

## Daniel 1: 1-4 ENCORE

Daniel starts the book bearing his name with a simple description of Nebuchadnezzar's conquest of Judah & Jerusalem (Daniel 1:1). This verse is absolutely packed with back story (history).

- 1) Look up the following verses from the time of the judges and discuss some of the context of Daniel 1:1.
  - a) Judges 2: 11-13
  - b) Judges 4: 1
  - c) Judges 6: 1
  - d) Judges 10: 6
  - e) Judges 13: 1
  - f) Judges 17: 6
  - g) Judges 21: 5
- 2) Look up the following verses from the time of the kings (of Israel) and discuss some of the context of Daniel 1: 1.
  - a) 1 Kings 12: 28-30
  - b) 1 Kings 15: 26
  - c) 1 Kings 16: 2
  - d) 2 Kings 17: 6, 7-18
  - e) The progression of kings in Israel went like this: Jeroboam I, Nadab, Baasha, Elah, Zimri, Omri, Ahab, Ahaziah, Jehoram, Jehu, Jehoahaz, Jehoash, Jeroboam II, Zechariah, Shallum, Menahem, Pekahiah, Pekah, Hoshea. 19 kings in all and not one king followed God in Israel.
- 3) Look up the following verses from the time of the kings (of Judah) and discuss some of the context of Daniel 1: 1.
  - a) 1 Sam 13: 13
  - b) 2 Kings 21: 1-9
  - c) 2 Chronicles 36: 9
  - d) The progression of kings in Judah went like this: Saul, David, Solomon, Rehoboam, Abijah, Asa, Jehoshaphat, Jehoram, Ahaziah, Athaliah, Joash., Amaziah, Azariah (Uzziah), Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah, Manasseh, Amon, Josiah, Jehoahaz, Jehoiakim, Jehoiachin (Jeconiah), Zedekiah, & the majority (well over half) of them were wicked.
- 4) If the Jews are God's people and God's Temple was in Jerusalem why did He let Nebuchadnezzar conquer them (Daniel 1: 1-2)?
  - a) Deut 6: 4-9
  - b) Deut 12: 1-8
  - c) Jeremiah 25: 4
  - d) 2 Chronicles 32: 10
  - e) 2 Kings 21: 10-14
- 5) Did Israel do a good job representing God to a pagan world (Daniel 1:2)?
- 6) Discuss some of the lessons you can learn from the history of the Jews.
- 7) Discuss the life circumstances of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah
  - a) What would it have been like to lose everything as a young person?
  - b) Were they in captivity primarily due to their own sins?
  - c) Why were they in captivity?
  - d) Does this truth encourage or discourage you?
  - e) Does it help you understand the trials of life?
  - f) Would you have been tempted by bitterness in this situation?
- 8) The first half of the book of Daniel is much about God's judgment on his erring people. It is also about God's work in the lives of four Jewish boys and a pagan king (Nebuchadnezzar). Discuss the following verses in light of Daniel 1:1.
  - a) Psalms 95: 3
  - b) Lament. 3: 21-23
  - c) Isaiah 9: 6-7