for she was covered), that they might be filled with her beauty. ³³Therefore her friends and all that saw her wept. ³⁴Then the two elders stood up in the midst of the people, and laid their hands upon her head. ³⁵And she weeping looked up toward heaven: for her heart trusted in the Lord. ³⁶And the elders said, As we walked in the garden alone, this woman came in with two maids, and shut the garden doors, and sent the maids away. ³⁷Then a young man, who there was hid, came unto her, and lay with her. ³⁸Then we that stood in a corner of the garden, seeing this wickedness, ran unto them. ³⁹And when we saw them together, the man we could not hold: for he was stronger than we, and opened the door, and leaped out. ⁴⁰But having taken this woman, we asked who the young man was, but she would not tell us: these things do we testify. ⁴¹Then the assembly believed them, as those that were the elders and judges of the people: so they condemned her to death. ⁴²Then Susanna cried out with a loud voice, and said, O everlasting God, that knowest the secrets, and knowest all things before they be: ⁴³Thou knowest that they have borne false witness against me, and, behold, I must die; seeing I never did such things as these men have maliciously invented against me.

⁴⁴And the Lord heard her voice. ⁴⁵Therefore when she was led to be put to death, the Lord raised up the holy spirit of a young youth, whose name was Daniel: ⁴⁶who cried with a loud voice, I am clear from the blood of this woman. ⁴⁷Then all the people turned them toward him, and said, What mean these words that thou hast spoken? ⁴⁸So he standing in the midst of them said, Are ye such fools, ye sons of Israel, that without examination or knowledge of the truth ye have condemned a daughter of Israel? ⁴⁹Return again to the place of judgment: for they have borne false witness against her. ⁵⁰Wherefore all the people turned again in haste, and the elders said unto him, Come, sit down among us, and shew it us, seeing God hath given thee the honour of an elder. ⁵¹Then said Daniel unto them, Put these two aside one far from another, and I will examine them. ⁵²So when they were put asunder one from another, he called one of them, and said unto him, O thou that art waxen old in wickedness, now thy sins which thou hast committed aforetime are come *to light*: ⁵³for thou hast pronounced false judgment, and hast condemned the innocent, and hast let the guilty go free; albeit the Lord saith, The innocent and righteous shalt thou not slay. ⁵⁴Now then, if thou hast seen her, tell me, Under what tree sawest thou companying together? And he said, Under a mastick tree. ⁵⁵And Daniel said, Very well; thou hast lied against thine own head; for even now the angel of God hath received the

sentence of God to cut thee in two. ⁵⁶So he put him aside, and commanded to bring the other, and said unto him, O thou seed of Canaan, and not of Judah, beauty hath deceived thee, and lust hath perverted thine heart. ⁵⁷Thus have ye dealt with the daughters of Israel, and they for fear companied with you: but the daughter of Judah would not abide your wickedness. ⁵⁸Now therefore tell me, Under what tree didst thou take them companying together? And he said, Under an holm tree. ⁵⁹Then said Daniel unto him, Well; thou hast also lied against thine own head: for the angel of God waiteth with the sword to cut thee in two, that He may destroy you. ⁶⁰With that all the assembly cried out with a loud voice, and praised God, Who saveth them that trust in Him. ⁶¹And they arose against the two elders, for Daniel had convicted them of false witness by their own mouth: ⁶²and according to the law of Moses they did unto them in such sort as they maliciously intended to do to their neighbour: and they put them to death. Thus the innocent blood was saved the same day. ⁶³Therefore Hilkiyah and his wife praised God for their daughter Susanna, with Jehoiakim her husband, and all their kindred, because there was no dishonesty found in her. ⁶⁴From that day forth was Daniel had in great reputation in the sight of the people.

CHAPTER 1

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. ²And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, and part of the vessels of the house of God: and he brought them into the land of Sennaar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god. ³And the king told Ashpenaz his chief eunuch to bring in certain of the captive sons of Israel, and of the seed of the kingdom, and of the princes; ⁴young men in whom was no blemish, but well favoured in appearance, and skilled in all wisdom, and possessing knowledge, and acquainted with prudence, and such as had ability to stand in the house before the king, and to teach them the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans. ⁵And the king appointed them a daily portion of the king's table, and of the wine which he drank; and to nourish them three years, and after they should stand before the king. ⁶Now these were among them of the children of Judah, Daniel, and Ananiah, and Azariah, and Mishael. ⁷And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names: unto Daniel, Belteshazzar; and to Ananiah, Shadrach; and to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego. ⁸But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the king's table, nor with the wine of his drink: and he intreated the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself. ⁹Now God had brought Daniel into favour and compassion with the chief of the eunuchs. ¹⁰And the chief of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink, lest he see your countenances gloomy in comparison of the young men your equals; so shall ye endanger my head to the king. ¹¹Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom

the chief of the eunuchs had appointed over Daniel, Ananiah, Mishael, *and* Azariah, ¹²Prove now thy servants ten days; and let them give us of pulse, and let us eat, and let us drink water: ¹³and let our countenances be seen by thee, and the countenances of the children that eat at the king's table; and thou shalt deal with thy servants according as thou shalt see. ¹⁴And he hearkened unto them, and proved them ten days. ¹⁵And at the end of the ten days their countenances appeared fairer and stouter in flesh than the children that did feed at the king's table. ¹⁶So Melzar took away their supper, and the wine of their drink, and gave them pulse. ¹⁷And as for these four children, God gave them understanding and prudence in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. ¹⁸Now at the end of the days, which the king had give order to bring them in, then the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹And the king communed with them; and there were not found out of them all any like Daniel, and Ananiah, and Mishael, and Azariah: and they stood before the king. ²⁰And in every matter of wisdom and knowledge wherein the king questioned them, he found them ten times wiser than all the enchanters and sorcerers that were in all his kingdom. ²¹And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

CHAPTER 2

In the second year of his reign Nebuchadnezzar dreamed a dream, and his spirit was amazed, and his sleep departed from him. ²And the king commanded to call the enchanters, and the magicians, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, for to shew unto the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king. ³And the king said unto them, I have dreamed; and my spirit was troubled to know the dream. ⁴Then spake the Chaldeans to the king in the Syrian language, saying, O king, live for ever: tell thy servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation. ⁵The king answered the Chaldeans, The thing is gone from me: if ye do not make known unto me the dream and the interpretation, ye shall be destroyed, and your houses shall be spoiled. ⁶But if ye make known the dream to me, and the interpretation thereof, ye shall receive of me gifts and presents and great honour: only tell me the dream, and the interpretation thereof. ⁷They answered the second time, and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will shew the interpretation. ⁸Then king answered and said, I know of a certainty that ye try to buy time, because ye see the thing is gone from me. ⁹If then ye do not tell me the dream, I know that ye have concerted to utter a lying and corrupt tale before me, till the time be past: tell me my dream, and I shall know that ye will also shew me the interpretation thereof. ¹⁰The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth that shall be able to make known the king's matter: forasmuch as no great king or ruler asketh such a question of an enchanter, magician, or Chaldean. ¹¹For the question which the king asketh is hard, and there is none else that shall answer it before the king, but the gods, whose dwelling is not with any flesh.

