

Winter Series: June 2025 to August 2025

Lesser-Known Bible Stories – Lesser-Known Events

Autumn Series

“Lesser-Known Events”

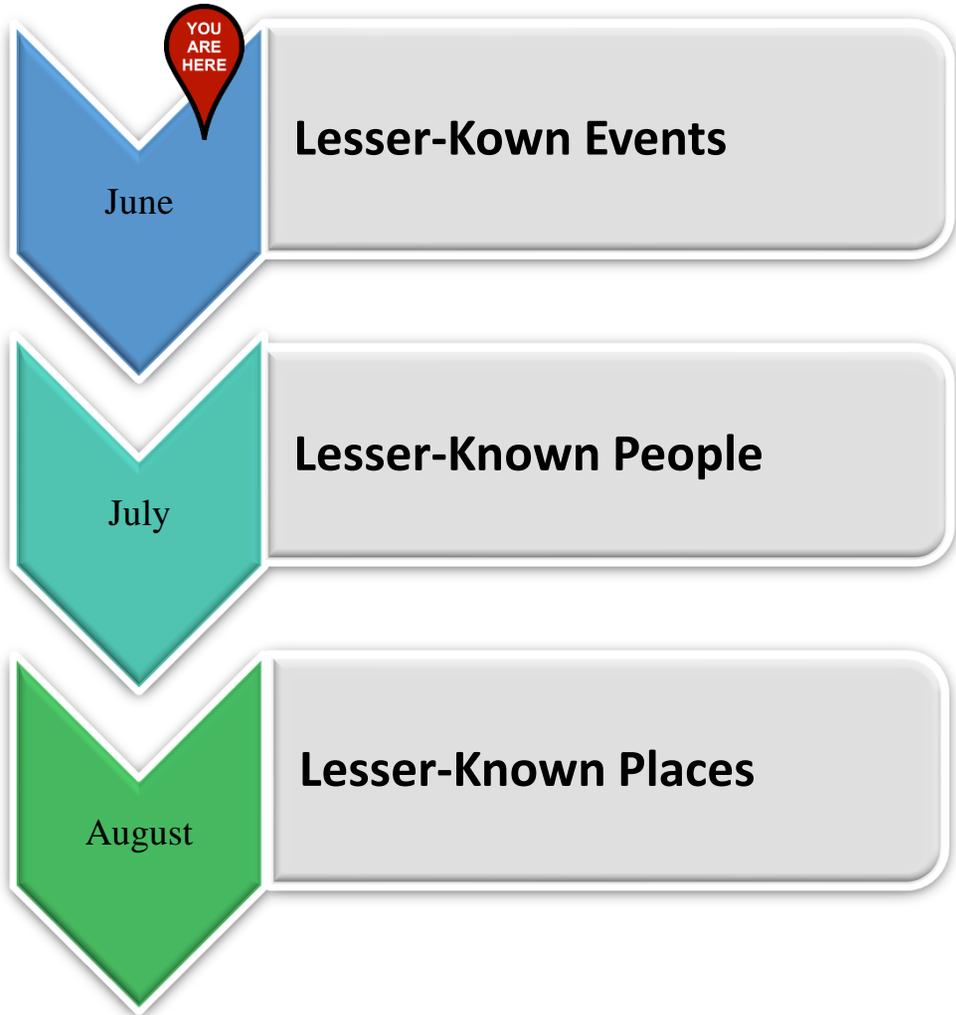
Windsor, 1st June, 2025

Welcome to Church

“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank” Daniel 1:8



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Oh the mercy of God

Verse 1 Oh the mercy of God
The glory of grace
That You choose to redeem us
To forgive and restore
And You call us Your children
Chosen in Him
To be holy and blameless
To the glory of God

Chorus

To the praise of His glorious grace
To the praise of His glory and power
To Him be all glory, honour and
praise
Forever and ever and ever amen

Verse 2 Oh the richness of grace
The depths of His love
In Him is redemption
The forgiveness of sin
And You called us as righteous
Predestined in Him
For the praise of His glory
Included in Christ

Chorus

Verse 3 Oh the glory of God
Expressed in His Son
His image and likeness
Revealed to us all
The plan of the ages
Completed in Christ
That we be presented
Perfect in Him

Chorus

Lead Me to the Cross

Verse

Saviour I come
Quiet my soul, remember
Redemption's hill
Where Your blood was spilled
For my ransom
Everything I once held dear
I count it all as lost

Chorus

Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh, lead me, lead me to the cross

Verse

You were as I
Tempted and trialled
Human
The word became flesh
Bore my sin and death
Now you're risen
Everything I once held dear
I count it all as lost

Chorus

Bridge

To Your heart
To Your heart
Lead me to Your heart
Lead me to Your heart

Chorus

Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh, lead me, lead me

Lead me to the cross
Where Your love poured out
Bring me to my knees
Lord I lay me down
Rid me of myself
I belong to You
Oh, lead me, lead me to the cross

When We See You 1 John 3:2

1. Jesus you are Lord of all creation
Jesus you are seated on the throne
Jesus you were raised to life forever
Promised us this new life by your
Spirit.

