

27\_DAN\_01\_01 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.

27\_DAN\_01\_02 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

27\_DAN\_01\_03 And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring [certain] of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes;

27\_DAN\_01\_04 Children in whom [was] no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as [had] ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.

27\_DAN\_01\_05 And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.

27\_DAN\_01\_06 Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:

27\_DAN\_01\_07 Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel [the name] of Belteshazzar; and to Hananiah, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego.

27\_DAN\_01\_08 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

27\_DAN\_01\_09 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.

27\_DAN\_01\_10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which [are] of your sort? then shall ye make [me] endanger my head to the king.

27\_DAN\_01\_11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

27\_DAN\_01\_12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.

27\_DAN\_01\_13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.

27\_DAN\_01\_14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.

27\_DAN\_01\_15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.

27\_DAN\_01\_16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.

27\_DAN\_01\_17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

27\_DAN\_01\_18 Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

27\_DAN\_01\_19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king.

27\_DAN\_01\_20 And in all matters of wisdom [and] understanding, that the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians [and] astrologers that [were] in all his realm.

27\_DAN\_01\_21 And Daniel continued [even] unto the first year of king Cyrus.