

JULY 24, 2022
DANIEL 1:1-7
AN INTRODUCTION

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Author: Daniel.
Date: c. 530 B.C.

605 B.C.-536 B.C. events are contained in the timeline of Daniel's prophesy.

597 B.C. King Jehoiachin, the royal family, and the young priest Ezekiel, along with the treasures of the temple, were deported.

586 B.C. Jerusalem and Judah would fall. Solomon's temple in all its grandeur would be destroyed.

530 B.C. marks the final writing of this treatise.

Theme: (1)

The providence of God.

Apocalyptic (prophetic) visions.

By God's providence Daniel will rise to prominence in Nebuchadnezzar's court.

God's providence will be demonstrated in a fiery furnace.

By the providence of God, Daniel will interpret dreams.

By providence Daniel will be spared from ravenous lions.

Those who arranged Daniel's plight leading to the lions would themselves fall victim to the very lions by which they schemed to have Daniel devoured!

Theme: (2)

The Last Days.

Visions about four great empires of antiquity are revealed.

Israel's Seventy Weeks will be prophesied in **chapter 9**.

Visions concerning world governments will follow.

Visions of the events in the kingdoms of the Ptolemies/Egyptian threats and Seleucids/Syrian threats will be revealed.

The above information and themes were gleaned from the *Believer's Study Bible*, pp. 1176-1177.

Application:

From **verses 1:1-7** of the book of Daniel, one learns that the first named hostages of the Babylonian Captivity (Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah) were four young men from the tribe of Judah. These young men were carted off to a distant hostile land. Along with them some of the articles of the house of their God were taken away as well. To add insult to injury the articles were placed in the temple of the false god that Nebuchadnezzar bowed down to.

The plan was to remove the best young men from their homeland to reprogram them. Their diet was to be changed, a new language and customs were to be instilled. Even their godly names were to be replaced with pagan names. To most, this type of situation would seem, hopeless. However, we will learn from the text as we move forward that these young men walked with the Lord God and would not be shaken. Consider for a moment, if this happened to you as a young person in your late teens or at most early twenties, would you have been spiritually mature enough to stand for God no matter what? Just asking. How about the children you are being entrusted with to raise in the fear and admonition of the Lord? What about your grandkids?

How can I possibly raise kids to stand strong for God in this world we live in today one may ask? A good starting point may be found in **Deuteronomy 6:1-25**. If you don't apply this to the lives of the young ones under your umbrella of influence, who will?