

Dare



- ✓ Read a chapter of Daniel week.
- ✓ Keep a journal—record God's "mighty acts."
- ✓ Do what Daniel encourages you to do.



Sunday, Sept. 20th

Dare To Be

LOYAL

STUDIES IN THE
BOOK OF DANIEL FOR
21ST CENTURY CHRISTIANS

Daniel 1:1, NIV

*In the third year of the reign of
Jehoiakim king of Judah,
Nebuchadnezzar king of
Babylon came to Jerusalem and
besieged it.*



Daniel 1:2, NIV

And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the articles from the temple of God. These he carried off to the temple of his god in Babylonia and put in the treasure house of his god.



Daniel 1:3-5, NIV

Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility— 4 young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. 5 The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.



Daniel 1:6, NIV

Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.



LOSS OF:

Family

Home

Other Friends

Culture

Language

Everything that Daniel and his friends loved and were familiar with.



Gain of:

King's delicacies – best food in the kingdom

King's drinks

Daniel and his friends were offered the very best to help offset the loss. They deserved it; right?



Daniel 1:7, NIV

The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.



Meaning of Names:

Daniel - God is judge

Hananiah - the Lord is gracious

Mishael - who is what the Lord is

Azariah - the Lord is my helper



New Names & Meaning

Daniel to Belteshazzar - means bel provides or bel's prince

Hananiah to Shadrach – means exalted Aku

Mishael to Meshach - means who is what Aku is

Azariah to Abednego - means the servant of Nebo



Daniel 1:8, NIV

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.





John Lennox, *Against the Flow*

What makes the story of their faith remarkable is that they did not simply continue the private devotion to God that they had developed in their homeland; they maintained a high-profile public witness in a pluralistic society that became increasingly antagonistic to their faith.

Daniel 1:9-14, NIV

9 Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel, 10 but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your[c] food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you."

11 Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, 12 "Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13 Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see." 14 So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.



Daniel 1:15-16, NIV

15 At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. 16 So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.



Daniel 1:17, NIV

17 To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.



Daniel 1:18-21, NIV

18 At the end of the time set by the king to bring them into his service, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. 19 The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service. 20 In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

21 And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.



Dare



- ✓ Read a chapter of Daniel weekly.
- ✓ Keep a journal—record God's "mighty acts."
- ✓ Do what Daniel encourages you to do.
- ✓ Help with Trunk or Treat.