Chorus

When we see you, our eyes will
open
And we'll be like you, be like you
When we meet you, our hearts will
gladden
And we'll sing with joy, sing with joy
to you.

2. Jesus you're the king we long to
live with
Jesus you are hidden from our sight
Jesus you ascended to the heavens

Promised you'd return to take us
home.

Chorus

Jesus we'll see you as you are
We'll be like you eternally

Repeat

Chorus

When we see you, our eyes will
open
And we'll be like you, be like you
When we meet you, our hearts will
gladden
And we'll sing with joy, sing with joy
to you.



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Lesser-Known Events

“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank” Daniel 1:8

YOU ARE HERE

1st June

Daniel's Diet

Daniel's diet was indicative of his relationship with God.

15th June

The Writing on the Wall

God's messages are all around us – but do we see and read them.

22nd June

Elisha and the Loaves

Elisha's miracle was a forerunner of the greater miracles performed by Jesus Christ

29th June

Shimei - Grace and disobedience

David overlooked the personal nature of Shimei's actions, and looked to God to provide healing.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, as in heaven, so in earth.

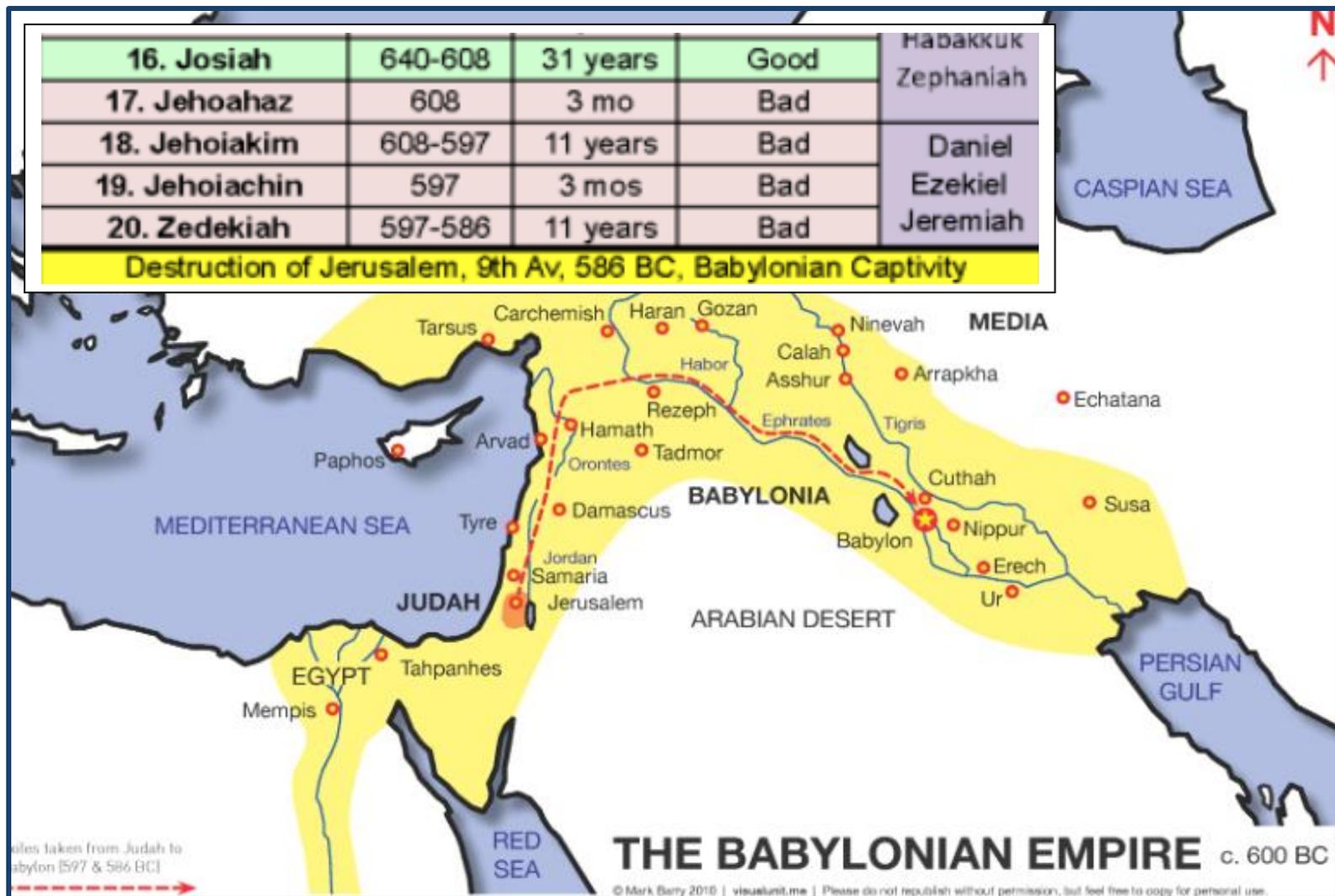
Give us day by day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins; for we also forgive every one that is indebted to us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

