


The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of pink and magenta, creating a dynamic and modern aesthetic. The shapes are primarily triangular and polygonal, with some areas appearing more saturated than others, giving a sense of depth and movement.

LIVING in PEACE

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- ▶ Did you look in the mirror this morning?
 - ▶ JAMES 1: 10-25.
 - ▶ What do your family, friends, acquaintances, strangers see in you?

DANIEL .

- ▶ A young Jewish teenager.
- ▶ Captured and taken into exile.... 2400 kilometres from home.
- ▶ Into a strange country. Different culture
- ▶ The Babylonians worshipped a different god.

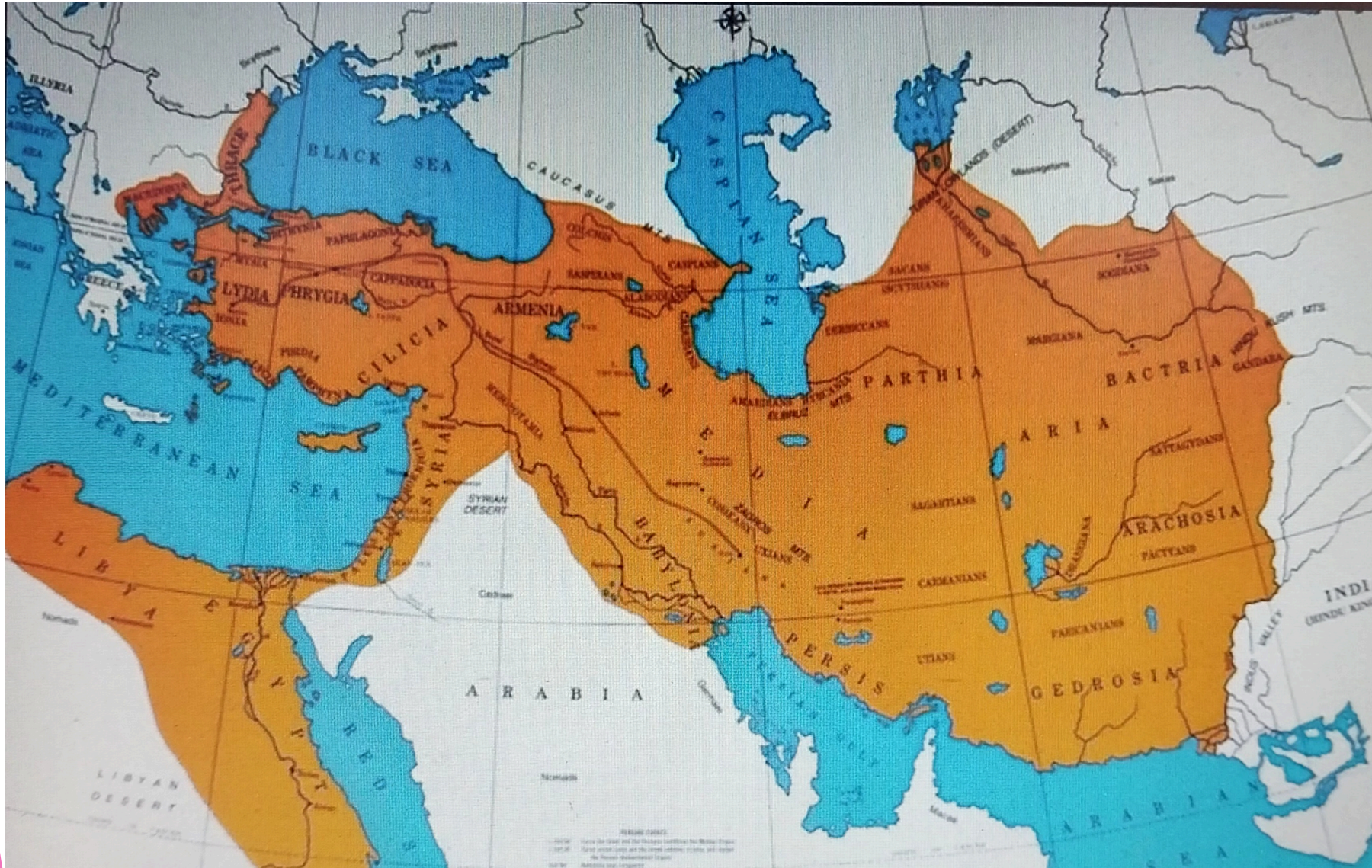
However despite all of this....DANIEL had DISTINGUISHED himself over many years.

