

The Book of Daniel: Introduction and Chapter 1

April 2 & April 5, 2023

Introduction:

- During what periods of Israel's history did Daniel live and prophesy?
- What two prophets were contemporary with Daniel?
- What are the themes addressed in the Book of Daniel?
- What are the two main sections of the book?

Chapter 1: The book opens with the first deportation of Jews to Babylonian captivity, and the selection of Daniel and his three friends for special training (1 – 7). Daniel's commitment to remain undefiled is blessed by God, and he, along with his friends, are given wisdom that is acknowledged and rewarded by the king of Babylon (8 – 21).

(1 – 2) When did Nebuchadnezzar besiege Jerusalem, and who gave him the victory?

(3 – 4) Who were to be taught the language and literature of the Chaldeans?

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(5) How long was their training to last? What did it include?

(6 – 7) What four young men were selected? What names were they given?

(8) Why did Daniel resolve not to eat the food provided by the king? What was his motivation for declining the food?

(Deuteronomy 6: 24 – 25; Deuteronomy 28: 1 – 2; James 1: 22 – 25)

(9 – 16) How was Daniel able to keep his commitment?

(Romans 12: 2; 1 Corinthians 10: 13)

(17) What did God give the four young men?

(18 – 21) What qualities did Nebuchadnezzar identify in these four young men after their training?