



# Daniel

1

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- 605 B.C.
  - Third year of the reign of Jehoiakim
  - Nebuchadnezzar took vessels from the temple and placed them in the temple of his gods.
  - Nebuchadnezzar took the brightest and best of the royal family and other families of nobility to Babylon to be indoctrinated with the Chaldean culture. Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were among these.

2

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- 597 B.C.
  - Three months into the reign of Jehoiachin
  - Most of the vessels of gold were taken from the temple in Jerusalem.
  - Jehoiachin was taken as a prisoner to Babylon along with his family and all his officials and prominent people of the land.

3

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- 597 B.C.
  - 10,000 people were taken into exile at this time.
  - This is the date the exile officially began. (See Ezekiel 33:21)

4

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- 586 B.C.
  - Eleventh year of the reign of Zedekiah
  - Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed. Most of the city was burned.

5

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- 586 B.C.
  - Zedekiah was blinded and taken to Babylon as a prisoner. His wives were given over to the Babylonian officials. His sons and the key leaders were slaughtered.
  - Nebuchadnezzar set up Gedaliah as governor over the land.
  - Ezekiel 33:21 places this as the 12<sup>th</sup> year of the exile.

6

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- The 605 B.C. Captivity
  - Nebuchadnezzar took the elite people of Judah back to Babylon.
  - From those of the king's household and other nobility he ordered the best and brightest to be chosen to be trained to serve in his court.
    - Young
    - Perfect physical condition
    - Handsome

7

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- The 605 B.C. Captivity
  - From those of the king's household and other nobility he ordered the best and brightest to be chosen to be trained to serve in his court.
    - Demonstratively wise
    - Well educated
    - Teachable
    - Poise and demeanor to serve in a royal court

8

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- The 605 B.C. Captivity
  - From those of the king's household and other nobility he ordered the best and brightest to be chosen to be trained to serve in his court.
    - The purpose of this training was to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.
    - They would be treated royally and eat the same food prepared for the king.

9

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- The 605 B.C. Captivity
  - From those of the king's household and other nobility he ordered the best and brightest to be chosen to be trained to serve in his court.
  - They were to engage in a 3-year program of education and development and then be presented to the king.
  - Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were chosen to be in this group.

10

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem

- The Test
  - Daniel knew some of this food and/or the way it was prepared would include food forbidden by the Torah.
  - Wine was not forbidden by the Torah but it may have some connection with idol worship.

11

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem.

- The Test
  - Daniel approached Ashpenaz with his dilemma.
  - God gave Daniel favor in the eyes of those overseeing these young men.
  - Aspenaz, however, had no intention of approaching the most powerful king on the planet with this issue and indicated to do so would put his life in danger.

12

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem.

• The Test

- Daniel did not press the matter with Ashpenaz but approached the person assigned specifically to the four Israelites and proposed a test.
- Provide vegetables and water for 10 days and make an assessment.
- After ten days they were better in every way than those who ate the king's food.
- They were given this diet for the duration of their training.

13

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Nebuchadnezzar's campaigns against Jerusalem.

• God's favor

- God blessed them with the ability to learn and the skill to put their education into practice.
- God gave Daniel the special gift of understanding visions and dreams.
- Their interview with the king at the end of the three years found them exceeding all others in Nebuchadnezzar's kingdom.
- Daniel's ministry extended to the first year of Cyrus.

14

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Lessons

- God always arranges to have His people in strategic places to accomplish His purpose.
- When our focus is on obedience to God above all others, God provides the wisdom and discernment to properly accomplish His will.
- Challenging those in authority must be done with wisdom and discernment.
- Trust God with the results as you walk in obedience to Him.

15

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Lessons

- Make good use of the gifts and abilities God gives you for His glory.