- ▶ Uncanny wisdom.
- ▶ Practical judgment.
- ▶ A man of high integrity.
- ▶ Honest.
- ▶ Blameless.
- ▶ Calm and Peaceful..... Measured.
- ▶ Faithful.
- ▶ Gracious.

Daniel served under 3 Kings

- ▶ Ch 1-4. Under King Neb.
- ▶ Ch 5 King Belshazzar. Nebuchadnezer's son.
- ▶ Ch 6. King Darius. “Another upheaval”

The Medo Persian Empire





Ch 6: 1-9


Even though Daniel it seems, lived a faultless life,
he was a despised man.

What was it that his colleagues couldn't stand?

What was it that they hated about Daniel?

They couldn't stand the fact of his unswerving commitment to his God.

- ▶ He was taught and learnt as a child to be faithful and totally committed to the God of his forefathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.
- ▶ Daniel displayed an unshakeable conviction in the power and majesty of his God.
- ▶ Everything he did was in service to his God.

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- ▶ Is that what people see in you....in I?
 - ▶ Daniels faith made his colleagues uncomfortable.
 - ▶ His God was the TRUE God.... The only God.
 - ▶ Daniel was hated, not because he was bad, but because he was good..... A reaction against the truth of the gospel.

Christianity is under attack!

- ▶ What was Daniel's secret?
- ▶ How is it possible to be such a wise, brilliant, peaceful, confident, and gracious person when evil and hostility abounds?
- ▶ Do I display a Christlike, spirit filled attitude to EVERYONE?

V 10.

- Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, **just as he had done before.**

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Romans 12 ;1-2

- Therefore I urge you brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God - this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is- his good, pleasing and perfect will.

- ▶ All throughout the book of Daniel.... We see he is a man of prayer.
Not just when things get difficult.
- ▶ He was consistently faithful in prayer.
- ▶ Daniel developed Holy Habits as a young teenager... now at the age of 65-75 he still meets with his God, not once, not twice, but 3 times a day.
- ▶ His day by day walk in all that he did was consistent and disciplined, as he sought to be God's man in that place.

V 11- 18

- ▶ The interesting thing here is the incredible impact Daniel and his faith had obviously made on King Darius.
- ▶ The respect and high esteem he held for Daniel is very obvious.
- ▶ Can it be, that you and I can get that close [emotionally] to an unbeliever??????





V 25-27. What an incredible outcome.

- ▶ Daniel was unharmed. His faith was vindicated.
- ▶ The King was overjoyed, Flabbergasted, because he had witnessed the power and majesty of Daniels God.....
- ▶ He acknowledged the God of Israel as THE true and living God.

- ▶ Daniel Is a type of Jesus Christ. [A foreshadowing]
- ▶ Jesus Christ was hated by many.
- ▶ He was set up and tried on false charges.
- ▶ He was sentenced to death.but rose triumphant.
- ▶ God intervened The power of sin and death was smashed and all of mankind is offered forgiveness and freedom.

However, the sobering truth. V24

- ▶ There is a huge column of people on a similar path.... Not knowing the fate that awaits them.
- ▶ How are we engaging with our neighbours, our family, our colleagues at work or play.
- ▶ There will be those who are not interested at all who actually choose darkness over light. However, there are many who, like King Darius have been brought up in an entirely different world , and are just totally ignorant of the fact that they are loved and highly valued by God himself.

I can't be like Daniel!

Too busy- priorities get in the way.

A ploy of Satan ... keep us busy.

Ambushed, sidetracked.... then we lose focus.

“Be still and know that I am God”.

The Spirit of God indwells us, as he did for Daniel.