

DANIEL CHAPTER ONE

Chapter 1

1:1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon [Gen 10:8-10; 11:9] unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.

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.

1:3 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;

1:4 Children in whom [was] no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful 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.

1:5 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.

1:6 Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:

1:7 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.

1:8 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.

1:9 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

1:10 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.

1:11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

1:12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

Daniel and His Companions

Babylon: Walls- 350 ft high, 87 feet thick. Gates were massive brass!

Satan's earthly counterfeit city see- Job 1:6, 7

Babylon- 677 BC- 538 BC

Isa 14:12-14; 23:13; Gen 11:1-9

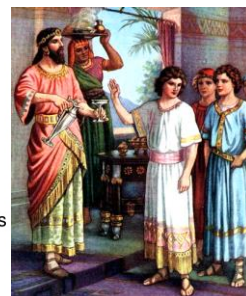
DANIEL 1-17

- **God Punishes those who Rebel Against His Will (Dan. 1:1, 2).** The prophets warned about rebellion: Moses (Deut. 6:10-25); Samuel (1 Sam. 15:22-23) John (Rev. 2-3). Whether on national level or personal God's wrath comes to bear to those who challenge his authority (Rom. 1:32).
- **God Favors Those Who Cherish His Word (Dan. 1:8, 9).** Able was favored over Cain (Gen. 4); Noah over the whole world (Gen. 6); Abram over other patriarchs (Gen. 12); Jacob over Esau; Joseph over brothers; David over cowering soldiers; Daniel over the king's edicts.
- **God Develops Those Who Follow His Commandments (Dan. 1:17)** God developed Moses into a great leader – took 40 years but he did it. He developed Saul into a great evangelist; Timothy into a great preacher, etc... The parable of the talents offer hope for those who are seeking to improve upon their abilities and serve warning to those who carelessly waste their gift (Matt. 25:14ff) – remember the verses surrounding "God gave?"

A good name is rather to be Chosen than great riches.
Prov 22:1

Daniel and His Companions (Chapter 1)

- Four outstanding young Jews, including Daniel, were chosen to receive instruction in the king's court.
- Surrounded by the sensuality of this oriental environment, Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself (verse 8).
- He and his companions chose not to partake of the food of the king, which would have been a sanction of his idolatry.



HOW WE ARE TO BE ONE AS CHRIST AND THE FATHER ARE ONE:

“one in mind, in heart, holiness, justice, purity, the **work of seeking to save the sinful race.**” BCL 273

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1:13 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.

1:14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

1:15 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.

1:16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

1:17 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.

1:18 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.

1:19 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.

1:20 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 that [were] in all his realm. **[Matt 21:16]**

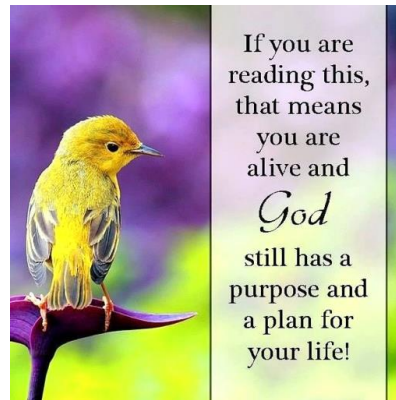
1:21 And Daniel continued [even] unto the first year of king Cyrus.

We are the temple of God- **1Cor 3:16-17**



Worldly Education: **Isa 47:10, 13, 14; 1Cor 1:19-25**

He who presents the truth of the prophecies in the right way **will use scripture to explain scripture**. He will make the Bible its own expositor.—Manuscript 27, 1908, 1. ("Truth to Be Maintained," May 5, 1908.) {2MR 96.2}



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.

Daniel, along with his friends were about 18-20 years of age, were taken as slaves when Babylon conquered Jerusalem. Daniel lived well into his 80's.

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 favoured, and skilful 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.

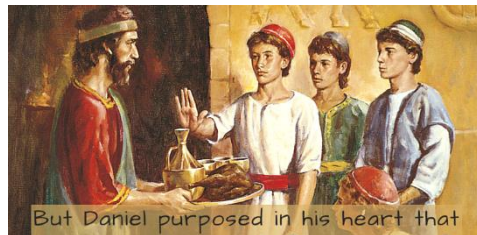
The word "children" as applied to these captives included youth also. Daniel was well trained and skilled in many things already.

