



# Bible Study For Daniel Fast 2018

## Daniel 1 King James Version (KJV)

**1:1** 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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.**

*It's good to know this about God. He is the same yesterday, today and forever (Hebrews 13:8). And, God is no respect of persons (Rom 2:11)*

*Pulse = something sown (from a seed) like a vegetable*

*Some people do the Daniel fast for 10 days based on this. But, see also Daniel chapter 10 for more info.*

<sup>14</sup> So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

<sup>15</sup> 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.

<sup>16</sup> Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

<sup>17</sup> 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.

<sup>18</sup> 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. *See verse 5. This implies 3 years – like college.*

<sup>19</sup> 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.

<sup>20</sup> 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.

<sup>21</sup> And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

*God provides revelation on matters.*

## **Daniel 10 King James Version (KJV)**

**10<sup>1</sup>** In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.

*Mourning perhaps for three reasons: 1. Spiritual condition in and resulting in captivity; 2. Those who were released chose to stay in captivity – slow progress of the temple rebuilding; 3. Uncertainty of the future revelation;*

<sup>2</sup> In those days I Daniel was mourning three full weeks.

<sup>3</sup> **I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.**

*21 days. Mourning is a 'picture' of fasting. We fast for God's intervention in messy situations. Got any ???*

<sup>4</sup> And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is Hiddekel;

<sup>5</sup> **Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen,** whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz:

*See also the same in Revelation 1:13-15*

<sup>6</sup> His body also was like the beryl, and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his eyes as lamps of fire, and his arms and his feet like in colour to polished brass, and the voice of his words like the voice of a multitude.

<sup>7</sup> And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

*Fasting is a spiritual discipline that accompanies – 1. Seeking God, and 2. Searching the Scripture. Through fasting we remove distractions to spend more time with God (1) and hear from God (2).*

<sup>8</sup>Therefore **I was left alone, and saw this great vision**, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength.

<sup>9</sup>**Yet heard I the voice of his words:** and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground.

<sup>10</sup>And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands.

<sup>11</sup>And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: **for unto thee am I now sent**. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. *Angels – messengers of God*

<sup>12</sup>Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou **didst set thine heart** to understand, and **to chasten thyself** before thy God, thy words were heard, **and I am come for thy words**. *God heard you !*

<sup>13</sup>But the **prince of the kingdom of Persia** withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

<sup>14</sup>**Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days.** *Consider: angelic (spirit) influences over kingdoms*

<sup>15</sup>And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb.

<sup>16</sup>And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength.

<sup>17</sup>For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me.

<sup>18</sup>Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,

<sup>19</sup>And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.

<sup>20</sup>Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come.

<sup>21</sup>But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and there is none that holdeth with me in these things, but **Michael your prince**.

*This is an angelic battle that we are affected by. That means there is activity in heaven that affects what goes on in our earthly realm! Daniel is a prophecy about earthly kingdoms that are impacted by 'heavenly' activity. Do you see why God tells us to pray for those who have rule over us (1 Tim 2:1-3). What's going on, on earth, is somehow a reflection of what's going on in heaven.*

## BIBLE STUDY NOTES FOR DANIEL 1:21

**1:1** – Remember, this book is about Daniel the prophet. Keep in mind the culture of Israel during the time of the prophets. “Kings” ruled over God’s people in Israel and Judah, both good and bad. Look in 2 Kings 23:37 and we find that Jehoiakim was an evil (bad) king. During His reign, God sent invading armies to capture Judah and enslave them under the captivity of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon (2 Kings 24:1 and 2 Chronicles 36:6). This is the setting of the book of Daniel (often the subject of the first couple of verses of a passage). Daniel and his friends were taken to Babylon in this deportation and captivity.

The principle problem in this passage is the people’s idolatry. God’s people disobeyed Him and worshiped (held in high esteem and therefore obeyed them) the other gods and practiced the things important to them. **APPLICATION QUESTION:** How many things do we do (or say/think) in our lives that actually serve to glorify other, evil gods rather than glorify our God ?

In verse 2 we see that God gave Jehoiakim into the hands of Nebuchadnezzar. Can you imagine God saying, “If you want to do the things that other gods approve of, perhaps you should go and serve them – be under their jurisdiction !” Wow. We show God that we appreciate Him when we obey Him ! We love His way and we love Him !

**1:4** – Consider, the “king” (Nebuchadnezzar) wanted to use those who were gifted by God for his kingdom ! The enemy wants your talents, your treasures, and your time ! This is a twist on what God designed. God’s plan is to give the enemy territory into the hands of His people (the rightful owners).

**1:6-7** – A change of name is a change of identity. A change of identity is a change of purpose (destiny). The enemy wants to change your destiny. We will notice that Daniel and his friends were models of people who would not allow that change to happen. They were young men with a determination to serve only God. They had a relationship with God at an early age that led to their resources for productivity in life.

**1:8** – There are several things here that we want to take note of. Daniel “purposed” in his heart. That is a strong and comprehensive word which holds some keys to understanding Daniel and what God wants for us who demonstrate/exercise faith in Him. Interestingly enough, this word describes Daniel’s character. This word ‘purposed’ is the Hebrew word *šûm* which describes something which is set, established, fixed or set in place – constitute (which means established by law). It was Daniel’s heart which was determined. He had an iron will where God was concerned and some of the greatest threats would not allow him to be moved. It was Daniel’s constitution that we respect so much about this young man. Imagine if people were resolute today about God. We instead live in a climate where nothing is firm, but everything is flexible – including how we feel about God. There are no absolutes and everything is relative. This is the biggest theme in this passage.

**1:10** – This verse talks about the health of Daniel versus the other children. We see that health is tied to food. You are what you eat. I’m reminded that the “leaves on the trees are good for the healing of the nation (Rev 22:2). Dr. Jawanza Kunjufu, in his book, “Satan I’m Taking My Health Back,” quotes an anecdote – “Man does not die from guns, he kills himself at the kitchen table with his knife.” This is true so many times. Daniel understood at a deep level that God’s word is the highest authority because it is the word of the Supreme God. God’s way of doing things would naturally be paramount for Daniel. He wanted God’s diet. Afterall, God created these bodies. He knows what works best in them.

**1:17** – God is the giver of knowledge, wisdom, and skill. We should ask God for what we need to know.

**1:19** - God’s people are the “cream of the crop !”