¹²Then the king in rage and anger commanded to destroy all the wise men of Babylon. ¹³So the decree went forth, and they began to slay the wise men; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to slay *them*. ¹⁴Then Daniel answered with counsel and wisdom to Arioch the captain of the royal guard, which was gone forth to slay the wise men of Babylon; saying, O chief magistrate of the king, wherefore is the peremptory command come from the king? So Arioch made the thing known to Daniel. ¹⁵Then Daniel intreated the king that he would give him time, and that he might shew the king the interpretation of it. ¹⁶So Daniel went into his house, and made the thing known to Ananiah, and Mishael, and Azariah, his friends. ¹⁷And they sought mercies of the God of heaven concerning this mystery; that Daniel and his friends should not perish with the rest of the wise men of Babylon. ¹⁸Then was the mystery revealed unto Daniel in a vision of the night: and Daniel blessed the God of heaven, ¹⁹and said, Blessed be the name of God from everlasting to everlasting: for wisdom and understanding are His. ²⁰And He changeth the times and the seasons: He appointeth kings, and removeth them, giving wisdom to the wise, and prudence to them that have understanding: ²¹He revealeth the deep and secret things; knowing what is in the darkness, and the light is with Him. ²²I give thanks unto Thee, and praise Thee, O God of my fathers, for Thou hast given me wisdom and power, and hast made known unto me the things which we desired of Thee: and Thou hast made known unto me the king's vision. ²³And Daniel came to Arioch, whom the king had appointed to destroy the wise men of Babylon, and said unto him; Destroy not the wise men of Babylon; but bring me in before the king, and I will shew unto the king the interpretation. ²⁴Then Arioch brought in Daniel before the king in haste, and said unto him, I have found a man of the captivity of Judah, that will shew unto the king the interpretation. ²⁵And the king answered and said to Daniel, whose name was Belteshazzar, Art thou able to shew unto me the dream which I have seen, and the interpretation thereof? ²⁶And Daniel stood before the king, and said, The mystery which the king hath asked is not of the wise men, magicians, enchanters, or soothsayers to shew unto the king. ²⁷But there is a God in heaven that revealeth mysteries, and He hath made known to king Nebuchadnezzar what things must be in the last days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these, ²⁸O king; thy thoughts arose upon thy bed what must come to pass hereafter: and He that revealeth mysteries hath made known to thee what must come to pass. ²⁹Moreover, this mystery is not revealed to me by reason of wisdom that is in me beyond all living, but for the sake of making known the interpretation to the king, that thou mightest know the thoughts of thy heart. ³⁰Thou, O king, sawest, and behold, an image: that was a great image, and the appearance of it excellent, standing before thy face; and the form thereof was terrible. ³¹*It was* an image, the head whereof was of fine gold, his hands and breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, ³²his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of earthenware. ³³Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out of a mountain without hands, and it smote the image upon his feet of iron and earthenware, and utterly reduced them to

powder. ³⁵Then once for all was the earthenware, the iron, the brass, the silver, and the gold, ground to powder, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloor; and the violence of the wind carried them away, and no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled all the earth. ³⁶This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. ³⁷Thou, O king, art a king of kings, unto whom the God of heaven hath given a powerful and strong and honourable kingdom, ³⁸in every place where dwell the children of men: and the wild beasts of the field, and the fowls of the heaven, and the fishes of the sea, hath He given into thine hand, and hath made thee lord of all. ³⁹Thou art the head of gold. And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and a third kingdom, which is the brass, which shall have dominion over all the earth; ⁴⁰and a fourth kingdom, which shall be strong as iron: as iron beateth to powder, and subdueth all things, so shall it beat to powder and subdue. ⁴¹And seeing thou sawest the feet and toes, part of earthenware, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet shall there be in it of the strength of iron, as thou sawest the iron mixed with earthenware. ⁴²And seeing the toes were part of iron, and part of earthenware, part of the kingdom shall be strong, and part of it shall be broken. ⁴³Whereas thou sawest the iron mixed with earthenware, they shall be mingled with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave together, even as the iron mixeth not itself with earthenware. ⁴⁴And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and his kingdom shall not be left to another people; *but* it shall beat to pieces and grind to powder all kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. ⁴⁵Whereas thou sawest that a stone was cut out of a mountain without hands, and that beat to pieces the earthenware, the iron, the brass, the silver, and the gold; the great god hath made known to the king what must come to pass hereafter: and the dream is true, and the interpretation thereof sure. ⁴⁶Then king Nebuchadnezzar fell upon his face, and worshipped Daniel, and gave order to offer him gifts and incense. ⁴⁷And the king answered and said unto Daniel, Of a truth your God is a God of gods, and Lord of kings, Who revealeth mysteries: for thou hast been able to reveal this mystery. ⁴⁸And the king promoted Daniel, and gave him great and abundant gifts, and set over the whole province of Babylon, and chief satrap over all the wise men of Babylon. ⁴⁹And Daniel asked of the king, and he appointed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, over the affairs of the province of Babylon: but Daniel was in the king's palace.

CHAPTER 3

In *his* eighteenth year Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold: the height thereof was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: and he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the land of Babylon. ²And he sent to gather together all the governors, and generals, and magistrates, and chiefs, and princes, and all them that were in authority, and all the rulers of

countries, to come to the dedication of the image. ³Then the magistrates, and governors, and generals, and chiefs, and great princes, and those in authority, all the governors of countries, were gathered together unto the dedication of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. ⁴Then an herald cried aloud, To you it is commanded, O peoples, nations, tribes and languages, ⁵that at what hour ye hear the sound of the trumpet, pipe, harp, sackbut, psaltery, and every kind of music, ye fall down and worship the golden image which king Nebuchadnezzar hath set up: ⁶and whoso falleth not down and worshipping, in the same hour shall be cast into the burning fiery furnace. ⁷And it came to pass when the nations heard the sound of the trumpet, and pipe, and harp, and sackbut, and psaltery, and every kind of music, all the nations, tribes and languages, fell down and worshipped the golden image which king Nebuchadnezzar had set up. ⁸Then certain Chaldeans came near, and accused the Jews unto the king, saying, ⁹O king, live for ever. ¹⁰Thou, O king, hast made a decree, that every man that shall hear the sound of the trumpet, and pipe, and harp, and sackbut, and psaltery, and all kinds of music, ¹¹and falleth not down and worshipping the golden image, shall be cast into the burning fiery furnace. ¹²There are certain Jews whom thou hast set over the affairs of the land of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who have not obeyed thy decree, O king: they serve not thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. ¹³Then Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury commanded Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego to be brought; and they were brought before the king. ¹⁴And Nebuchadnezzar answered and said unto them, Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that ye serve not my gods, nor worship the golden image which I have set up? ¹⁵Now therefore if ye be ready whensoever ye hear the sound of trumpet, and pipe, and harp, and sackbut, and psaltery, and every kind of music, to fall down and worship the golden image which I have set up; *well*: but if ye worship not, ye shall be cast in that hour into the burning fiery furnace; and who is the God that shall deliver you out of my hands? ¹⁶Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said unto king Nebuchadnezzar, We have no need to answer thee concerning this matter: ¹⁷for our God whom we serve is in the heavens, *and* able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will rescue us out of thine hands, O king. ¹⁸But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up. ¹⁹Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: and he commanded to heat the furnace sevenfold, until it should burn to the uttermost. ²⁰And he commanded mighty men to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and to cast *them* into the burning fiery furnace. ²¹Then those men were bound in their coats, and caps, and hosen, and other garments; and they were cast into the midst of the burning fiery furnace, ²²forasmuch as the king's word prevailed; and the furnace was made exceeding hot. ²³And these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down bound into the midst of the burning

furnace, and walked in the midst of the flame, singing praise unto God, and blessing the Lord.

