

## DANIEL – CHAPTER 1

### Vs 1-2 The Historical Setting of the Book

1. Third year of the reign of Jehoiakim, King of Judah  
605BC  
2 Kg 24:1-4; 2 Chron 36:5-8
2. A primary cause of the captivity was Judah's failure to allow the land to have her Sabbath rests,  
Dan 9:1-2; Jer 34:12-22; 24:8-25:12, along with the fact that they had given themselves over to idolatry.  
Jer 44:16-23; Isa 1:4-9

Note: Shinar – Babylon Gen 10:10; 11:2; Zech 5:5-11;  
Rev 17:1-6

3. The vessels from the "house of God" were removed to the house of Marduk.  
In 597BC, while Zedekiah was in Jerusalem, further treasures from the house of God were sent to Shinar.  
2 Chron 36:11-21.  
Some of these drinking cups will become the basis for King Belshazzar's destruction Dan 5:1-6 (Final king of the Babylonian empire.)

### Vs 3-7 The Choosing of and Deportation of the Young Men of whom Daniel was one. This was prophesied by Isaiah. Isa 39:1-8

1. The children were descendants of Jacob, and from the royal family.
2. These young men would be trained that they might serve Nebuchadnezzar in His administration of the Jews.

*Daniel chapter 1 continued*

3. Their names are exchanged for Babylonian names:

Daniel (God is my judge.)

Beltshazzar (protect the king)

Hananiah (Yahweh has been gracious)

Shadrach (I am fearful of a god)

Mishael (Who is what God is)

Meshach (I am despised before my god)

Azariah (Yahweh has helped)

Abednego (Servant of Nebo Isa 46:1, god  
of writing and vegetation)

- Vs 8 Daniel determined from the very beginning of his stay in Babylon that he would not give up his practice of observing the Mosaic Law.  
There is no indication that the other captives, apart from these four, carried such a commitment.
1. The food would not have been chosen or prepared according to Jewish Law.
  2. Both the wine and the meat would have been offered to a Babylonian god, prior to it being served.  
1 Cor 10:18-33 (8:1-13)
  3. There are no vegetables designated as unclean in the Mosaic Law.
- Vs 9-10 The commander of the officials response, along with God's intervention is next given.

*Daniel chapter 1 continued*

- Vs 11-16     A 10-day test is suggested and run to assure the commander that he is not risking his life by granting the request.  
The decision to run this test was worked out with the lower official directly in charge of Daniel and his companions.
- Vs 17         Daniel and his companions spent 3 years of hard study to prepare them for their service to the king.  
Daniel was given a special ability to "understand all kinds of visions and dreams."  
He never forgot that this ability came from God!  
Dan 2:25-28 (Moses forgot Num 20:1-13)
- Vs 18         The time of preparation ended and they were presented before the king.
- Vs 19-20     These four men became the king's choice for his personal representatives from the Israelites.
- Vs 21         Daniel maintained this position through 539 BC.  
He served 5 different kings.  
(Reminds me of Billy Graham).