Luke 11: 2-4

About this Series

- Over this winter period we would like to look at some of the lesser-known Bible stories about events, people, and places.
- There are well-known Bible characters and events, but there are many Bible stories based around what may not have been such momentous occasions or important people.
- To those involved, these events represented the Power and Glory of God just as much.
- It is what an event means to a person that impacts them and their relationship with God, rather than just the magnitude of the event itself.
- Let us look at these events and see how that can translate into a meaning for us in our lives today.



The route from Jerusalem to Babylon followed the fertile crescent. It was some 1500km long and would have taken 10-14 weeks to walk.

Timeline of Daniel's Life

620 BC Daniel is born.

605 BC Daniel, along with his friends Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, is taken to Babylon, where they are ordered to learn Babylonian culture on Nebuchadnezzar's orders. –



Daniel 1:3-7

Babylon model

From 550BC

602 BC Daniel and his friends complete their three years of learning. – Daniel 1:18-20 and Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream about a statue made of gold, silver, bronze, iron, and clay. – Daniel 2:26-45

586 BC Jerusalem's wall breaks and the Babylonians destroy Jerusalem, setting fire to the temple and the palace. – Jeremiah 52:7-14, 2 Kings 25:4-10

- 563-562 BC** Nebuchadnezzar experiences visions of a tree and being driven away from people and losing his sanity. He praises God, and after seven months, his sanity is restored. – Daniel 4:27-37
- 539 BC** Belshazzar holds a great feast and uses the holy vessels taken from Jerusalem. A handwriting appears on the wall and Belshazzar calls for Daniel who interprets it as a judgement from God. – Daniel 5:1-29
- ~540 BC** Darius notes Daniel's good qualities and plans to elevate him to the highest administrative position. The other administrators resented this and thought of ways to bring ruin to Daniel. – Daniel 6:1-6 Darius orders Daniel to be thrown into the lion's den and wishes Daniel that he be saved by his God. – Daniel 6:16
- 536 BC** Daniel dies at 84 years old. – Daniel 12:13
- 538 BC** Cyrus allows the Jews to return to Judea and rebuild the temple in Jerusalem. – Ezra 1:1-4
- 537 BC** Following Cyrus' decree, around 50,000 Jews return home to Judea, led by Zerubbabel.
- 515 BC** The temple in Jerusalem is completed. – Ezra 6:14-18

<https://totallyhistory.com/daniel-timeline/>

Ancient Babylonian Cuisine



- Included meat from cows, sheep, goats, pig, deer and fowl, as well as eggs, fish, shellfish and even turtles.

- Stews were common, with Akkadian records providing 21 different meat stew recipes and four different vegetable stew recipes.

- vegetables such as beets,

peas, arugula (rocket), lettuce, turnips, legumes such as chickpeas, and mushrooms.

- onions were used in their cooking, as well as garlic, scallions and leeks.

Ancient Babylonian Cuisine (ctd.)

- Grains were also common, including pearl barley and oats.
- Fruits included apples, figs and pomegranates.
- Flavouring included a range of herbs and spices, such as mint, coriander and chives.
- Condiments, such as a pickled fish sauce (siqqu), were also used, while honey, dates, grape juice and raisins were favored for sweetening dishes.
- For cooking, a variety of oils and fats were used, such as clarified butter and animal fat, as well as sesame, linseed and olive oils.
- The presentation of food was important to the ancient Babylonians, who used a selection of fresh greens, chicken gizzards, pastry crusts and even bird feathers to garnish their meals.

<https://www.reference.com/history-geography/kind-food-did-ancient-babylonians-eat>

Why did Daniel Refuse to eat the King's Food?

- Daniel's refusal to eat the Babylonian food was rooted in his desire to remain faithful to God and His laws. Whether the food was
 - unclean,
 - sacrificed to idols, or
 - simply symbolic of Babylonian culture,
- Daniel made a conscious decision to avoid defiling himself.
- His faithfulness was rewarded by God, who gave him favour with the authorities, protected his health, and endowed him with much greater wisdom and understanding than the rest.
- Daniel's example continues to inspire believers today to remain committed to God's word, even in difficult circumstances.

