

{27} Daniel

Chapter 1

(1) In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah {3520 A.H./C-522 B.C.}^a Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem, and besieged it.

(2) And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house {temple} 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 spoke to Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring *certain* of the children of Israel, and of the king's offspring, and of the princes;

(4) Children in whom *there 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 language 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 of which they might stand before the king.

(6) Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel {God is my judge},^b Hananiah {whom Jehovah has favored},^c Mishael {who is comparable to God},^d and Azariah {whom God helps}:^e

1:1a - third year of Jehoiakim - Daniel and his friends along with other royalty will be carried to Babylon - 114 years after fall of northern kingdom of Israel. 8 years after this first exile Nebuchadnezzar carries away second group of exiles, including king Jehoiachin and Ezekiel {and other priests} [see Ezekiel 1] and appoints Zedekiah as king over Judah - 19 years after this first exile, Nebuchadnezzar will return during Zedekiah's 11th year of reign to destroy Jerusalem and the temple. - see Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History

1:6b - Daniel {דניאל}- God is my judge

1:6c - Hananiah {חנניא}- whom Jehovah has favored

1:6d - Mishael {מישאל}- who is comparable to God

1:6e - Azariah {עזריה}- whom God helps

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(7) To whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: because he gave to Daniel *the name* of Belteshazzar {keeper of hidden treasures of Bel};^f and to Hananiah, Shadrach {inspired by the sun god};^g and to Mishael, Meshach {of the goddess Shach};^h and to Azariah, Abed-nego {the servant of the shining fire}ⁱ.

(8) But Daniel determined 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 favor and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

(10) And the prince of the eunuchs said to Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who has appointed your meat and your drink: because why should he see your faces worse in appearance than the children who *are* of your kind? then you will cause *me* to endanger my *own* head to the king.

(11) Then Daniel said to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

(12) I urge {ask; plead with} you, test your servants, ten days; and let them give us *only* vegetables to eat, and water to drink.

(13) Then let our appearances be looked upon before you, and the appearance of the children who eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as you see, deal with your servants.

(14) So he consented to them in this matter, and tested them ten days.

(15) And at the end of ten days their appearances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children who ate the portion of the king's meat.

(16) So Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them vegetables *only*.

(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 would bring them in, 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 they stood before the king.

(20) And in all matters of wisdom *and* understanding, that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians *and* astrologers who *were* in all his realm.

1:7f – Belteshazzar {בלטשאצר} – keeper of the hidden treasures of Bel

1:7g - Shadrach {שדרך}- inspired by the sun god

1:7h - Meshach {מישך} - of the goddess Shach

1:7i – Abed-nego {עבד נגו} - the servant of the shining fire

1:8j - Jews were only allowed to eat meat that had been prepared according to the law of Moses. Since Daniel could not control how the meat was prepared he chose to not eat any meat.

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(21) And Daniel continued *even to the first year of king Cyrus.*^k

Chapter 2

(1) And in the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar {3520 A.H./C-522 B.C.}^a Nebuchadnezzar dreamed dreams, his spirit was troubled because of them, and his sleep left him.

(2) Then the king commanded to call the magicians, and the astrologers, and the sorcerers, and the Chaldeans, to explain to the king his dreams. So they came and stood before the king.

(3) And the king said to them, I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit was troubled to know the dream.

(4) Then the Chaldeans spoke to the king in Syriac,^b O king, live forever: tell your servants the dream, and we will explain the interpretation.

(5) The king answered and said to the Chaldeans, The thing has gone from me: if you will not make known to me the dream, with its interpretation, you shall be cut in pieces, and your houses shall be made a dunghill.

(6) But if you show *me* the dream, and its interpretation, you shall receive from me gifts and rewards and great honor: therefore show me the dream, and its interpretation.

(7) They answered again and said, Let the king tell his servants the dream, and we will show its interpretation.

(8) The king answered and said, I know of certainty that you would gain the time, because you see the thing has gone from me.

(9) But if you will not make known to me the dream, *there is but* one decree for you: because you have prepared lying and corrupt words to speak before me, until the time is changed: therefore tell me the dream, and I will know that you can show me its interpretation.

(10) The Chaldeans answered before the king, and said, There is not a man upon the earth who can show the king's matter: because *there is* no king, lord, nor ruler, *who* asks such things of any magician, or astrologer, or Chaldean.

(11) And *it is* a rare thing that the king requires, and there is no one else who can show it to the king, except the gods, who do not live with flesh.

(12) Because of this the king was angry and very furious, and commanded that all the wise *men* of Babylon be destroyed.

(13) And the decree went forth that the wise *men* should be killed; and they sought Daniel and his fellows to be killed.

1:21k - 1st year of King Cyrus - 70th year and end of exile - Daniel lives through the end of the 70 years - see Dan. 9:2; Jer. 29:10 – See [Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History](#)

2:1a - second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar [03520 A.H./C-522 B.C.]
– See [Appendix G: World Time Line of Biblical History](#)

2:4b - Dan. 2:4b to Dan. 7:28 is written in Chaldean [also called Aramaic or Syriac] rather than in Hebrew. Note: Ez. 4:8-6:18; Ez.7:12-26 and Jer. 10:11 are also in Aramaic.