BUILDING TRUST

Trust is built on history and track record. Trust is a dynamic relational entity that increases or decreases based on our history with an individual or group that has demonstrated trustworthiness. In other words, if we have a history of seeing and experiencing a person who has come through for us time and time again, our trust grows. If we experience the opposite, our trust decreases.

Trust is based on our belief in the person’s character. The character traits of steadfastness and commitment to keeping one’s word build trust. Who the person is and what the person says in terms of reliability determines our level of trust in the individual.

Trust is based on our belief in the person’s capability. We can have trust in the person’s character, but we won’t trust an individual to a particular task if we believe that they are incompetent for the task. In other words, trust must be based on the person’s character and capability.

Prophecy is God’s way of building our trust. The desire to reveal prophecy gives indication of God’s character. And the accurate record of predictive prophecy reveals the capability of God. In the prophecy of Daniel 2, God gives us a history and a track record of evidence that appeals to our minds and hearts to trust Him.
Write out Daniel 2:31–49 from the translation of your choice. If you’re pressed for time, draw out Daniel 2:31–35. You may also rewrite the passage in your own words, outline, or mind map the chapter.
Go back to your scribed text and study the passage.

Circle repeated words/phrases/ideas

Underline words/phrases that are important and have meaning to you

Draw Arrows to connect words/phrases to other associated or related words/phrases

What special insights do your marks seem overall to point to?

Memorize your favorite verse in Daniel 2:31–49. Write it out multiple times to help with memorization.

In a human relationship, what causes you to trust or not trust someone?

How does God telling the future and it being fulfilled affect your relationship with Him?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dan9-3
After looking at your scribed and annotated text, what special insights do your marks overall seem to point to?

What questions emerge after studying this passage? What parts are difficult?

What other principles and conclusions do you find?

What is so deceptive about the secret rapture?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dan9-4
What relationship do the following verses have with the primary passage?

**God’s Claim of Predictive Powers**
- Isaiah 46:9, 10
- Daniel 5:30, 31 (rise of Medo-Persia)
- Daniel 8:20, 21 (rise of Greece)
- Luke 2:1 (rule of Rome)

**Characteristics of Christ’s Second Coming**
- Acts 1:9–11
- Revelation 1:7
- 1 Thessalonians 4:16, 17

What other verses/promises come to mind in connection with Daniel 2:31–49?

Review your memorized verse from Daniel 2:31–49.
Where do you see Jesus in Daniel 2:44, 45?

What is He saying to you through these texts?

How do you see Jesus differently or see Him again?

Prayer: How do you respond to seeing Jesus in this way?

Read more at www.inversebible.org/dan9-6
Review the memory verse. How does it apply to your life this week?

After this week’s study of the chapter, what are personal applications you are convicted of in your life?

What are practical applications you must make in your social life?

Read more inSight from the Spirit of Prophecy at www.inversebible.org/dan9-7
Share insights from this week’s memory verse and Bible study as well as any discoveries, observations, and questions with your Sabbath School class (or Bible study group). Consider these discussion questions with the rest of the group.

How does a person’s commitment to keeping their word affect your level of trust?

How does a person’s history of keeping or not keeping their word affect your level of trust?

How does Daniel 2’s accuracy affect your view of God’s credibility?

How does looking at the prophecy through the relationship lens change your understanding of prophecy?

How does prophecy build your trust in God? In His Word?

How does one process the doubts and evidence that God presents?

How do one’s motivations play out in terms of how we see evidence and process our doubts?