SONG OF AZARIAS AND HYMN OF THE THREE

And Azariah prayed on this manner; and opening his mouth in the midst of the fire, said,

²Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers: and praised and glorified is thy name unto the ages: ³for Thou art righteous in all the things that Thou hast done to us: yea, true are all Thy works, Thy ways are right, and all Thy judgments are truth. ⁴And in all the things that Thou hast brought upon us, and upon the holy city of our fathers, *even* Jerusalem, Thou hast executed true judgment: for according to truth and judgment didst Thou bring all these things upon us because of our sins. ⁵For we have sinned and committed iniquity, departing from Thee, ⁶and in all things have we trespassed, and not obeyed Thy commandments, nor kept them, neither done as Thou hast commanded us, that it might go well with us. ⁷Wherefore all that Thou hast brought upon us, and every thing that Thou hast done to us, Thou hast done in true judgment. ⁸And Thou didst deliver us into the hands of our lawless enemies, and to an unjust king, and the most wicked in all the world. ⁹And now we cannot open our mouths, we are become a shame and reproach to Thy servants, and to them that honour Thee. ¹⁰Yet deliver us not up wholly, for Thy name's sake, neither disannul Thou Thy covenant: ¹¹and cause not Thy mercy to depart from us, for Thy beloved Abraham's sake, and for Thy servant Isaac's sake, and for Thy holy Israel's sake; ¹²to whom Thou hast spoken and promised that Thou wouldest multiply their seed as the stars of heaven, and as the sand that lieth upon the sea shore. ¹³For we, O Lord, are become less than all the nations, and be humbled this day in all the world because of our sins. ¹⁴Neither is there at this time prince, or prophet, or leader, or burnt offering, or sacrifice, or oblation, or incense, or place to sacrifice before Thee, and to find mercy. ¹⁵Nevertheless in a contrite heart and an humble spirit let us be accepted: ¹⁶like as in the burnt offerings of rams and bullocks, and like as in ten thousand of fat lambs, so let our sacrifice be acceptable in Thy sight this day, and let it be perfected behind Thee: for there is no shame unto them that put their trust in Thee. ¹⁷And now we follow Thee with all our heart, and we fear Thee, and seek Thy face. ¹⁸Put us not to shame: but deal with us after Thy lovingkindness, and according to the multitude of Thy mercies. ¹⁹Deliver us also according to Thy marvellous works, and give glory to Thy name, O Lord: and let all them that do Thy servants hurt be ashamed; ²⁰and let them be confounded in all their power and might, and let their strength be broken. ²¹And let them know that Thou, O Lord, alone art God, and glorious over the whole world.

²²And the king's servants, that put them in, ceased not to make the furnace hot with naphtha, pitch, tow, and small wood; ²³so that the flame streamed forth above the furnace forty and nine cubits. ²⁴And it passed

through, and burned those Chaldeans it found about the furnace. ²⁵But the angel of the Lord came down into the furnace together with Azariah and his fellows, and smote the flame of the fire out of the furnace; ²⁶and made the midst of the furnace as it had been a moist whistling wind; so that the fire touched them not at all, neither hurt nor troubled them.

²⁷Then the three, as out of one mouth, praised, glorified, and blessed God in the furnace, saying,

²⁸Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers: and to be praised and exalted above all for ever. ²⁹And blessed is Thy glorious and holy name: and to be praised and exalted above all for ever. ³⁰Blessed art Thou in the temple of Thy glory: and to be praised and exalted above all for ever. ³¹Blessed art Thou that beholdest the depths, and sittest upon the cherubim: and to be praised and exalted above all for ever. ³²Blessed art Thou on the glorious throne of thy kingdom: and to be praised and exalted above all for ever. ³³Blessed art Thou in the firmament of heaven: and to be praised and exalted above all for ever. ³⁴Bless ye the Lord, O all ye works of the Lord: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ³⁵Bless ye the Lord, O ye heavens: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ³⁶Bless ye the Lord, O ye angels of the Lord: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ³⁷Bless ye the Lord, all ye waters that be above the heavens: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ³⁸Bless ye the Lord, all ye powers of the Lord: praise Him and exalt Him above all for ever. ³⁹Bless ye the Lord, O ye sun and moon: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁴⁰Bless the Lord, O ye stars of heaven: praise Him and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁴¹Bless ye the Lord, O every shower and dew: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁴²Bless ye the Lord, O all ye winds: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁴³Bless ye the Lord, O ye fire and heat: praise and exalt Him for ever. ⁴⁴Bless ye the Lord, O ye frost and heat: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁴⁵Bless ye the Lord, O ye dews and snows: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁴⁶Bless ye the Lord, O ye nights and days: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁴⁷Bless ye the Lord, O ye light and darkness: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁴⁸Bless ye the Lord, O ye frost and heat: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁴⁹Bless ye the Lord, O ye frosts and snows: praise and exalt him above all for ever. ⁵⁰Bless the Lord, O ye lightnings and clouds: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁵¹Bless ye the Lord, O ye earth: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁵²Bless ye the Lord, O ye mountains and hills: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁵³Bless ye the Lord, O ye all ye things that grow on the earth: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁵⁴Bless ye the Lord, O ye seas and rivers: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁵⁵Bless ye the Lord, O ye fountains: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁵⁶Bless the Lord, O ye whales, and all that move in the waters: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁵⁷Bless ye the Lord, O all ye fowls of the air: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁵⁸Bless the Lord, O all ye beasts and cattle: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁵⁹Bless ye the Lord, O ye sons of men: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁶⁰Bless ye the Lord, O Israel: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁶¹Bless ye the Lord, O ye priests of the Lord: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁶²Bless ye the

Lord, O ye servants of the Lord: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁶³Bless ye the Lord, O ye spirits and souls of the righteous: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁶⁴Bless ye the Lord, O ye holy and humble men of heart: praise and exalt Him above all for ever. ⁶⁵Bless ye the Lord, O Ananiah, Azariah, and Mishael: praise and exalt Him above all for ever: for He hath delivered us from Hades, and saved us from the hand of death, and delivered us out of the midst of the furnace *and* burning flame: even out of the midst of the fire hath He delivered us. ⁶⁶O give thanks unto the Lord, because He is gracious: for His mercy endureth for ever. ⁶⁷O all ye that worship the Lord, bless the God of gods, praise Him, and give Him thanks: for His mercy endureth for ever.

²⁴And king Nebuchadnezzar heard them singing praises; and he wondered, and rose up in haste, and said unto his noble men, "Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? and they said unto the king, True, O king. ²⁵And the king said, But I see four men loose, and walking in the midst of the fire, and there is no destruction to them; and the appearance of the fourth is like the son of God. ²⁶Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the burning fiery furnace, and said, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, ye servants of the Most High God, come forth, and come hither. So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came forth of the midst of the fire. ²⁷Then were assembled the satraps, and captains, and heads of provinces, and the royal princes; and they saw the men, that the fire had no power against their bodies, nor was the hair of their head burnt, and their coats were not scorched, nor was the smell of fire on them. ²⁸Then king Nebuchadnezzar answered and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, Who hath sent His angel, and delivered His servants, because they trusted in Him, and have changed the king's word, and delivered their bodies to be burnt, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. ²⁹Wherefore I publish a decree: Every people, tribe, or language, which speech reproachfully against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be destroyed, and their houses shall be spoiled: because there is no other God that shall be able to deliver after this sort. ³⁰Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon, and advanced them, and gave them authority to rule over all the Jews that were in his kingdom.

³¹King Nebuchadnezzar unto all nations, tribes, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you. ³²It seemed good to me to shew unto you the signs and wonders that the Most high God hath wrought with me, ³³how great and mighty: His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and His power is unto generation and generation.

