DANIEL SEMINAR

1. Introduction to Daniel

Prince – Prisoner and Prime Minister – Prophet

**WHO WAS DANIEL?**

Born in Palestine about 623BC, Daniel belonged to a prominent Jewish family with royal connections. During the Babylonian siege and plunder of Jerusalem in 605BC, the young prince was taken hostage, and with the cream of the city's youth, carried off to Babylon where he remained in exile for the rest of his life.

The city of Babylon, capital of the Babylonian empire, was situated 1,500 kilometres east of Jerusalem and about 88 kilometres south of Baghdad, present‑day capital of Iraq. Babylon's remains are still visible today.

**A. DANIEL EXPERIENCES FULFILMENT OF PROPHECY**

**QUESTION 1** (Daniel 1:1‑6)

What was the name of the king who conquered Judah and took Daniel prisoner?

ANSWER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**QUESTION 2** (Isaiah 39:5‑7; Jeremiah 25:1-11)

The overthrow of the Jewish nation by Babylon was foretold more than a century before either Daniel or Nebuchadnezzar were born. About 735BC the prophet Isaiah predicted Babylon's raids on Jerusalem and the captivity in which Daniel was taken. What did Isaiah say? Read Isaiah 39:5‑7**:**

( a ) Behold the days are coming when all that is in your house, and what your fathers have accumulated until this day, shall be carried to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ ; ... and they shall take away some of your \_\_\_\_\_ ... and they shall be eunuchs (servants) in the palace of the king of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .*"* (verses 6,7)

(b) Read Jeremiah 25:1‑11. Why were the people of Judah taken captive?

ANSWER: (Jeremiah 25:7,8) **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

(c) For how long were Daniel and his people to remain in captivity?

ANSWER: (Jeremiah 25:11) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **B. DANIEL MEETS NEBUCHADNEZZAR**

 **QUESTION 3 (Daniel 1:3‑18)**

**(b) Existence in Babylon was difficult for the young Judaean exiles. What firm decision did Daniel make about the food and drink he was offered? (verse 8)**

**ANSWER:**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**(c) Instead of accepting the king's provisions, Daniel requested that he and his friends be allowed to eat vegetables and drink only water for a ten‑day trial. Was their health adversely affected? (verses 12‑15)**

"Their countenance (faces) appeared \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in flesh than all the young men." (verse 15)

**QUESTION 4** (Daniel 1:17)

God rewarded the four exiles for standing true to their principles, and for their faith and courage. He gave all of them knowledge and wisdom, as well as good health. But notice the special ability that He gave to Daniel. What was this rare gift?

And Daniel had understanding in all \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_  ." (verse 17,)

**QUESTION 5** (Daniel 1:18‑20)

At the end of training, Daniel and his three companions were brought face to face with Nebuchadnezzar. They must personally answer his searching questions. How much better did the king find them than the astrologers and magicians of Babylon? (verse 20)

ANSWER:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To what special positions did Nebuchadnezzar appoint the four graduates? (verse 19)

ANSWER: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 **REVIEW QUIZ (T/F)**

**1) Nebuchadnezzar launched three attacks on Jerusalem.**

True or False?

**2) He treated Daniel and his fellow captives badly.**

True or False?

3) **Judah was defeated because the nation rejected the warnings of the prophets.**

**True or False ?**

**4) Daniel's name was changed to Belteshazzar.**

 **True or False ?**

**5) According to Jeremiah's prophecy, Judah was to remain in captivity for 70 years.**

 **True or False ?**

**6) Daniel and his companions were forced to eat the king's food.**

**True or False ?**

**7) After three years' training, Daniel and his companions were found to be three times better than the wise men of Babylon.**

**True or False ?**

**8) Daniel studied the art of prophecy in the school of Babylon's wise men. This was how he became a prophet.**

**True or False ?**