

# "THE BOOK OF DANIEL"

## Chapter One

### Review:

**The book opens with the first deportation of Jews to Babylonian captivity (605 B.C.), and the selection of Daniel and his three friends for special training (1-7).**

**Daniel 1:1-2** “In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, 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 placed the vessels in the treasury of his god.” **(ESV)**

**In the third year of Jehoiakim (605 B.C.)**

**Jehoiakim, also spelled Joakim, in the Old Testament (II Kings 23:34–24:17; Jer. 22:13–19; II Chron. 36:4–8), son of King Josiah.**

**When Josiah died at Megiddo, his younger son, Jehoahaz (or Shallum), was chosen king by the Judahites, but the Egyptian conqueror Necho, removed Jehoahaz and replaced him with Jehoiakim.**

**Jerusalem besieged by  
Nebuchadnezzar**

**Jehoiakim taken into captivity, and  
precious items taken from the  
temple.**

**This was the first of three times that  
Nebuchadnezzar came against  
Jerusalem (605, 597, 586 B.C.)**

**The Babylonians raised the siege (Jer. xxxvii. 3-5) long enough to repulse the Egyptian arms, and came back and settled about Jerusalem. At the end of eighteen months (586) the wall yielded.**

**Zedekiah and his retinue fled by night, but were overtaken in the plains of the Jordan. The king and his sons were brought before Nebuchadnezzar at Riblah; the sons were slain, and the king's eyes bored out; and he was carried in chains to Babylon.**

**Nebuchadnezzar caused Jerusalem to be destroyed, and the sacred vessels of the Temple to be carried to Babylon. (1906 Jewish Encyclopedia)**

Introduction
Overview
Fall of Jerusalem
Scriptures
Dictionaries
Timeline
Archaeology

# Israel

(Former Kingdom of Israel  
Conquered by Assyria)

1. **Babylonian Forces Approaching(s)**

Zedekiah

3. **The Siege of Jerusalem**

7. **King Zedekiah**

2. **Capture of Judean Cities**

8. **Jews Deported to Babylon**

The Fall of Judah  
586 B.C.

4. **The Edomites Raid Judah**





# **DANIEL AND OTHERS SELECTED FOR SPECIAL TRAINING...**

**Young men taken to serve  
Nebuchadnezzar - Daniel 1:3-7;**

**Daniel 1:3-7 “Then the king commanded  
Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring  
some of the people of Israel, both of the  
royal family and of the nobility, youths  
without blemish, of good appearance and  
skillful in all wisdom, endowed with**



knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. The king assigned them a daily portion of the food that the king ate, and of the wine that he drank. They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king. Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah of the tribe of