CHAPTER 4

I Nebuchadnezzar was flourishing in mine house, and prospering. ²I saw a vision, and it made me afraid, and I was troubled upon my head, and

the visions of my head troubled me. ³Therefore made I a decree to bring in all the wise men of Babylon before me, that they might make known unto me the interpretation of the dream. ⁴Then came in the enchanters, magicians, soothsayers, and Chaldeans: and I told the dream before them; but they did not make known unto me the interpretation thereof; ⁵until Daniel came, whose name is Belteshazzar, according to the name of my god, who hath within him the Holy Spirit of God; unto whom said I, ⁶O Belteshazzar, chief of the enchanters, of whom I know that the Holy Spirit of God is in thee, and no mystery is too hard for thee, hear the vision of my dream which I have had, and tell me the interpretation thereof. ⁷I had a vision upon my bed; and behold a tree in the midst of the earth, and the height thereof was great. ⁸The tree grew large and strong, and the height thereof reached unto the heaven, and the extent thereof unto the extremity of the whole earth: ⁹the leaves thereof were fair, and the fruit thereof abundant, and in it was meat for all; and under it the wild beasts of the field took shelter, and the fowls of the heaven dwelt in the boughs thereof, and all flesh was fed of it. ¹⁰I beheld in the night vision upon my bed, and, behold, a watcher and an holy one came down from heaven, and cried aloud, and said thus, 'Hew down the tree, and pluck off his branches, and shake off his leaves, and scatter his fruit: let the wild beasts be removed from under it, and the fowls from his branches. ¹²Only leave the stump of his roots in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass; and it shall lie in the grass that is without, and in the dew of heaven, and his portion with the wild beasts in the grass of the field. ¹³His heart shall be changed from that of man, and the heart of a wild beast shall be given unto him; and seven times shall pass over him. ¹⁴The matter is by the decree of the watcher, and the demand is a word of the holy ones; that the living may know that the Lord is most high *over* the kingdom of men, and He will give it to whomsoever He shall please, and will set up over it that which is set at nought of men. ¹⁵This is the vision which I king Nebuchadnezzar saw: and do thou, Belteshazzar, declare the interpretation, for none of the wise men of my kingdom are able to shew me the interpretation thereof: but thou, Daniel, art able; for the Holy Spirit of God is in thee. ¹⁶Then Daniel, whose name is Belteshazzar, was astonished about one hour, and his thoughts troubled him. And Belteshazzar answered and said, My Lord, let the dream be to them that hate thee, and the interpretation thereof to thine enemies. ¹⁷The tree that thou sawest, which grew large and strong, whose height reached unto the heaven, and the extent thereof to all the earth; ¹⁸and whose leaves were flourishing, and the fruit thereof abundant, and it was meat for all; under it the wild beasts dwelt, and in whose branches the fowls of the heaven took shelter, ¹⁹is thee, O king: for thou art grown great and powerful: and thy greatness hath increased and reached unto heaven, and thy dominion to the ends of the earth. ²⁰And seeing the king saw a watcher and an holy one coming down from heaven, and he said, Strip the tree, and destroy it; only leave the stump of the roots thereof in the earth, even with a band of iron and brass; and it shall lie in the grass that is without, and in the dew of heaven, and the portion thereof shall be with wild beasts, till seven times be passed

over it; ²¹this is the interpretation thereof, O king, and it is a decree of the Most High, which is come by anticipation upon my lord the king. ²²And they shall drive thee forth from men, and thy dwelling shall be with wild beasts, and they shall feed thee with grass as an ox, and thou shalt have thy lodging under the dew of heaven, and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the most High is Lord of the kingdom of men, and will give it to whomsoever He shall please. ²³And whereas they said, Leave the stumps of the roots of the tree; thy kingdom abideth unto thee from the time that thou shall know the power of the heavens. ²⁴Therefore, O king, let my counsel please thee, and atone for thy sins by alms, and thine iniquities by compassion upon the poor: it may be that God will be longsuffering to thy trespasses. ²⁵All these things came upon king Nebuchadnezzar. ²⁶After a twelvemonth, as he walked in his garden in Babylon, ²⁷the king answered and said, Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for an house of the kingdom by the might of my power, for the honour of my glory? ²⁸While the word was yet in the king's mouth, there came a voice from heaven, saying, O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee they say, The kingdom is departed from thee. ²⁹And they *shall* drive thee from men, and thy dwelling shall be with the wild beasts of the field, and they shall feed thee with grass as an ox: and seven times shall pass over thee, until thou know that the Most High is Lord of the kingdom of men, and He will give it to whomsoever He shall please. ³⁰In the same hour the word was fulfilled upon king Nebuchadnezzar: and he was driven forth from men, and he ate grass as an ox, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like lions' *hairs*, and his nails like birds' *claws*. ³¹And at the end of the time I Nebuchadnezzar lifted up mine eyes unto heaven, and mine understanding returned to me, and I blessed the Most High, and praised Him that liveth for ever, and gave *Him* glory; for His dominion is an everlasting dominion, and His kingdom is to all generations: ³²and all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and He doeth according to His will in the power of heaven, and in the habitation of the earth: and there is none that shall withstand His power, and say unto Him, What hast thou done? ³³At the same time my reason returned unto me; and I came to the honour of my kingdom; and my form returned to me; and my princes and my noble men sought unto me; and I was established in my kingdom, and more abundant majesty was added unto me. ³⁴Now therefore I Nebuchadnezzar praise and greatly exalt and glorify the King of heaven; for all his works are true, and His ways are judgment: and all those that walk in pride He is able to abase.

CHAPTER 5

Belshazzar the king made a great supper to a thousand of his lords, and *there was* wine before the thousand. ²And Belshazzar whiles he drank, commanded as he tasted the wine that they should bring the golden and

silver vessels, which his father Nebuchadnezzar had taken out of the temple in Jerusalem; that the king, and his lords, and his concubines, and his consorts, might drink therein. ³So the golden and silver vessels were brought that he had taken out of the temple of God in Jerusalem; and the king, and his lords, and his concubines, and his consorts, drank out of them. ⁴They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, and of brass, and of iron, and of wood, and of stone. ⁵In the same hour came forth fingers of a man's hand, and wrote over against the lamp on the plaister of the wall of the king's house: and the king saw the knuckles of the hand that wrote. ⁶Then the king's countenance was changed, and his thoughts troubled him, and the joints of his loins were loosed, and his knees smote one against another. ⁷And the king cried aloud to bring in the magicians, and the Chaldeans, and the soothsayers; and he said to the wise men of Babylon, Whosoever shall read this writing, and make known to me the interpretation, shall be clothed with scarlet, and have a chain of gold about his neck, and shall be the third ruler in my kingdom. ⁸Then came in all the king's wise men: but they could not read the writing, nor make known to the king the interpretation. ⁹And king Belshazzar was troubled, and his countenance changed upon him, and his lords were troubled with him. ¹⁰Then came the queen into the banquet house, and said, O king, live for ever: let not thy thoughts trouble thee, nor let thy countenance be changed. ¹¹There is a man in thy kingdom, in whom is the Spirit of God; and in the days of thy father watchfulness and understanding were found in him; and king Nebuchadnezzar thy father made him chief of the enchanters, magicians, Chaldeans, *and* soothsayers. ¹²For *there is* an excellent spirit in him, and knowledge and understanding are in him, interpreting of dreams, and shewing hard questions, and dissolving of bonds, Daniel, and the king gave him the name of Belshazzar: now then let him be called, and he shall tell thee the interpretation thereof. ¹³Then was Daniel brought in before the king: and the king said unto Daniel, Art thou Daniel, of the children of the captivity of Judah, which the king my father brought? ¹⁴I have even heard of thee, that the Spirit of God is in thee, and that watchfulness and understanding and excellent wisdom are found in thee. ¹⁵And now the wise men, magicians, and soothsayers, came in before me to read the writing, and to make known unto me the interpretation; but they could not shew it me. ¹⁶And I have heard of thee, that thou canst make interpretations: now then if thou canst read the writing, and make known to me the interpretation thereof, thou shalt be clothed with purple, and there shalt be a chain of gold about thy neck, and shalt be the third ruler in the kingdom. ¹⁷Then Daniel said, Let thy gifts be to thyself, and give the present of thine house to another; yet will I read the writing, and make known to thee the interpretation thereof. ¹⁸O thou king, the Most High God gave Nebuchadnezzar thy father a kingdom, and majesty, and honour, and glory: ¹⁹and for the majesty that He gave him, all nations, tribes, and languages, trembled and feared before him: whom he would he slew; and whom he would he smote; and whom he would he exalted; and whom he would he abased. ²⁰But when his heart was lifted up, and his spirit was strengthened to act in

