

Study of The Book of Daniel by John Dribus Spring, 2025 P-11

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Review of Background for the Book of Daniel

We read a variety of Scriptures that told us mostly about Daniel, but also about the other three Hebrew young men:

1. Daniel was “_____”: Ezek 14:14, 20
2. Daniel was _____ with the ability to “_____”: Ezek 28: 1-3:
3. All four had _____:
Dan 1:17
4. Daniel had understanding in _____.
5. Jesus proclaimed Daniel to be a _____: Mt 24:15
6. Daniel 1:3-4 said all four were:
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 6. _____

**Nebuchadnezzar’s plan was to _____
to become his _____.**

The plan was for them to learn the tongue of _____
and advise the _____.

Notes: _____

Daniel Chapter 1: Divisions and Major Themes

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 favored, and skillful 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. _____

The Six Major Themes of Daniel 1:

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

Q1: When did Nebuchadnezzar besiege Jerusalem? See Jer 25: 1.

The word that came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim the son of Josiah king of Judah, that was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. So, was it the 3rd year (Daniel) or 4th year (Jeremiah)? Is the Bible contradicting itself?

Q2: Nebuchadnezzar had just defeated Egypt at Carchemesh. Why did he turn on Jerusalem instead of just returning home?

Q3: What does “besieged” mean?:

So how did King Jehoiakim get Nebuchadnezzar to back off?

2. Read Daniel 1:2: 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.

Q4: Why did Jehoiakim lose his battle with Nebuchadnezzar?

Read 2 Kings 24: 1-16. Why did Nebuchadnezzar return to Jerusalem and besiege it again? _____

3. Read Daniel 1:3-5: 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 favored, and skillful 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.

Q5: Who was Ashpenaz? _____

Q: What is a eunuch? _____

Q6: Why did the king take these people? _____

Q7: What did the king tell Ashpenaz to do? _____

Q8: How was Ashpenaz to do this? A _____ assimilation program: Physically: _____, learning _____, and language: the very difficult _____, and even _____.

4. Read Daniel 1:5: Q9: What was to change in their diet? from water to

From pulse (zeroa) to: _____

What was the problem with the King’s meat? _____

5. Read Daniel 1: 6-7: Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Q10: Who were these four young men? What did they represent? _____

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.

Q11: What was Ashpenaz’s intent by renaming the four Judeans?

The Meaning of Daniel, Hananiah, <u>Mishael</u> , and Azariah			Akkadian Language
Hebrew Name			
DAN-IEL			
HANAN-IAH			
MISH-AEL			
AZAR-IAH			

Daniel 1: 8-16:

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Underline or highlight the key words and phrases, and circle the major themes:

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.

What major themes do you see in this passage? Make a list:

Q12: Who emerges as the leader of the Hebrew group? _____

Daniel 1: 8-16:

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Q13: What decision does Daniel make, and what action does he take?

Q: What does it mean to : “purpose in his heart” _____

Q: “would not defile himself” _____

7. Read Daniel 1: 9-10: Q14: Which of his special abilities does Daniel utilize to address this problem? _____

Read Daniel 2:23, 27-28. _____

Q15: Why does he meet resistance from Ashpenaz?

I fear my lord the king _____ endanger my
head to the king. _____

8. Read Daniel 1: 11-14

Q16: Who is Melzar? _____

Q17: What is Daniel's proposal?

Prove thy servants _____ ten
days; _____ and let them
give us pulse to eat, and water to drink _____

let our countenances be looked upon before thee, _____

and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's
meat: _____

as thou seest, deal with thy servants _____

So he consented, and proved them ten days; _____