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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 Abed-nego.

They were given names honoring the false gods of their captives.

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 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.

Nebuchadnezzar did not compel his royal captives to change their religion. But for them to refuse the king's hospitality, would surely result in their death. God could intervene to preserve Daniel and his companions because they were polite, respectful and honoring of the king. "Pulse" is cereals, legumes, fruits, nuts, and vegetables; a vegetarian diet of a good variety.

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 inquired 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.



With a profound reverence for his God, Daniel purposed in his heart not to defile himself with the king's meat.

"Grains, fruits, nuts, and vegetables, in proper combination, contain all the elements of nutrition; and when properly prepared, they constitute the diet that best promotes both physical and mental strength." {Ed 204.3}

"The grains, with fruits, nuts, and vegetables, contain all the nutritive properties necessary to make good blood." {CD 313.3}

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Foundation Principles Taught

What Group of People are primarily to know and understand the book of Daniel?

When was the Book of Daniel unsealed?

Name two or three Primary Principles for life that is directly important for God's People, today.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Uriah Smith, 1897, Daniel and the Revelation, pg. 25, 26

Such was God's passing testimony against sin. Not that the Chaldeans were the favorites of Heaven but God made use of them to punish the iniquities of His people. **Had the Israelites been faithful to God, and kept His Sabbath, Jerusalem would have stood forever.**

Stephan N Haskell, The Story of Daniel, pg. 15

His character should be studied, for its development reveals the secret of God's preparation of those who will welcome Christ at his appearing.

What Important Prophecy is recorded which motivated the sincere mothers of Judah?

Stephan N Haskell, The Story of Daniel, pg. 18, 19

The prophecy was placed on record, and repeated again and again by Jewish mothers as they taught their children. "Must my son be a captive in the court of a heathen king? Then let me so train him that he will be true to the God of his fathers." There were other mothers who lightly let pass the thought, and the history of their sons' lives is recorded for our instruction.

Stephan N Haskell, The Story of Daniel, pg. 19

Three years after his life had been saved, a son was born to Hezekiah. Notwithstanding the recent prophecy, Hezekiah and his wife, Hephzibah, failed to teach the young Manasseh in the way of truth. He was but twelve years of age when he came to the throne, but if he had been trained in the fear of God, he would not have chosen the worship of the heathen. The youthful Christ at the same age settled not only His own destiny, but the destiny of the universe. When twelve years of age, standing by the temple in Jerusalem, His future work opened before Him, and He accepted His appointed mission. Why? Because Mary, His mother, had taught Him that heart service to God was His highest pleasure. Manasseh decided in favor of the heathen deities; did evil in the sight of God; and "for the sins of Manasseh" came the captivity of Judah. At the age of twelve years, Christ made a decision which saved the world; at the same age Manasseh chose a course which brought ruin to the nation. In the training of your child are you Hephzibah or Mary?

Stephan N Haskell, The Story of Daniel, pg. 20

Now can be seen the results of the home training. Pure food, clean thoughts, and physical exercise placed them on the list of "children in whom was no blemish, but well-favored." But what of their intellectual ability? **They had not been educated in the schools of Jerusalem, much less in those of Babylon.** Was there not great danger that they lacked in the sciences or the essential branches? On examination, these four passed as "skillful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science," and able to learn a difficult, foreign language. **God had fulfilled His promise in these children of the home school.**

Stephan N Haskell, The Story of Daniel, pg. 24

The crucial moment came when "the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat and of the wine which he drank." Daniel had unbounded confidence in the principles of temperance, not alone because he knew them to be scientifically true, but because they were God-given, and, in his case, had been put into practice. His education had a Biblical foundation, and he knew that it was in harmony with true science.

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It was a life and death question; but the principles were divine, and he would obey, walk by faith, and leave the results with his Maker.

Stephan N Haskell, The Story of Daniel, pg. 24

Daniel and his companions, after considering their dangerous and difficult position, took this matter to the Lord in prayer, and decided to be true to principle. Much was involved in this decision.