pride, he was deposed from his royal throne, and his honour was taken from him. ²¹And he was driven forth from men; and his heart was given him after the nature of wild beasts, and his dwelling was with the wild asses; and they fed him with grass like an ox, and his body was bathed with the dew of heaven; till he knew that the Most High God is Lord of the kingdom of men, and will give it to whomsoever He will. ²²And thou accordingly, his son, O Belshazzar, hast not humbled thine heart before God, though thou knewest all this. ²³And thou hast lifted up thyself against the Lord God of heaven; and they have brought the vessels of His house before thee, and thou, and thy noble men, and thy concubines, and thy consorts, have drunk wine out of them; and thou hast praised the gods of gold, and silver, and of brass, and iron, and wood, and stone, which see not, and which hear not, and know not: and the God in Whose hand thy breath is, and all thy ways, hast thou not glorified. ²⁴Therefore hath been sent from His presence the knuckle of an hand; and He hath commanded this writing. ²⁵And this is the writing commanded, Mane, Tekel, Upharsin. ²⁶This is the interpretation of the word: Mane; God hath measured thy kingdom, and fulfilled it. ²⁷Tekel; it is weighed in the balance, and found wanting. ²⁸Upharsin; thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and the Persians. ²⁹Then commanded Belshazzar, and they clothed Daniel with scarlet, and put the chain of gold about his neck, and made a proclamation concerning him, that he was the third ruler in the kingdom. ³⁰In that same night was Belshazzar the Chaldean king slain. ³¹And Darius the Median succeeded to the kingdom, being threescore and two years old.

CHAPTER 6

And it pleased Darius, and he set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty satraps, to be in his whole kingdom; ²and over them three governors, of whom one was Daniel, for the satraps to give account unto them, that the king should not be troubled. ³And Daniel was over them, because an excellent spirit *was* in him; and the king set him over the whole realm. ⁴Then the governors and satraps sought to find occasion against Daniel; but they found against him no occasion, nor trespass, nor error, because he was faithful. ⁵And the governors said, We shall not find occasion against Daniel, except in the ordinances of his God. ⁶Then the governors and satraps stood by the king, and said unto him, King Darius, live for ever. ⁷All that preside over thy kingdom, captains, and satraps, chiefs, and local governors, have consulted together to establish by a royal statute, and to confirm a decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any god or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the pit of lions. ⁸Now then O king, establish the decree, and publish a writ, that the decree of the Persians and Medes be not changed. ⁹Then king Darius commanded the decree to be written. ¹⁰Now when Daniel knew that the decree was commanded, he went into his house; and his windows were opened in his upper chambers toward Jerusalem, and

he kneeled upon his knees three times in the day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime. ¹¹Then these men watched, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. ¹²Then they came, and said unto the king, O king, hast thou not made a decree, that whatsoever man shall ask a petition of any god or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall cast into the pit of lions? And the king said, The word is true, and the decree of the Medes and Persians shall not pass. ¹³Then answered they and said before the king, Daniel of the children of the captivity of Judah, hath not submitted to thy decree; and three times in the day maketh his requests unto God. ¹⁴Then the king, when he heard the saying, was much grieved for Daniel, and greatly exerted himself till the going down of the sun to deliver him. ¹⁵Then these men said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, that we must not change any decree or statute which the king shall make. ¹⁶Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the pit of lions. But the king said unto Daniel, Thy God Whom thou servest continually, He will deliver thee. ¹⁷And they brought a stone, and put it upon the mouth of the pit: and the king sealed it with his ring, and with the ring of his noble men; that the case might not be changed concerning Daniel. ¹⁸And the king departed to his house, and lay down fasting, and they brought him no food; and his sleep went from him. But God shut the mouths of the lions, and they did not molest Daniel. ¹⁹Then the king arose very early in the morning, and came in haste unto the pit of lions. ²⁰And when he came near to the pit, he cried with a loud voice, O Daniel, servant of the living God, hath thy God, Whom thou servest continually, been able to deliver thee from the lion's mouth? ²¹Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. ²²My God hath sent His angel, and hath stopped the lions' mouth, and they have not hurt me: and moreover before thee, O king, have I committed no trespass. ²³Then was the king exceeding glad, and commanded to bring Daniel out of the pit. So Daniel was brought out of the pit, and no hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God. ²⁴And the king commanded, and they brought the men which had accused Daniel, and they were cast into the pit of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and they reached not the bottom of the pit before the lions had the mastery of them, and utterly brake all their bones to pieces. ²⁵Then king Darius wrote unto all nations, tribes, *and* languages, that dwell in all the earth, *saying*, Peace be multiplied unto you. ²⁶This decree is set forth by me in every dominion of my kingdom, that *men* tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for He is the living and eternal God, and His kingdom shall not be destroyed, and His dominion is for ever. ²⁷He helpeth and delivereth, and He worketh signs and wonders in the heaven and in the earth, Who hath rescued Daniel from the power of the lions. ²⁸And Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

CHAPTER 7

In the first year of Belshazzar king of the Chaldeans Daniel saw a dream, and there were visions of his head upon his bed: and he wrote his dream. ²I Daniel beheld, and, lo, the four winds of heaven blew vehemently upon the great sea. ³And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. ⁴The first was like a lioness, and her wings *were* like an eagle's: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and she was lifted up from the earth, and she stood on the feet of a man, and a man's heart was given to her. ⁵And, behold, a second beasts like to a bear, and it supported itself on one side, and there were three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. ⁶After this I beheld, and, lo, another wild beast, like a leopard, and it had upon it four wings of a fowl: the wild beast had also four heads; and power was given unto it. ⁷After this I beheld, and, lo, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and the teeth of it were of iron, devouring and crushing to atoms; and it trampled to residue with the feet of it: and it was altogether diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it *had* ten horns. ⁸I considered his horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, and before it three of the former horns were rooted out: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things. ⁹I beheld until the thrones were set, and the Ancient of days did sit, and His raiment was white as snow, and the hair of His head like pure wool: His throne was like a flame of fire, and His wheels burning fire. ¹⁰A stream of fire issued forth before Him: thousand thousands ministered unto Him, and then thousand times ten thousands attended on Him: the judgment sat, and the books were opened. ¹¹I beheld then because of the great words which that horn spake, even till the wild beasts was slain, and destroyed, and his body given to the burning of fire. ¹²And the dominion of the rest of the wild beasts was taken away: yet a prolonging of life was given them for time and time. ¹³I saw in the night vision, and, behold, One like the Son of man coming with the clouds of heaven, and He came on to the Ancient of days, and was brought near to Him. And there was given Him the dominion, and the honour, and the kingdom; and all nations, tribes, and languages, shall serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom shall not be destroyed. ¹⁴As for me, Daniel, my spirit in my body trembled, and the visions of my mind troubled me. ¹⁵Then drew I near to one of them that stood by, and I sought to learn of him the truth of all these things: and he told me the truth, and made known unto me the interpretation of these things. ¹⁶These four beasts are four kingdoms, that shall rise up on the earth: ¹⁷which shall be taken away; and the saints of the Most High shall take the kingdom, and possess it for ever and ever. ¹⁸Then I enquired carefully of the fourth beast; for it differed from every other beast, exceeding dreadful: the teeth of it were iron, and the claws of it were brass, devouring, and utterly breaking to pieces, and it trampled the residue with his feet: ¹⁹and of the ten horns that were in his head, and of the other that came up, and

rooted up of the former; that had eyes, and a mouth that spake great things; and his look was bolder than the rest. ²¹I beheld, and that horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; ²²until the Ancient of days came, and gave judgment to the saints of the Most High; and the time came on, and the saints possessed the kingdom. ²³And He said, The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon the earth, which shall excel all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and tread it down, and cut it in pieces. ²⁴And his ten horns are ten kings *that* shall arise: and after them shall rise another, that shall exceed all the former ones in evil, and he shall subdue three kings. ²⁵And he shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and law: and *they* shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time. ²⁶And the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away *his* dominion, to abolish it, and to destroy it utterly. ²⁷And the kingdom, and the power, and the greatness of the kings that are under the whole heaven, shall be given to the saints of the Most High; and His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all powers shall serve and obey Him. ²⁸Hitherto is the end of the matter. As for me Daniel, my cogitations much troubled me, and my countenance was changed: but I kept the matter in my heart.

