

Daniel The Prophet

FAITH BIBLE INVESTIGATORS CLASS
FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH, DANVILLE INDIANA

CLASS HANDOUT CHAPTER ONE



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FILL IN THE BLANKS



A BIBLE CLASS WITH THE GOAL OF BUILDING UP BELIEVERS IN THE FAITH. WE INVESTIGATE BIBLE PROPHECY, CURRENT TRENDS, EVOLUTIONARY THEORY, SPIRITUAL WARFARE, AND MORE. WE TAKE ON BOOKS OF THE BIBLE, VERSE BY VERSE.

1. Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, besieged Jerusalem in the third year of the Jewish king _____ .
2. When Hezekiah was king in 702 BC, Babylon was already a huge empire: T / F
3. God is good when: (check each that is true)
 - a. He answers our prayers.
 - b. Our bills are paid and things are going well.
 - c. A loved one dies.
 - d. Everything falls apart and all seems dark.
 - e. Our prayers seem to be ignored.
 - f. You get married.
4. When the book of Daniel begins, what are the three great empires on the earth? (see the map on the back for locations)
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.

5. All three empires met in battle at _____ in 605 BC.
6. Which empire won the Battle of Carchemish? _____ .
7. What does the “EL” in **Daniel** and **Mishael** represent?

8. What does the “IAH” in **Hananiah** and **Azariah** represent?
_____ . (the word)
9. At just 15 or 16 years old, “Daniel _____
_____ that he would not defile himself.”
CONSIDER: At what age should we do the same?
10. Daniel’s experience was similar to what _____ went through when he was taken as a slave to Egypt.
11. Both of these young men were given the gift of being able to _____ .
12. To become a eunuch in the palace of Babylon, Daniel was no doubt physically _____ .
13. When Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah ate “pulse,” what were they eating?
_____ .
14. These four young men were no smarter or dumber than anyone else their age. T / F
15. We should plan in advance what we’re going to say on the day when we are hauled into court because of our faith in Christ: T / F
16. Daniel eventually lived to be about _____ years old.
17. He continued until King _____ of the combined empire of _____ eventually conquered Babylon.

How did you do?

100%: You may proceed to heaven.
Less: You’re stuck with us for a while.

PAUL TANNER’S COMMENTS

The Historical Setting: God's Elevation of Daniel and His Friends In the Court at Babylon (1:1-21)

The opening scene of the book of Daniel coincides with a major historical event in the year 605 BC. Although the mighty Assyrian Empire had ruled the Middle East for some three hundred years, in 612 BC the combined forces of the Babylonians and Medes successfully conquered Assyria's capital of Nineveh. A power struggle ensued in which the two most powerful remaining kingdoms, Babylonia and Egypt, clashed. Their armies met in battle at a site called Carchemish (present day lower Turkey) in the summer of 605 BC. The Babylonians, led by crown prince Nebuchadnezzar II, defeated the Egyptians and pursued them southward towards Egypt. In pursuing the Egyptians, the Babylonian army came through Judah. Since 609 BC, Judah had been a vassal state to Egypt, with Jehoiakim serving as a puppet ruler to Egypt's Pharaoh Neco II. Nebuchadnezzar naturally wanted to ensure that Judah's loyalty would now shift to Babylon and therefore laid siege to Jerusalem. Among those of Judah being directly affected by this invasion was a young Jewish lad named Daniel.

A. Nebuchadnezzar's Siege of Jerusalem and the Deportation to Babylon (1:1-2) 1:1. Historical records reveal that 605 BC was “the third year of the reign of King Jehoiakim of Judah.” Jehoiakim had been placed on the throne in October 609 BC following King Josiah's death at the hands of Pharaoh Neco II of Egypt. Judah thus became a vassal state of Egypt with the responsibility of paying annual tribute to her. Nebuchadnezzar's motive for laying siege to Jerusalem was not only to ensure Judah's loyalty to him but to create a buffer state that would prevent Egypt from pushing northward again. 1:2. While verse 1 gives the impression that Judah was simply suffering the sad fate of being caught up in the midst of an international shakeup and power struggle, verse 2 provides the spiritual perspective. God had His reasons for allowing Nebuchadnezzar to successfully lay siege to Jerusalem, and thus “the Lord delivered King Jehoiakim of Judah into his power.” The Hebrew word translated "Lord" ('adōnay) stresses the sovereignty of God, reminding us that He was totally in control. Nebuchadnezzar's victory was not due to his military might but to God's purposes for Israel.

— excerpted from Tanner’s *Commentary on Daniel*
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