



**STANDING
STRONG
IN TRYING
TIMES**

The Book of Daniel

²⁵ Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations and men of every language throughout the land: “May you prosper greatly! ²⁶ “I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. “For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end. ²⁷ He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.” ²⁸ So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian. Daniel 6:25–28



**Daniel -
Thriving In
Exile!**

Thriving As An Exile Under Persia

So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Daniel 6:28



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The Book of Daniel

Thriving Under Babylon & Persia

The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service... ²¹ And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

Daniel 1:19, 21



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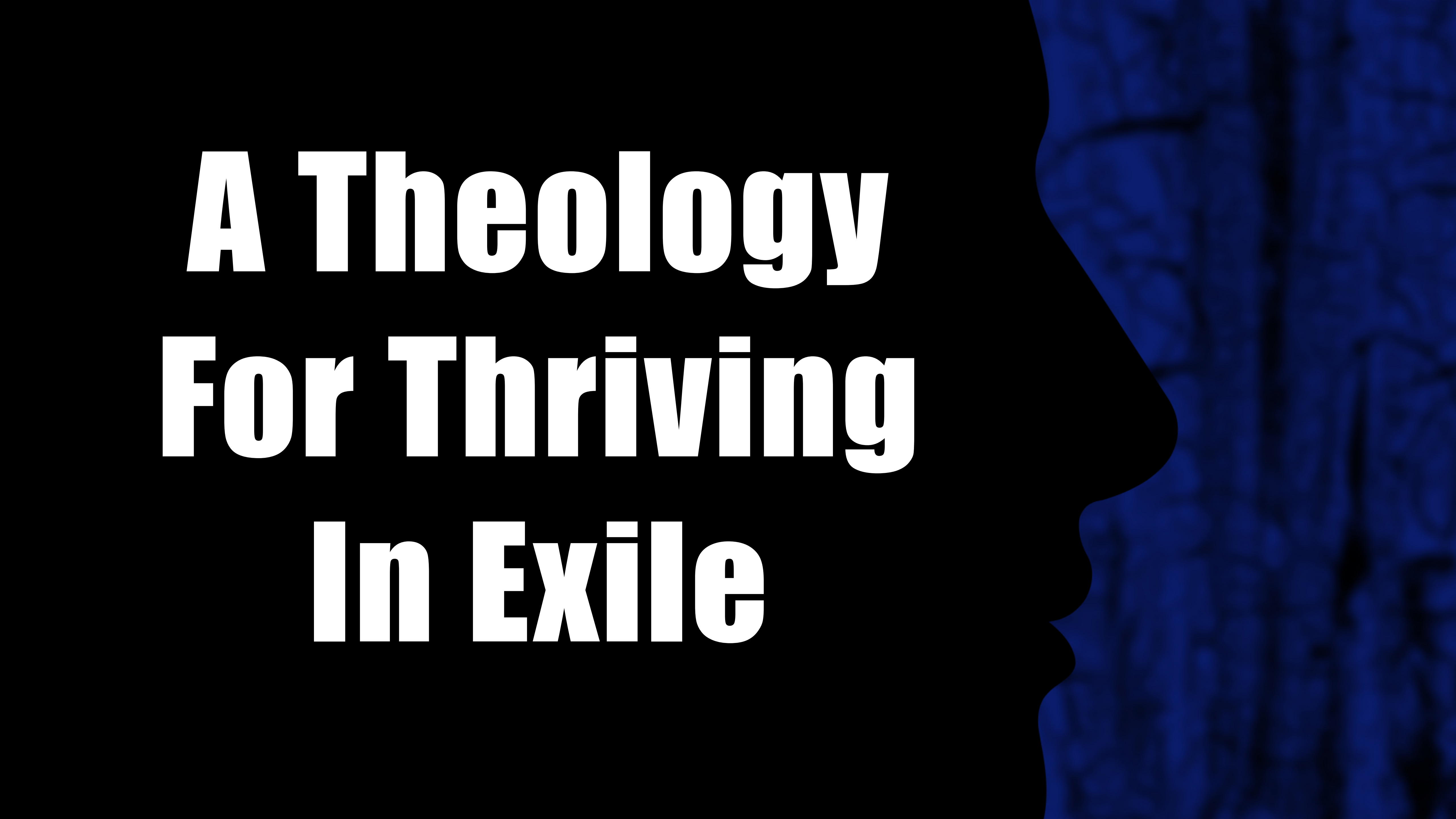
The Book of Daniel

Cyrus Decreed the Jews Could Return Home

In the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, in order to fulfill the word of the LORD spoken by Jeremiah, the LORD moved the heart of Cyrus king of Persia to make a proclamation throughout his realm and to put it in writing: ²³ “This is what Cyrus king of Persia says: “The LORD, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth and he has appointed me to build a temple for him at Jerusalem in Judah. Anyone of his people among you — may the LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.” 2 Chronicles 36:22–23

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The Book of Daniel



**A Theology
For Thriving
In Exile**

Laboring For Others To Experience Shalom

Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations and men of every language throughout the land: “May you prosper greatly!”

Daniel 6:25

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The Book of Daniel

God's Message To His Exile People

Also, **seek** the **peace and prosperity** of the city to which I have carried you into exile. **Pray** to the LORD for it, because if it **prosper**s, you too will **prosper**.

Jeremiah 29:7

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The Book of Daniel

Blessed To Be A Blessing!

I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and **you will be a blessing.**³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and **all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.**

Genesis 12:2–3



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The Book of Daniel

The Blessing of the Gospel!

The Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.”

Galatians 3:8

A black silhouette of a human head in profile, facing left, positioned in the bottom right corner of the slide. Inside the silhouette, the text 'STANDING STRONG IN TRYING TIMES' is written in white, bold, uppercase letters.

**STANDING
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The Book of Daniel

The Living, Eternal God

I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. For **he is the living God and he endures forever**; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end.

Daniel 6:26

**STANDING
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The Book of Daniel

The Eternal Kingdom of God

I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. For he is the living God and he endures forever; **his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end.**

Daniel 6:26

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The Book of Daniel

The God Who Rescues and Saves

He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.

Daniel 6:27



**STANDING
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The Book of Daniel

God Rescues His People

who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; **who shut the mouths of lions,**
³⁴ quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.

³⁵Women received back their dead, raised to life again.

Hebrews 11:33–35



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The Book of Daniel

Others were tortured and **refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection.** ³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison. ³⁷ They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated — ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Hebrews 11:35–38

**APPLYING
THE
WORD**



The Lord's Table



I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Lord's Table