CHAPTER 8

In the third year of the reign of Belshazzar a vision appeared unto me, even unto me Daniel, after that which appeared unto me at the first. ²And I was in Shushan the palace, which is in the land of Elam, and I was on the *river of Ulai*. ³And I lifted up mine eyes, and saw, and, behold, one ram standing before the Ulai; and he had high horns, and one was higher than the other, and the high one came up last. ⁴And I saw the ram pushing westward, and northward, and southward; and no beast could stand before him, and there was none that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great. ⁵And I was considering, and, behold, an he goat of the goats came from the south west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. ⁶And he came to the ram that had the horns, which I had seen standing before the Ulai, and ran at him with the violence of his strength. ⁷And I saw him coming up close to the ram, and he was moved with choler against him, and smote the ram, and brake both his horns: and there was no strength in the ram to stand before him, but he cast him down to the ground, and trampled on him: and there was none that could deliver the ram out of his hand. ⁸And the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, his great horn was broken; and four other *horns* rose up under him toward the four winds of heaven. ⁹And out of one of them came forth one strong horn, and it waxed exceeding great toward the south, and toward the host: ¹⁰and it magnified itself, even to the host of heaven; and there fell to the earth some of

the host of heaven and of the stars, and they trampled on them. ¹¹And this shall be until the chief captain shall have delivered the captivity; and by reason of him the sacrifice was disturbed, and he prospered; and the holy place shall be made desolate. ¹²And a sin offering was given for the sacrifice, and righteousness was cast down to the ground; and it practised, and prospered. ¹³Then I heard one saint speaking, and a saint said unto a certain one speaking, How long shall the vision continue, even the taking away of the sacrifice, and the bringing in of the sin of desolation; and how long shall the sanctuary and host be trampled? ¹⁴And he said unto him, Evening and morning, two thousand and three hundred days; and then shall the sanctuary be cleansed. ¹⁵And it came to pass, as I, *even* I Daniel, saw the vision, and sought to understand it, that, behold, there stood before me as the appearance of a man. ¹⁶And I heard the voice of a man between the banks of the Ulai; and He called, and said, Gabriel, make that man to understand the vision. ¹⁷And he came and stood near where I stood: and when he came, I was struck with awe, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for yet the vision is for an end of time. ¹⁸And while he spake with me, I fell upon my face to the ground: and he touched me, and set me on my feet. ¹⁹And he said, Behold, I make thee know the things that shall come to pass at the end of the wrath: for the vision is yet for an end of time. ²⁰The ram which thou sawest that had the horns is the king of the Medes and Persians. ²¹The he goat is the king of the Grecians: and the great horn that was between his eyes, he is the first king. ²²And *as for* the one that was broken, in whose place there stood up four horns, four kings shall arise out of his nation, but not in their *own* strength. ²³And in the latter time of their kingdom, when their sins are coming to the full, there shall arise a king bold in countenance, and understanding riddles. ²⁴And his power shall be great, and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practise, and shall destroy mighty men, and the holy people. ²⁵And the yoke of his chain shall prosper: there is craft in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by craft shall destroy many; he shall also stand up for the destruction of many, and crush them like eggs in his hand. ²⁶And the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true: and do thou seal the vision; for it is for many days. ²⁷And I Daniel fell asleep, and was sick: then I rose up, and did the king's business; and I wondered at the vision, and there was none that did understand it.

CHAPTER 9

In the first year of Darius the son of Xerxes, of the seed of the Medes, which reigned over the realm of the Chaldeans, ²in the first year of his reign, I Daniel pondered in the books the number of the years, whereof was the word of the Lord to the prophet Jeremiah, even seventy years for the accomplishment of the desolation of Jerusalem. ³And I set my face toward the Lord God, to seek diligently by prayer and supplications, with fastings,

and sackcloth. ⁴And I prayed unto the Lord my God, and confessed, and said, O Lord, the great and wonderful God, keeping Thy covenant and mercy to them that love Thee, and to them that keep Thy commandments; we have sinned, ⁵we have committed iniquity, we have transgressed, and we have departed and turned aside from Thy commandments, and from thy judgments. ⁶Neither have we hearkened unto Thy servants the prophets, which spake in Thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. ⁷O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto Thee, but to us confusion of face, as at this day; to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and unto all Israel, to them that are near, and to them that are far off in all the earth, wherever Thou hast scattered them, for the sin which they committed. ⁸In Thee, O Lord, is our righteousness, and unto us *belongeth* confusion of face, and to our kings, and to our princes, and to our fathers, forasmuch as we have sinned. ⁹O Lord our God, to Thee belong compassion and forgiveness, seeing we have departed *from Thee*; ¹⁰neither have we hearkened to the voice of the Lord our God, to walk in His laws, which he set before us by the hands of His servants the prophets. ¹¹Moreover all Israel have transgressed Thy laws, and have turned aside from hearkening unto Thy voice; therefore the curse is come upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned against Him. ¹²And He hath confirmed His words, which He spake against us, and against our judges that judged us, *by* bringing upon us great evils, such as have not happened under the whole heaven, according to what hath come to pass in Jerusalem. ¹³As it is written in the law of Moses, all these evils are come upon us: yet have we not besought the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and have understanding in all Thy truth. ¹⁴The Lord also hath watched, and brought them upon us: for the Lord our God is righteous in all His works which He hath done; but we have not hearkened unto His voice. ¹⁵And now, O Lord our God, that hast brought Thy people forth out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and hast made Thee a name, as at this day; we have sinned, we have transgressed. ¹⁶O Lord, Thy mercy is over all: I pray Thee, let Thy wrath and Thine anger turn away from Thy city Jerusalem, *even* Thy holy mountain: for we have sinned, and because of our iniquities, and those of our fathers, Jerusalem and Thy people are become a reproach among all that are round about us. ¹⁷And now, O Lord our God, hear the prayer of Thy servant, and his supplications, and cause Thy face to shine upon Thy desolate sanctuary, for Thine own sake, O Lord. ¹⁸O my God, incline Thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolation, and that of Thy city on which Thy name is called: for we do not bring our supplication before Thee for our righteousness, but for Thy manifold compassions, O Lord. ¹⁹O Lord, hearken; O Lord, be propitious; O Lord, be attentive; defer not, O my God, for Thine own sake: for Thy name is called upon Thy city and upon Thy people. ²⁰And whiles I was yet speaking, and praying, and confessing my sins and the sins of my people Israel, and bringing my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain; ²¹yea, whiles I was yet speaking in prayer, behold, the man Gabriel, whom I

had seen in the vision at the beginning, *came* flying, and touched me about the hour of the evening sacrifice. ²²And he instructed me, and spake with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to instruct thee with understanding. ²³At the beginning of thy supplication the word came forth, and I am come to tell thee; for thou art a man greatly beloved: therefore consider the matter, understand the vision. ²⁴Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon the holy city, for sins to be ended, and to seal up transgressions, and to blot out the iniquities, and to make atonement for iniquities, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal the vision and the prophet, and to anoint the Most Holy. ²⁵And thou shalt know and understand, that from the going forth of the commandment for the answer, and for the building of Jerusalem until Christ the prince, shall be seven weeks and threescore and two weeks: and then *the time* shall return, and the street shall be built, and the wall, and the times shall be exhausted. ²⁶And after the threescore and two weeks, the anointing shall be destroyed, and there is no judgment therein: and He shall destroy the city and the sanctuary with the prince that is coming: they shall be cut off with a flood, and unto the end of the war which is speedily ended, He shall appoint *the city* to desolations. ²⁷And one week shall establish the covenant with many: and in the weeks of days My sacrifice and drink offering shall be taken away; and the temple shall be the abomination of desolations; and at the end of the time shall an end be put to the desolation.

