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[Daniel \(6th century BCE\)](#). The Book of Daniel, Chapter 1:1-16.

Key passages

א בִּשְׁנַת שְׁלוֹשׁ לְמַלְכוּת יְהוֹיָקִים מֶלֶךְ־יְהוּדָה בָּא נְבוּכַדְנֶאצַּר
 ב מֶלֶךְ־בָּבֶל יְרוּשָׁלַם וַיֵּצֵר עֲלֵיהֶ: וַיִּתֵּן אֹדְנֵי בִידוֹ אֶת־יְהוֹיָקִים
 ג מֶלֶךְ־יְהוּדָה וּמִקְצַת כְּלֵי בֵית־הָאֱלֹהִים וַיְבִיאֵם אֶרֶץ־שֹׁנַעַר
 ד בֵּית אֱלֹהֵיו וְאֶת־הַכֵּלִים הֵבִיא בֵּית אוֹצֵר אֱלֹהָיו: וַיֹּאמֶר
 ה הַמֶּלֶךְ לְאַשְׁפִּנָּז רֶב סֹרִיסוֹ לְהֵבִיא מִבְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל וּמִזֵּרַע
 ו הַמְּלוּכָה וּמִן־הַפְּרֻתִּים: יְלָדִים אֲשֶׁר אֵין־בָּהֶם כָּל־מָאוֹם
 ז וְטוֹבֵי מְרָאָה וּמְשֻׁכְּלִים בְּכָל־חֲכָמָה וַיִּדְעֵי דַעַת וּמְבִינֵי מַדְעַ
 ח וְאֲשֶׁר כָּח בָּהֶם לַעֲמֹד בְּהִיכַל הַמֶּלֶךְ וּלְלַמֹּד סֵפֶר וּלְשׁוֹן
 ט כְּשָׂדִים: וַיִּמֶן לָהֶם הַמֶּלֶךְ דְּבַר־יוֹם בְּיוֹמוֹ מִפְּתֵי־בַג הַמֶּלֶךְ
 י וּמִיּוֹן מִשְׁתֵּיו וּלְגַדְלֵם שָׁנִים שְׁלוֹשׁ וּמִקְצַתָם יַעֲמְדוּ לִפְנֵי
 יא הַמֶּלֶךְ: וַיְהִי בָהֶם מִבְּנֵי יְהוּדָה דְּנִיָּאל חֲנַנְיָה מִישָׂאֵל וְעִזְרִיָּה:
 יב וַיִּשֶׂם לָהֶם שֵׁר הַסְּרִיסִים שְׁמוֹת וַיִּשֶׂם לְדְנִיָּאל בְּלִטְשַׁאצַּר
 יג וּלְחֲנַנְיָה שְׁדֵרְךְ וּלְמִישָׂאֵל מִישֵׁךְ וְלְעִזְרִיָּה עֶבֶד נְגוֹ: וַיִּשֶׂם
 יד דְּנִיָּאל עַל־לְבָבוֹ אֲשֶׁר לֹא־יִתְגַּאֵל בְּפִתְּבַג הַמֶּלֶךְ וּבִיּוֹן מִשְׁתֵּיו
 טו וַיִּבְקֹשׁ מִשֵׁר הַסְּרִיסִים אֲשֶׁר לֹא יִתְגַּאֵל: וַיִּתֵּן הָאֱלֹהִים אֶת־
 יז דְּנִיָּאל לְחֹסֵד וּלְרַחֲמִים לִפְנֵי שֵׁר הַסְּרִיסִים: וַיֹּאמֶר שֵׁר
 יח הַסְּרִיסִים לְדְנִיָּאל יֵדָא אֲנִי אֶת־אֹדְנֵי הַמֶּלֶךְ אֲשֶׁר מִנָּה אֶת־
 יט מֵאֲכַלְכֶם וְאֶת־מִשְׁתֵּיכֶם אֲשֶׁר לְמֹה יֵרָאָה אֶת־פְּנֵיכֶם זַעֲפִים
 כ מִן־הַיְלָדִים אֲשֶׁר כְּגִילְכֶם וַחֲבִיבְתֶם אֶת־רֹאשֵׁי לְמֶלֶךְ: וַיֹּאמֶר
 כא דְּנִיָּאל אֶל־הַמְּלָצָר אֲשֶׁר מִנָּה שֵׁר הַסְּרִיסִים עַל־דְּנִיָּאל
 כב חֲנַנְיָה מִישָׂאֵל וְעִזְרִיָּה: נִסְנָא אֶת־עֲבָדֶיךָ יָמִים עֶשְׂרֵה וַיִּתְּנוּ־
 כג לָנוּ מִן־הָאֲרָעִים וְנֵאֲכַלְהָ וּיָמִים וְנִשְׁתַּהֵ: וַיִּרְאוּ לִפְנֵיךְ מְרָאֵינוּ
 כד וּמְרָאָה הַיְלָדִים הָאֲכָלִים אֶת פִּתְּבַג הַמֶּלֶךְ וְכֹאֲשֶׁר תִּרְאָה
 כה עֲשֵׂה עִם־עֲבָדֶיךָ: וַיִּשְׁמַע לָהֶם לְדַבֵּר הַזֶּה וַיִּנְסֹם יָמִים עֶשְׂרֵה:
 כו וּמִקְצַת יָמִים עֶשְׂרֵה נִרְאָה מְרָאֵיהֶם טוֹב וּבְרִיאֵי בָשָׂר מִן־
 כז כָּל־הַיְלָדִים הָאֲכָלִים אֶת פִּתְּבַג הַמֶּלֶךְ: וַיְהִי הַמְּלָצָר נֹשֵׂא אֶת־
 כח פִּתְּבָגָם וַיּוֹן מִשְׁתֵּיהֶם וַנְתֵן לָהֶם זֵרְעִים: וְהַיְלָדִים הָאֱלֹהֵ

