

# DANIEL 1:1-21

PART I

{Sunday, May 24, 2015 A.D.}

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## Daniel 1:1-21 (NASB95)

<sup>1</sup> In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. <sup>2</sup> **The Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the vessels of the house of God;** and he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and **he brought the vessels into the treasury of his god.**

<sup>3</sup> Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials, to bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles, <sup>4</sup> **youths in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in every *branch of wisdom*, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and who had ability for serving in the king's court;** and *he ordered him to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.* <sup>5</sup> The king appointed for them a daily ration from the **king's choice food and from the wine which he drank**, and *appointed* that they should be **educated three years**, at the end of which they were to enter the **king's personal service.** <sup>6</sup> Now among them from the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. <sup>7</sup> Then **the commander of the officials assigned *new names to them***; and to Daniel he assigned *the name* Belteshazzar, to Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael Meshach and to Azariah Abed-nego.

<sup>8</sup> But Daniel made up his mind that **he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank**; so he sought *permission* from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself. <sup>9</sup> **Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials,** <sup>10</sup> and the commander of the officials said to Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink; for why should he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would make me forfeit my head to the king."

<sup>11</sup> But Daniel said to the overseer whom the commander of the officials had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, <sup>12</sup> **"Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink. <sup>13</sup> "Then let our appearance be observed in your presence and the appearance of the youths who are eating the king's choice food; and deal with your servants according to what you see."**

<sup>14</sup> So he listened to them in this matter and tested them for ten days. <sup>15</sup> At the end of ten days **their appearance seemed better and they were fatter than all the youths who had been eating the king's choice food.** <sup>16</sup> So the overseer continued to withhold **their choice food and the wine** they were to drink, and kept giving them **vegetables.**

<sup>17</sup> As for these four youths, **God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every *branch of literature and wisdom*; Daniel even understood all *kinds of visions and dreams.***

<sup>18</sup> Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar. <sup>19</sup> **The king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah;** so they entered the king's personal service. <sup>20</sup> **As for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king consulted them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians *and* conjurers who *were* in all his realm.** <sup>21</sup> And Daniel continued until the first year of Cyrus the king.