CHAPTER 10

In the third year of Cyrus king of the Persians a word was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the word was true, and a great power, and understanding in the vision was given unto him. ²In those days I Daniel was mourning three weeks of days. ³I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh or wine into my mouth, neither did I anoint myself with oil, till three whole weeks were accomplished. ⁴In the four and twentieth day of the first month, I was near the great river, which is Tigris Eddekel. ⁵And I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a man clothed in linen, and his loins were girded with gold of Uphaz: ⁶his body also was like tharsis, and his face was as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his legs like unto the appearance of shining brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude. ⁷And I Daniel alone saw the vision: and the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great amazement fell upon them, and they fled in fear. ⁸Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there was no strength left in me, and my glory was turned into corruption, and I retained no strength. ⁹Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard him, I was pricked *in the heart*, and my face to the ground. ¹⁰And, behold, an hand touched me, and raised me upon my knees. ¹¹And he said unto me, O Daniel, man of desires, understand by the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent.

And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. ¹²Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to be afflicted before the Lord thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come because of thy words. ¹³But the prince of the kingdom of the Persians withstood me one and twenty days: and, behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of the Persians: ¹⁴and I am come to make thee to know of all that shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for days to come. ¹⁵And when he had spoken with me according to these words, I turned my face to the ground, and was pricked *in the heart*. ¹⁶And, behold, one like the similitude of a son of man touched my lips; and I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O Lord, at the sight of thee my bowels were turned within me, and I had no strength. ¹⁷And how shall thy servant, O Lord, be able to speak with this my Lord? for as for me, from henceforth there shall no strength remain in me, neither is there breath left in me. ¹⁸And there touched me again as it were the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me, ¹⁹and said unto me, O man of desires, fear not: peace be unto thee; quit thee like a man, and be strong. And when he had spoken with me, I received strength, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me. ²⁰Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I am come unto thee? and now I will return to fight with the prince of the Persians: and I was going in, and the prince of the Greeks came. ²¹But I will tell thee that which is ordained in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince.

CHAPTER 11

Also I in the first year of Cyrus stood for strength and power. ²And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall rise up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be very far richer than they all: and after that he is master of his riches, he shall rise up against all the kingdoms of the Greeks. ³And a mighty king shall rise up, and he shall be lord of a great empire, and shall do according to his will. ⁴And when his kingdom shall stand up, it shall be broken, and shall be divided to the four winds of heaven; but not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, *even* for others beside these. ⁵And the king of the south shall be strong; and one of their princes shall prevail against him, and shall obtain a great dominion. ⁶And after his years they shall associate; and the daughter of the king of the south shall come to the king of the north to make agreements with him: but she shall not retain the power of the arm; neither shall his seed stand: and she shall be delivered up, and they that brought her, and the maiden, and he that strengthened her in these times. ⁷*But* out of the flower of her root shall arise *one* in his place, and shall come against the host, and shall enter into the strong holds of the king of the north, and shall fight against them, and shall prevail. ⁸Yea, he shall carry with a

body of captives into Egypt their gods, with their molten images, and all their precious vessels of silver and gold; and he shall continue longer than the king of the north. ⁹And he shall enter the kingdom of the king of the south, and shall return to his own land. ¹⁰And his sons shall assemble a multitude among many: and one shall certainly come, and overflow, and pass through: then shall he rest, and gather his strength. ¹¹And the king of the south shall be moved with choler, and shall come forth and make war with the king of the north: and he shall raise a great multitude; but the multitude shall be delivered into his hand. ¹²And he shall take the multitude, and his heart shall be lifted up; and he shall cast down many thousands: but he shall not prevail. ¹³For the king of the north shall return, and bring a multitude greater than the former, and at the end of the times of years shall an invading army come with a great force, and with much substance. ¹⁴And in those times there shall many rise up against the king of the south; and the children of the spoilers of thy people shall exalt themselves to establish the vision; but they shall fail. ¹⁵And the king of the north shall come in, and cast up a mount, and take strong cities: and the arms of the king of the south shall not withstand, and his chosen ones shall rise up, but there shall no strength to withstand. ¹⁶But he that cometh in against him shall do according to his own will, and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the land of beauty, and it shall be consumed by his hand. ¹⁷He also shall set his face to enter in with the force of his whole kingdom, shall cause all things to prosper with him: and he shall give him the daughter of women, to corrupt her: but she shall not continue, neither shall she stand on his side. ¹⁸Then shall he turn his face unto the isles, and shall take many, and cause princes to cease from their reproach: nevertheless his own reproach shall return to him. ¹⁹Then he shall turn back his face to the strength of his own hand: but he shall become weak, and fall, and not be found. ²⁰And there shall arise out of his root one that shall cause a plant of the kingdom to pass over his place, earning kingly glory: and yet in those days shall he be broken, yet not openly, nor in war. ²¹One shall stand on his place who hath been set at nought, and they have not put upon him the honour of the kingdom: but he shall come in peaceably, and obtain the kingdom by deceits. ²²And the arms of him that overfloweth shall be washed away as with a flood from before him, and shall be broken, and so *shall* the head of the covenant. ²³And because of the leagues made with him, he shall work deceit: and he shall come up, and overpower them with a small nation. ²⁴And he shall enter with prosperity, even into fertile provinces; and he shall do that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers; he shall scatter among them the prey, and spoil, and riches: yea, and he shall imagine devices against Egypt, even for a time. ²⁵And his strength and his heart shall be stirred up against the king of the south with a great force; and the king of the south shall engage in war with a great and very strong force; but *they* shall not stand, for they shall imagine devices against him: ²⁶and they shall eat his provision, and crush him; and he shall carry away armies as with a flood, and many shall fall down slain. ²⁷And both the kings, their hearts shall be to do mischief, and they

shall speak lies at one table; but it shall not prosper: for yet the end is for a time. ²⁸Then shall he return into his land with much substance; and his heart shall be against the holy covenant; and he shall do exploits, and return to his own land. ²⁹At the time appointed he shall return, and come into the south; but the last shall not be as the first. ³⁰For the Kitians issuing forth shall come against him, and he shall be brought low, and shall return, and shall have indignation against the holy covenant: and so he shall do, and shall even return, and have intelligence with them that have forsaken the holy covenant. ³¹And seeds shall spring up out of him, and they shall profane the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the perpetual *sacrifice*, and make the abomination desolate. ³²And the transgressors shall bring about a covenant by deceitful ways: but the people that do know their God shall prevail and do *exploits*. ³³And they that be intelligent of the people shall understand much: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, and by captivity, and by spoil of days. ³⁴And when they are weak they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with treachery. ³⁵And some of them that understand shall fall, to try them as with fire, and to prove them, and that they may be manifested at the time of the end; for the matter is yet for a time. ³⁶And he shall do according to his will, and the king shall be exalted and magnified against every god, and shall speak great swelling things, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for it is to be ended. ³⁷Neither shall he regard any of the gods of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any deity: for he shall magnify himself above all. ³⁸And he shall honour the god of Maozim in his place: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and precious stones, and desirable things. ³⁹And thus shall he do in the strong places of refuge with a strange god, and shall increase his glory: and he shall subject many unto them, and shall distribute the land in gifts. ⁴⁰And at the end of the time shall he conflict with the king of the south: and the king of the north shall be gathered against him with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and they shall enter into the land: and he shall break in pieces, and pass on: ⁴¹and he shall enter into the land of Shabaim, and many shall fail: but these shall escape out of his hand, Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. ⁴²And he shall stretch forth his hand over the land; and the land of Egypt shall not be for deliverance. ⁴³And he shall have mastery over the secret treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the desirable things of Egypt, and of the Libyans and Ethiopians in their strong holds. ⁴⁴But tidings and anxieties out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: and he shall come with great wrath to destroy many. ⁴⁵And he shall plant the tabernacle of his palace between the seas in the holy mountain of beauty, and there is none to deliver him.