Stephan N Haskell, The Story of Daniel, pg. 25

Even at the cost of appearing singular, they decided not to sit at the table of the king.

Ellen White, Review & Herald, January 9, 1894

The reason we have had so little influence upon unbelieving relatives and associates is that we have manifested little decided difference in our practices from those of the world. Parents need to awake, and purify their souls by practicing the truth in their home life. **When we reach the standard that the Lord would have us reach**, worldlings will regard Seventh-day Adventists as odd, singular, straight-laced extremists. "We are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men." We are under solemn, sacred covenant to God to bring up our children, not for the world, not to put their hands into the hands of the world, but to love and fear God, and to keep his commandments. We are to instruct them to work intelligently in Christ's lines, to present a noble, elevated Christian character to those with whom they associate.

Stephan N Haskell, The Story of Daniel, pg. 25, 26

The Hebrew children explained to the officer the effect of food upon the body; that overeating and the use of rich foods benumbed the sensibilities, unfitting mind and body for hard, stern labor. They urged most earnestly that they be allowed the simple diet, and begged that they be given a ten-days' trial, that they might demonstrate by their own physical appearance at the end of that time the advantages of plain, nutritious food. The request was granted; for they had obtained favor with God and with men. It was an act of faith; there was no feeling of envy toward those who were eating of the king's meat. The minds of the four were filled with thoughts of love and peace, and they actually grew during those ten days.

Stephan N Haskell, The Story of Daniel, pg. 25

The Hebrew children explained to the officer the effect of food upon the body; **Herein lies the reason for strict adherence to the principles of health reform**. Daniel and his companions gained the victory on the point of appetite. This was the avenue, and the only one, through which Satan was permitted to tempt Adam; and, had Adam proved true in the garden of Eden, and not eaten of the forbidden fruit, sin and suffering would never have been known. Appetite was the open door through which came all the results of sin, which, for six thousand years, have been so manifest in the human family. ... **Voluntary self-control of appetite lies at the foundation of every reform**. It means much to be true to God. It embraces health reform.

Ellen White, Review & Herald, February 24, 1910

God demands that the appetite be cleansed, and that self-denial be practised in regard to those things which are not good. This is a work that will have to be done before his people can stand before him a perfected people. The remnant people of God must be a converted people. The presentation of this message is to result in the conversion and sanctification of souls. We are to feel the power of the Spirit of God in this movement. This is a wonderful, definite message; it means everything to the receiver, and it is to be proclaimed with a loud cry. **We must have a true, abiding faith that this message will go forth with increasing importance till the close of time. ... God requires continual advancement from His people.** They need to learn that indulged appetite is the greatest hindrance to mental improvement and soul sanctification. **With all our profession of health reform, many of us eat improperly.** Indulgence of appetite is the greatest cause of physical and mental debility, and lies largely at the foundation of feebleness and premature death. Let the individual who is seeking to possess purity of spirit bear in mind that in Christ there is power to control the appetite. If we could be benefited by indulging the desire for flesh foods, I would not make this appeal to you; but I know we cannot. **Flesh foods are injurious to the physical well-**

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being, and we should learn to do without them. Those who are in a position where it is possible to secure a vegetarian diet, but who choose to follow their own preferences in this matter, eating and drinking as they please, will gradually grow careless of the instruction the Lord has given regarding other phases of the present truth and will lose their perception of what is truth; they will surely reap as they have sown.



7 Top Vegan Diet Health Benefits

- 1 Healthy weight loss
- 2 Decreased risk of diabetes
- 3 Improved heart health
- 4 Decreased risk of cancer
- 5 Decreased arthritis symptoms
- 6 Improved kidney function
- 7 Decreased risk of Alzheimer's disease

We do not mark out any precise line to be followed in diet; but we do say that in countries where there are fruits, grains, and nuts in abundance, flesh meat is not the right food for God's people. I have been instructed that flesh meat has a tendency to animalize the nature, to rob men and women of that love and sympathy which they should feel for everyone, and to give the lower passions control over the higher powers of the being. If meat eating was ever healthful, it is not safe now. Cancers, tumors, and pulmonary diseases are largely caused by meat eating. {BLJ 316.3}

Compiled by M Harris 11/23/20; Updated 2/13/21
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