Translation

Translation of Daniel (6th century BCE). Chapter 1:1-16

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and laid siege to it.

The Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his power...

Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch to take certain of the Israelite exiles of the blood royal and of the nobility, who were to be young men of good looks and bodily without fault.... well-informed, intelligent and fit for service in the royal court; and he was to instruct them in the literature and the language of the Chaldeans.

The king assigned them a daily allowance of food and wine from the royal table.

Their training was to last for three years...

Among them were certain young men from Judah called Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah...

Now Daniel determined not to contaminate himself by touching the food and wine assigned to him by the king, and he begged the master of the eunuchs not to make him do so.

God made the master show kindness and goodwill to Daniel and he said to him 'I am afraid of my lord the king: he has assigned you your food and drink and if he sees you looking dejected unlike the other young men of your own age, it will cost me my head.'

Then Daniel said to the guard whom the master of the eunuchs had put in charge of Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah and himself 'Submit us to this test for ten days.

Give us only vegetables to eat and water to drink; then compare our looks with those of the young men who have lived on the food assigned by the king and be guided in your treatment of us by what you see.'

The guard listened to what they said and tested them for ten days.

At the end of ten days they looked healthier and were better nourished than all the young men who had lived on the food assigned them by the king.

So the guard took away the assignment of food and the wine they were to drink and gave them only the vegetables.

THE BOOK OF DANIEL.

CHAPTER I.

1 *Jehoiakim's captivity.* 3 *Ashpenaz taketh Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.* 8 *They refusing the king's portion do prosper with pulse and water.* 17 *Their excellency in wisdom.*

IN the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah ^a came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.

2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with ^b part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried ^c into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; ^d and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

3 ¶ And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring ^e certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes;

4 Children ^e 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 ^f 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 ^g the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might ^h stand before the king.

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

7 ^h Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: ⁱ 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.

8 ¶ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself ^k 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 ^l God had 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.

17 ¶ As for these four children, ^m God gave them ⁿ knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and ^o Daniel had ^e 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 ^p stood they before the king.

20 ^q 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.

21 ^r And Daniel continued *even* unto the first year of king Cyrus.

Before CHRIST
cir. 606.

† Heb.
sadder.

|| Or, term,
or, continuance?
|| Or, The
steward.

† Heb.
of pulse.

† Heb. that
see may
eat, &c.

^m 1 Kin. 3. 12.

Jam. 1. 5, 17.

ⁿ Acts 7. 22.

† Or,
he made
Daniel un-
derstand.

^o Num. 12. 6.

^p 2 Chr. 26. 5.

ch. 3. 11, 12,

14. & 10. 1.

603.

^q Gen. 41. 46.

ver. 5.

^r 1 Kin. 10. 1.

† Heb.
wisdom
of under-
standing.

^s ch. 6. 28.

& 10. 1.

He lived to

see that glo-
rious time

of the return

of his people

from the

Babylonian

captivity,

though he

did not die

them. So

till is used,

Ps. 110. 1.

& 112. 8.

Behet
CHRIST
cir. 607.

1 Kin. 21. 1.

1 Chr. 36. 6.

cir. 606.

1 Jer. 27. 13.

21.

1 Gen. 35. 23.

8. 13. 2.

1 Job. 13. 11.

Job. 4. 11.

1 1 Chr. 36. 7.

* Parahel

1 2 King. 20.

2. 10.

1 Job. 29. 7.

* See Lev. 24.

10. 21.

1 Job. 1. 22.

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