CHAPTER 12

And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth over the children of Thy people: and there shall be a time of tribulation, such tribulation as hath not been seen from the time that there was a nation upon the earth even to that same time: at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that is written in the book. ²And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting reproach. ³And the wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and of the many righteous as the stars for ever and ever. ⁴And thou, O Daniel, shut up the book, and seal the book, until many be taught, and understanding be increased. ⁵And I Daniel looked, and, behold, there stood other two, one on the one side of the bank, and the other on the other side of the bank of the river. ⁶And one said to the man clothed in linen, which was over the water of the river, Until when shall be the end of the wonders that thou hast mentioned? ⁷And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was over the water of the river; and he lifted up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and swore by Him that liveth for ever that it should be for a time of times, and half a time: when the dispersion is ended they shall know all things. ⁸And I heard, but I understood not: then said I, O Lord, what shall be the end of these things? ⁹And He said, Go, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. ¹⁰Many must be chosen out, and made thoroughly white, and tried with fire, and sanctified: but the transgressors shall transgress: and none of the transgressors shall understand; but the wise shall understand. ¹¹And from the time of the change of the perpetual sacrifice, when the abomination of desolation shall be set up, *there shall be* a thousand two hundred and ninety days. ¹²Blessed is he that waiteth, and cometh to the thousand three hundred and five and thirty days. ¹³But go thou, and rest; for there are yet days and seasons to the fulfilment of the end; and thou shalt stand in thy lot at the end of the days.

BEL AND THE DRAGON

And king Astyages was gathered to his fathers, and Cyrus of Persia received his kingdom. ²And Daniel conversed with the king, and was honoured above all his friends. ³Now the Babylonians had an idol, called Bel, and there were spent upon him every day twelve great measures of fine flour, and forty sheep, and six vessels of wine. ⁴And the king worshipped it, and went daily to adore it: but Daniel worshipped his own God. And the king said unto him, Why dost thou not worship Bel? ⁵Who answered and said, Because I may not worship idols made with hands, but the living God, Who hath created the heaven and the earth, and hath sovereignty over all flesh. ⁶Then said the king unto him, Thinkest thou not that Bel is a living god? seest thou not how much he eateth and drinketh every day? ⁷Then Daniel smiled, and said, O king, be not deceived: for this is but clay within, and brass without,

and did never eat or drink any thing. ⁸So the king was wroth, and called for his priests, and said unto them, If ye tell me not who this is that devoureth these expences, ye shall die. ⁹But if ye can certify me that Bel devoureth them, then Daniel shall die: for he hath spoken blasphemy against Bel. And Daniel said unto the king, Let it be according to thy word. ¹⁰Now the priests of Bel were threescore and ten, beside their wives and children. And the king went with Daniel into the temple of Bel. ¹¹So Bel's priests said, Lo, we go out: but thou, O king, set on the meat, and make ready the wine, and shut the door fast, and seal it with thine own signet; ¹²and to morrow when thou comest in, if thou findest not that Bel hath eaten up all, we will suffer death; or else Daniel, that speakest falsely against us. ¹³And they little regarded it: for under the table they had made a privy entrance, whereby they entered in continually, and consumed those things. ¹⁴And it happened, when they were gone forth, that the king set meats before Bel. Now Daniel had commanded his servants to bring ashes, and those they strewed throughout all the temple in the presence of the king alone: then went they out, and shut the door, and sealed it with the king's signet, and so departed. ¹⁵Now in the night came the priests with their wives and their children, as they were wont to do, and did eat and drink up all. ¹⁶In the morning betime the king arose, and Daniel with him. ¹⁷And the king said, Daniel, are the seals whole? And he said, Yea, O king, they be whole. ¹⁸And as soon as he had opened the door, the king looked upon the table, and cried with a loud voice, Great art thou, O Bel, and with thee is no deceit at all. ¹⁹Then laughed Daniel, and held the king that he should not go in, and said, Behold now the pavement, and mark well whose footsteps are these. ²⁰And the king said, I see the footsteps of men, women, and children. And then the king was angry, ²¹and took the priests with their wives and children, who shewed him the private doors, where they came in, and consumed such things as were on the table. ²²Therefore the king slew them, and delivered Bel into Daniel's power, who destroyed him and his temple. ²³And in that same place there was a great dragon, which they of Babylon worshipped. ²⁴And the king said unto Daniel, Wilt thou also say that this of brass? lo, he liveth, he eateth and drinketh; thou canst not say that he is no living god: therefore worship him. ²⁵Then said Daniel unto the king, I will worship the Lord my God: for He is the living God. ²⁶But give me leave, O king, and I shall slay this dragon without sword or staff. The king said, I give thee leave. ²⁷Then Daniel took pitch, and fat, and hair, and did seethe them together, and made lumps thereof: this he put in the dragon's mouth, and so the dragon burst in sunder: and Daniel said, Lo, these are the gods ye worship. ²⁸When they of Babylon heard that, they took great indignation, and conspired against the king, saying, The king is become a Jew, and he hath destroyed Bel, he hath slain the dragon, and put the priests to death. ²⁹So they came to the king, and said, Deliver us Daniel, or else we will destroy thee and thine house. ³⁰Now when the king saw that they pressed him sore, being constrained, he delivered Daniel unto them; ³¹who cast him into the lions' den: where he was six days. ³²And in the den there were seven lions, and they had given them every day two carcasses, and two sheep: which then were

not given to them, to the intent they might devour Daniel. ³³Now there was in Judea a prophet, called Habbakuk who had made pottage, and had broken bread in a bowl, and was going into the field, for to bring it to the reapers. ³⁴But the angel of the Lord said unto Habbakuk, Go, carry the dinner that thou hast into Babylon unto Daniel, who is in the lion's den. ³⁵And Habbakuk said, Lord, I never saw Babylon; neither do I know where the den is. ³⁶Then the angel of the Lord took him by the crown, and bare him by the hair of his head, and through the vehemency of his spirit set him in Babylon over the den. ³⁷And Habbakuk cried, saying, O Daniel, Daniel, take the dinner which God hath sent thee. ³⁸And Daniel said, Thou hast remembered me, O God: neither hast thou forsaken them that seek Thee, and love Thee. ³⁹So Daniel arose, and did eat: and the angel of the Lord set Habbakuk in his own place immediately. ⁴⁰Upon the seventh day the king went to bewail Daniel: and when he came to the den, he looked in, and, behold, Daniel was sitting. ⁴¹Then cried the king with a loud voice, saying, Great art Thou, O Lord God of Daniel, and there is none other beside Thee. ⁴²And he drew him out, and cast those that were the cause of his destruction into the den: and they were devoured in a moment before his face.