**Judah. And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.”(ESV)**

**They were truly the “best of the best” among the captives.**

**1) Both of the royal family and of the nobility**

**2) youths without blemish, of good appearance**

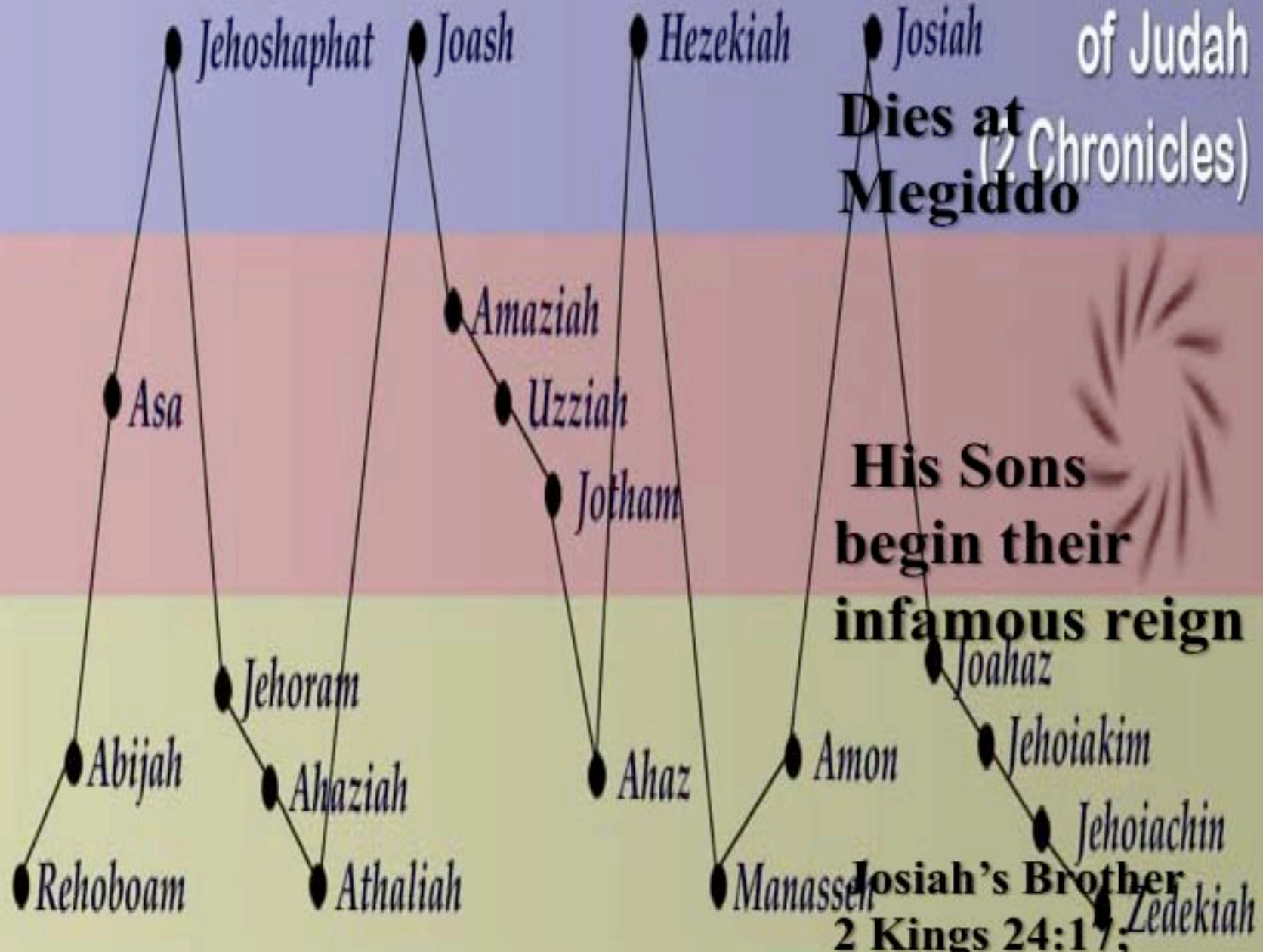
**3) skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge,**

# The Kings of Judah

Revival

Good

Evil



**Competent to stand in the king's palace to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.**

**1) Given special provisions of the king's food and drink**

**2) With three years of special training (ie) Military Academies**

**Among those selected, four are named, and apparently renamed to honor Babylonian gods.**

**1) Daniel** (God is my judge) - **Belteshazzar** (a servant of Bel)

**2) Hananiah** (the Lord is gracious) -

**Shadrach** (inspired by the sun god)

**3) Mishael** (who is what God is?) -

**Meshach** (who is what the moon god is?)

**4) Azariah** (the Lord helps) -

**Abed-Nego** (servant of Nebo)

**Daniel is committed to remain undefiled is blessed by, and he along with his friends are given wisdom that is acknowledged and rewarded by the king of Babylon (8-21).**

**Daniel 1:8-21** “But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king’s food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself. 9 And God gave Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs, 10 and the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, “I fear my lord the king, who assigned your food and your drink; for why should he see that



