

DANIEL'S DIVINE DIET

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**In 605 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar defeated
a combined force of Assyria
and Egypt at Carchemish**

This battle helped to lay the foundation of Babylon's rise to power.

→ Nebuchadnezzar was commander of the army, and rose to the throne a soon time after this when his father passed away

**The military might and power of
Babylon is a key component to
this story.**

Daniel 1:1-2 King James Version

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.

**REMEMBER WHAT THE BIBLE
SAYS ABOUT KING JEHOIAKIM??**

2 Chronicles 36:5-7 King James Version

5 Jehoiakim was twenty and five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem: and he did that which was evil in the sight of the Lord his God. **6** Against him came up Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon, and bound him in fetters, to carry him to Babylon. **7** Nebuchadnezzar also carried of the vessels of the house of the Lord to Babylon, and put them in his temple at Babylon.

One of the ungodly kings of the OT

His defeat here at the hands of the Babylonians can't simply be attributed to military or political means.

**GOD IS AT WORK IN THE
AFFAIRS OF NATIONS!!!!**

God used the Babylonians as an instrument of judgment against the people for their sins.

2 Kings 17:14-15 King James Version

14 Notwithstanding they would not hear, but hardened their necks, like to the neck of their fathers, that did not believe in the Lord their God.

15 And they rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them, that they should not do like them.

2 Kings 17:18-20 King James Version

18 Therefore the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them out of his sight: there was none left but the tribe of Judah only.

19 Also Judah kept not the commandments of the Lord their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made.

20 And the Lord rejected all the seed of Israel, and afflicted them, and delivered them into the hand of spoilers, until he had cast them out of his sight.

**The Bible also references that
Nebuchadnezzar took the
temple vessels out of God's
temple and into the treasury
house of "his god".**

Daniel 1:3-4 King James Version

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.

**The king wants the best of the
best to be presented in front of
him.**

The exiling of these royal and noble offspring fulfill the prophecy of Isaiah to King Hezekiah.

2 Kings 20:16-18 King James Version

16 And Isaiah said unto Hezekiah, Hear the word of the Lord.

17 Behold, the days come, that all that is in thine house, and that which thy fathers have laid up in store unto this day, shall be carried into Babylon: nothing shall be left, saith the Lord.

18 And of thy sons that shall issue from thee, which thou shalt beget, shall they take away; and they shall be eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon.

**Babylonian culture was filled
with magic, sorcery, astrology
and the worship of a multitude
of gods.**

JUST LIKE TODAY!!!!!!

This is why the king's request is so broad, even including the language of the royal court that is to be spoken

Daniel 1:5 King James Version

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.

These provisions aren't due to the kindness of Nebuchadnezzar's heart.

→ they are meant to create a cycle of dependency on him to provide for them daily

**WE DEPEND ON GOD FOR
OUR DAILY PROVISIONS!!!!**

Daniel 1:6-7 King James Version

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 Abednego.

The Bible tells us the Hebrew names of the four young men, who are the centerpiece of the story.

All four names contain the word “God” or God’s covenant name “Yahweh”:

Daniel → “my judge is God”

Hananiah → “Yahweh is gracious”

Mishael → “Who is what God is?”

Azariah → “Yahweh has helped”

**HOW DEMORALIZING AND DEVASTATING IS
IT TO ROB SOMEONE THEIR NAME AND
IDENTITY?**

**These name changes are done for
this specific reason.**

**Little did they know that there
were about to find out that God
cant be erased.**

**LET'S GIVE CREDIT TO DANIEL AND
HIS FRIENDS FOR NOT FORGETTING
WHO THEY WERE!!!
AND FOR NOT GIVING INTO
TEMPTATION!!!**

2 Timothy 2:19 King James Version

19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Exodus 23:2 King James Version

2 Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil;
neither shalt thou speak in a cause to decline after
many to wrest judgment:

Ephesians 5:11-12 King James Version

11 And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.

12 For it is a shame even to speak of those things which are done of them in secret.

Daniel 1:8-9 King James Version

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 had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

The Bible doesn't specifically the reason for Daniel's belief of defilement.

What we can say is that this was Daniel and his friends' affirming their commitment to rely on God for sustenance.

**WHO WERE THE CHARACTERS
AFFECTING DANIEL'S COMMITMENT?**

Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah

→ joining Daniel in the commitment to be clean

Nebuchadnezzar

- the king had plans for these young men.
- he was grooming them to be future leaders in his government.
- he wanted them fat and flourishing.

The unnamed king's eunuch

- an unsung hero of this story!**
- he was the diet director, under orders from the king**
- he risked his life for these young men to be true to themselves**

Daniel 1:10 King James Version

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.

The eunuch prince knew the price he would pay for prisoner disobedience.

HOW DOES DANIEL RESPOND?

**HIS DIVINE DIET GIVES HIM THE
STRENGTH TO ISSUE A CHALLENGE!!!**

**OUR COMMITMENT SHOULD
MAKE US CHALLENGE ANYONE
WHO OPPOSES OUR LORD!!!!!!**

Daniel 1:11-13 King James Version

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.

**Daniel requests a 10-day test,
where they will only drink
water and eat vegetables**

**He also requests that when it is
over, that they be compared to
those who ate the king's food**

**REMEMBER, NEBUCHADNEZZAR ONLY
WANTED HANDSOME YOUNG
MEN IN HIS COURT**

**A VEGETABLE ONLY DIET FOR TEN DAYS
COULD NORMALLY MAKE SOMEONE
LOOK PALE AND SICKLY**

**Daniel was confident God would come
through for him and his friends.**

COMMITMENT TO GOD IS A TWO-WAY STREET!!!

Philippians 1:27 King James Version

27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Galatians 5:1 King James Version

5 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Job 17:9 King James Version

9 The righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger.

WHAT IS BLOCKING YOUR COMMITMENT?

WHAT CHALLENGE ARE YOU FACING TODAY?

WHAT IS THE OUTCOME OF DANIEL'S CHALLENGE?

Daniel 1:14-17 King James Version

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.

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.

**After 10 days, Daniel and his friends
“appeared fatter and fairer in flesh”
than those who ate the royal king’s
food**

**WHEN YOU STAY COMMITTED TO GOD,
YOUR PHYSICAL APPEARANCE WILL BE
NOTICEABLY DIFFERENT?**

God's blessing isn't just limited to physical, it includes outstanding intellectual development during their Babylonian education

**THEY ARE A BLESSING TO THEIR PAGAN
NEIGHBORS , WHILE NOT
COMPROMISING THEIR BELIEFS!!!!**

**Nebuchadnezzar himself is so
impressed that he favored them
over his most trusted advisors**

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Daniel 1:18-20 King James Version

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 enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.

DANIEL'S DIVINE DIET

**HIS FAITHFULNESS AND COMMITMENT
TO GOD SHINED BRIGHTEST
WHEN OUTSIDERS WANTED
HIM TO COMPROMISE**

CAN WE SAY THE SAME TODAY?

**HAS THE CULTURE AROUND
YOU ENTICED YOU TO SIN?**

**HAVE THE LUXURIES OF THE WORLD
TEMPTED YOU TO DISOBEY GOD?**

**HAS YOUR DESIRE FOR PERSONAL
GLORY SUPERCEDED SERVING
GOD?**

**IF SO, LET US CHALLENGE OURSELVES
TO JOIN IN ON DANIEL'S DIVINE DIET!!!**

**LET US FULLY COMMIT
OURSELVES TO
OUR LORD TODAY!!**

DANIEL'S DIVINE DIET

Elder: Chad Sadaphal

