

## Chapter 1

(1) In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah {3520 A.H./C-522 B.C.}<sup>a</sup> 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},<sup>b</sup> Hananiah {whom Jehovah has favored},<sup>c</sup> Mishael {who is comparable to God},<sup>d</sup> and Azariah {whom God helps}:<sup>e</sup>

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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 11<sup>th</sup> 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 {חנניה}– 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};<sup>f</sup> and to Hananiah, Shadrach {inspired by the sun god};<sup>g</sup> and to Mishael, Meshach {of the goddess Shach};<sup>h</sup> and to Azariah, Abed-nego {the servant of the shining fire}<sup>i</sup>.

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(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<sup>f</sup>

(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