**you were in worse condition than the youths who are of your own age? So you would endanger my head with the king.**

**11 Then Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had assigned over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, 12 “Test your servants for ten days; let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13 Then let our appearance and the appearance of the youths who eat the**

king's food be observed by you, and deal with your servants according to what you see. 14 So he listened to them in this matter, and tested them for ten days. 15 At the end of ten days it was seen that they were better in appearance and fatter in flesh than all the youths who ate the king's food. 16 So the steward took away their food and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables. 17 As for these four youths, God gave them

**learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. 18 At the end of the time, when the king had commanded that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. 19 And the king spoke with them, and among all of them none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Michael, and Azariah. Therefore they stood before the king. 20**

And in every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanterers that were in all his kingdom. 21 And Daniel was there until the first year of King Cyrus.”

**I. DANIEL MAKES A DECISION...**

**1. He "purposed in his heart"- Daniel 1:8**

**2. His commitment was to "not defile himself" with the king's food.**

**1 Corinthians 10:20-22 "No, I imply that what pagans sacrifice they offer to demons and not to God. I do not want you to be participants with demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons. Shall we provoke the Lord to jealousy? Are we stronger than he?" (ESV)**

**1 Corinthians 10:23-30** “All things are lawful,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are lawful,” but not all things build up. Let no one seek his own good, but the good of his neighbor. Eat whatever is sold in the meat market without raising any question on the ground of conscience. For “the earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof.” If one of the unbelievers invites you to dinner and you are disposed to go, eat whatever is set before you without raising any question on the ground of conscience. But if someone says to you, “This has been offered in sacrifice,” then do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for the sake of conscience—I do not mean your conscience, but his. For why should my liberty be determined by someone else's conscience? If I partake with thankfulness, why am I denounced because of that for which I give thanks?” **(ESV)**    **LAW OF LOVE**

## II. HOW DANIEL REMAINED TRUE TO HIS COMMITMENT...

### 1. He did it with politeness - Daniel 1:8b

Daniel 1:8b “...Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself.” (ESV)

### 2. He did it with God's help – Daniel 1:9

Daniel 1:9 “And God gave Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs,”

### **3. He did it through persistence - Daniel 1:10-11;**

**Daniel 1:10 “and the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, “I fear my lord the king, who assigned your food and your drink; for why should he see that you were in worse condition than the youths who are of your own age? So you would endanger my head with the king.”**



**Daniel 1:11** “Then Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had assigned over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,” (**MELZAR**)

**4. He did it through willingness to test his faith - Daniel 1:12-15;**

**Daniel 1:12-15** “Test your servants for ten days; let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then let our appearance and the appearance of the youths who eat the king's food be observed by you, and deal with your servants according to what you see.” So he listened to them in this matter, and tested them for ten days. At the end of ten days it

was seen that they were better in appearance and fatter in flesh than all the youths who ate the king's food.”

### III. THE VALUE OF SUCH FAITH SEEN IN ITS RESULTS...

**1. It affected the lives of others! - Daniel 1:15-16;**

Daniel 1:15-16 “At the end of ten days it was seen that they were better in appearance and fatter in flesh than all the youths who ate the king's food. So the steward took away their food and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.”

**God blessed Daniel and his three friends even more! - Daniel 1:17-20;**

**Daniel 1:17-20 “As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. At the end of the time, when the king had commanded that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. And the king spoke with them, and among all of them none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Therefore they stood before the king. And in every matter of**

wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom.”

**\*\*\* - The favor of others towards the godly is the doing of God.**

**3. Daniel continued in the court of Babylon nearly seventy years!**

**Daniel 1:21 “And Daniel was there until the first year of King Cyrus.”**

**It is not necessarily implied that he did not “live” longer, or even that he ceased then to have influence and authority at court, but the object of the writer is to show that, during that long and eventful period, he occupied a station of influence until the captivity was accomplished, and the royal order was issued for rebuilding the temple.**

**He was among the first of the captives that were taken to Babylon, and he lived to see the end of the captivity + 70 years.**

# Prayer Time