<https://bibleask.org/why-did-daniel-refuse-to-eat-babylonian-food/>

More Thoughts on 'Defilement'

- Scholars have debated the nature of his "defilement." In fact, they are pretty sure it isn't even about food.
- They think the issue is about power and control. These young men, apparently, had no scruples about learning the "language or culture" of the Babylonians. These were public acts. Choosing what to eat is a personal matter and, in this case, one that was handled privately and discreetly.
- In this one area they could maintain a semblance of control. Moreover, eating the king's food and drinking his wine suggested an acceptance of the king's fellowship and all that that might entail. Refusing to do so allowed the young men a measure of freedom and reminded them that the king was not all-encompassing in their lives.
- When they were found to be healthy and nourished after ten days, they knew God was providing for them, even in the king's court. This knowledge would help them maintain their devotion to God in later trials.

https://biblewise.com/bible_study/questions/what-were-kings-food.php

Daniel 1:1-21

1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.

2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god. **3** And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes;

4 Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans. **5** And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.

⁶ Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: ⁷ Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel the name of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego.

⁸ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

⁹ Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs. ¹⁰ And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.

¹¹ Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, ¹² Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink. ¹³ Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the

countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

¹⁴ So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

¹⁵ And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat. ¹⁶ Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

¹⁷ As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. ¹⁸ Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹ And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king. ²⁰ And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.

²¹ And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

Moderato. ARLINGTON—C. M. *Dr. Arne.*

Six thousand years are nearly up,
 The eleventh hour appears,
 God's sword shall cause mankind to see
 Who are His lawful heirs.

Lo Michael now, Jehovah's Son;
 Upon this earth will stand;
 And sit upon His Father's throne,
 And reign o'er all the land.

He will establish God's own law,
 'Through all the earth abroad;
 He has fulfill'd the gospel too,
 And all will know their God.

Summary of Some of the Food Laws from the Old Testament

“Ye shall therefore put difference between clean beasts and unclean, and between unclean fowls and clean” **Leviticus 20:25.**

“And ye shall not make your souls abominable by beast, or by fowl, or by any manner of living thing that creepeth on the ground, which I have separated from you as unclean” **Leviticus 20:25. 40**

“And the Lord spake unto Moses and to Aaron, saying unto them, Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth” **Leviticus 11:1,2.** *[In summary]* No beast shall ye eat but that which divideth the hoof and cheweth the cud. Of birds which are unclean ye shall not eat, which feed on flesh as their natural food. Of fish which have not both fins and scales, ye shall not eat (**Deuteronomy 14:6; Leviticus 11:9-20**).

“Ye shall not eat of anything that dieth of itself” **Deuteronomy 14:21.**
“Neither shall ye eat any flesh that is torn of beasts” **Exodus 22:31.**

“And of the fat of the beast that dieth of itself, and the fat of that which is torn with beasts, may be used in any other use: but ye shall in no wise eat of it” **Leviticus 7:24.**

“And whatsoever man there be of the children of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, which hunteth and catcheth any beast or fowl that may be eaten; he shall even pour out the blood thereof, and cover it with dust” **Leviticus 17:13.**

Law 4 2nd Book Law & Testimony

John 6:25-41

²⁵ And when they had found him on the other side of the sea, they said unto him, Rabbi, when camest thou hither? ²⁶ Jesus answered them and said, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Ye seek me, not because ye saw the miracles, but because ye did eat of the loaves, and were filled.

²⁷ Labour not for the meat which perisheth, but for that meat which endureth unto everlasting life, which the Son of man shall give unto you: for him hath God the Father sealed.

²⁸ Then said they unto him, What shall we do, that we might work the works of God? ²⁹ Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.

³⁰ They said therefore unto him, What sign shewest thou then, that we may see, and believe thee? what dost thou work? ³¹ Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat. ³² Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. ³³ For the bread of God is he which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world.

³⁴ Then said they unto him, Lord, evermore give us this bread. ³⁵ And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. ³⁶ But I said unto you, That ye also have seen me, and believe not.

³⁷ All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out. ³⁸ For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. ³⁹ And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.

⁴⁰ And this is the will of him that sent me, that every one which seeth the Son, and believeth on him, may have everlasting life: and I will raise him up at the last day.

⁴¹ The Jews then murmured at him, because he said, I am the bread which came down from heaven.

Message;

“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank”

Daniel 1:8

Spirited. ELLENTHORPE—L. M. *Linley.*

The people of the saints will take
 The whole beneath the heav'nly blue;
 God will with them His Cov'nant make,
 And in them all His glory show.

Born of Jerusalem they'll be,
 With Jesus Christ, God's Son, co-heir;
 They'll then His glorious kingdom see,
 And with Him of His glory share.

His Spirit bears them all day long,
 His hand upholds them all the night;
 And makes them sing with sweetest song,
 A song of love—of sweet delight.

Then of His Holy Spirit born,
 They cease from all the pow'r of sin;
 To sin again they can't return,
 Because His seed in them remains.