

DANIEL, THE EXILE PROPHET

We start a new series of lessons entitled, Daniel's 70 Weeks (Dan.9:24-27).

Today's lesson introduces Daniel, the Prophet. In Hebrew, Daniel means "God is my judge". He was given a prophetic name to his life.

Daniel was taken captive to Babylon in the first deportation from Israel sometime between 10-17 years of age. According to our lesson text, Daniel was in the category of youths (yaladim). (Dan.1:4, 10, 13, 1, 17)

<p>This lesson will study <u>five points</u> of introduction of Daniel, the Exile Prophet.</p>

1. The captivity of these "youths" was fulfillment of Isaiah's prophesy.

Isa.39:5-7 "Then Isaiah said to Hezekiah, "Hear the word of the LORD Almighty: The time will surely come when everything in your palace, and all that your predecessors have stored up until this day, will be carried off to Babylon. Nothing will be left, says the LORD. And some of your descendants, your own flesh and blood who will be born to you, will be taken away, and they will become eunuchs in the palace of the king of Babylon."

Therefore, this is a good thing for Daniel like for Joseph (Rom.8:28; Gen.50:20).

In the first deportation, the youth of the aristocrats and nobility were taken captive (Dan.1:3).

Daniel like Jesus was from the tribe of Judah of lineage of David. (Dan.1:6; Luke 2:1-7).

Daniel, like Joseph, served the Chaldean government in a position of authority as "chief of the magicians, conjurers, Chaldeans and diviners."

Dan.5:11b-12 "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." (Dan.1:20)

2. (Daniel 1:4) tells us that the Chaldeans had developed a system of aptitudes for selecting certain skills for language and service in their government and culture.

Ashpenaz was assigned by king Nebuchadnezzar for the training of these "youths." (Dan.1:3-4)

NOTE: Apart from the cycling of the word of God residing in the soul of the believer, this would be considered a method of brainwashing (Cosmos Diabolicus) [world view]. However, when you study the life of Daniel, you will find a youthful aged believer with great spiritual integrity, much like Job.

- **Lord to Satan:** "Have you considered My servant, Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil. And he still holds fast his integrity, although you incited Me against him to ruin him without cause." (**Job 2:3**; 27:531:6)

Daniel was so outstanding that he was given the Chaldean name Belltshazzar (Bel's prince). They could change the outer man, but not the inner man of Christ.

"Through indoctrination the Chaldeans were attempting to change Bible-believing nobility into pagan aristocracy." (Daniel by Thieme, pg.18)

3. Today's teens also face the test of parenting, peer pressure of high school and college, choice of careers and even in marriage.

When our teens are not consistently cycling Categorical Bible Doctrine (CBD) by faith, they can easily succumb to Cosmos Diabolicus thinking. Daniel and Joseph are the proof that cycling of CBD works in the lives of teens (2 Tim.3:16-17). They proved that CBD cycled by faith makes academic exercise and handling of cosmos Diabolicus thinking (brainwashing) easier.

(2 Cor.5:7) For we live by faith, not by sight.

- This is how you turn cursing of adversity into divine blessings in your life. Daniel will live through the 70 years of captivity (Dan.1:21).

Like Joseph, Daniel understood he was the Lord's ambassador to the Chaldeans and the light of Christ to them (2 Cor.5:17-21; Matt.5:14-16).

While the prophecies of Daniel are widely known in both the old covenant and new covenant, the righteous life of Daniel is not widely taught to today's adult age congregation.

4. A contemporary of Daniel who became an exile to Babylon in the second deportation compared Daniel to Noah and Job (Ezekiel 14:12-20).

Ezekiel gives Daniel special recommendation – “Even though these three men – Noah, Daniel, and Job – were in its midst, by their own they could only deliver themselves,” declares the Lord God.” (Ezk.14:14, 16, 18, 20)

Ezekiel is talking about the five cycles of Divine Discipline placed upon priest-nation of Israel.

14:12-14	(Lev.26:26)	Bread and famine (14:14)
14:15-16	(Lev.26:22)	Wild beast and depopulation (14:16)
14:17-18	(Lev.26:25)	Sword (14:18)
14:19-20	(Lev.26:16)	Plaque (14:20)

5. Jesus identified Daniel as a prophet of The Messiah rather than the Priest-Nation of Israel. He was the prophet of Christ to the Jews in exile as well as to the Chaldeans.

(Mt.24:15) “Therefore, when you see the Abomination of Desolation which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand).

(Mark 13:14) “But when you see the Abomination of Desolation standing where it should not be (let the reader understand), then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.”

Jesus quoted from Daniel's 70 Weeks passage:

(Dan.9:24-27) “Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sin, to make atonement for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up vision and prophecy and to anoint the most holy *place*. So, you are to know and discern *that* from the issuing of a decree to restore and rebuild Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince *there will be* seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; it will be built again, with plaza and moat, even in times of distress. Then after the sixty-two weeks the Messiah will be cut off and have nothing, and the people of the prince who is to come will destroy the city and the sanctuary. And its end *will come* with a flood; even to the end there will be war; desolations are determined. And he will make a firm covenant with the many for one week, but in the middle of the week he will put a stop to sacrifice and grain offering; and on the wing of abominations *will come* one who makes desolate, even until a complete destruction, one that is decreed, is poured out on the one who makes desolate.”