

Reading Guide for Daniel 1

God Cares about you wherever you are!

Group Discussion

Tell about the most interesting place you have ever visited. What was your favourite part of the trip? Did you miss home?

Kids Activity

Look at the map of the world and use the code to find out what parts of the world to colour.

Leaving Home—for whatever reason!

Going on holidays can be really fun, seeing different and exotic locations, but this was not Daniel's experience. Daniel was taken from Jerusalem to Babylon, as a young man, as the result of war—leaving his family and home behind. What do you think was going through his mind? Did he wonder whether anyone cared about him?

The story of Daniel 1 shows that *GOD CARES*. The prophecies of Daniel reveal the nature and magnitude of some of the conflicts between God and the forces of evil, while the stories graphically portray both the character qualities necessary to stand for God in each crisis situation and God's care.

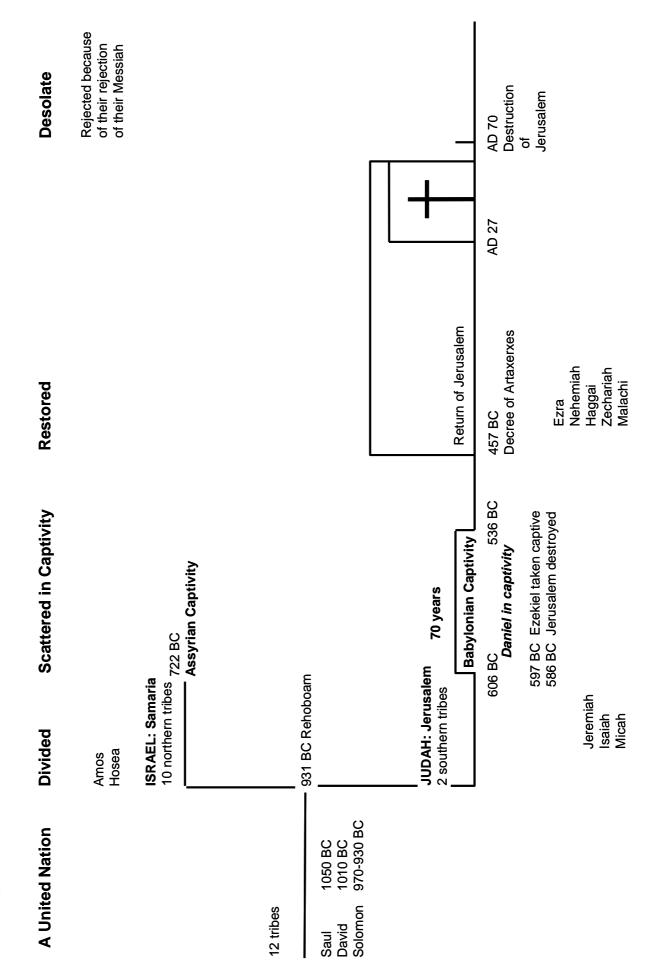
INTO CAPTIVITY verses 1-7

1.	verses	1.2
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Babylon attacks and overthrows Jerusalem: God allowed tough times to hit Jerusalem—but He was still with them. It was a war between the forces of evil and the forces of good or an extension of the great conflict between Satan and God— the theme of the entire book.

(1)	Contrasting characteristics of these two cities:		
	Babylon	Jerusalem	
	1	1	
	2	2	
	3	3	
(2)	Jerusalem turned from its no people rebelled. The book of Daniel begins w The Prophecy:	oble purposes—its leaders turned from Go vith a fulfilled prophecy: Jeremiah 27:6,7	od and its
	The Deeperson	2 Chronieles 20:40 44	10
	The Response:	2 Chronicles 36:12-14	
	The Result:	2 Chronicles 36:15-21	

History of Ancient Israel



ANS.	
verses 3-5 Characteristics of the you	th taken as captives to Babylon:
"Young men	
	,
	and,
	·"
The Bible teaches th	at God is all-powerful. Why do you think He allowed Daniel and
friends to go into cap	otivity? How do you think you would respond to such a situation- nave on your sense that God cares for you?
what impact would it i	lave on your sense that God cares for you!
verses 6,7 A change of name!	
-	
-	f the change from Hebrew to Babylonian names?
-	If the change from Hebrew to Babylonian names? MEANING
What was the significance o	·
What was the significance o	·
What was the significance o	·
What was the significance o HEBREW Daniel Hananiah Mishael	·
What was the significance o HEBREW Daniel Hananiah	·
What was the significance o HEBREW Daniel Hananiah Mishael	·
What was the significance of HEBREW Daniel Hananiah Mishael Azariah BABYLONIAN	·
What was the significance of HEBREW Daniel Hananiah Mishael Azariah BABYLONIAN Belteshazzar	MEANING These names appear
What was the significance of HEBREW Daniel Hananiah Mishael Azariah BABYLONIAN Belteshazzar Shadrach	These names appear to have some connection with Babylonian deities
What was the significance of HEBREW Daniel Hananiah Mishael Azariah BABYLONIAN Belteshazzar	These names appear to have some connection

DANIEL RESOLVED verse 8

Why do you think Daniel refused the king's food and wine?

5.

GOD CARES verses 9-21	
6. God caused Daniel and his friends to receive	
1. Vs. 9	
2. Vs. 10-16	
3. Vs. 17	

DISCUSSION

- 1. What character traits were necessary to enable Daniel and his friends to stand as they did?
- 2. Describe an experience where it seemed everything was against you, but then (perhaps later) you could see that God was in fact caring for you.
- 3. **Kid's DISCUSSION:** Look at the map of the world. It's fully coloured in because God is with us no matter where we go. Is there ever a place where you stand alone?
- 4. **Daniel 1:17 is a key verse in this story.** What does it say? God was with Daniel and his friends—helping them even in Babylon.

FINAL PERSONAL WORD ...

God cared about Daniel as much in Babylon as he did in Jerusalem. The story of Daniel tells us that God is with us no matter where we go. It is encouraging to know that He is with us through all of life.

In the next story (Daniel 3) we will see that God not only KNOWS everything and CARES about us wherever we are—He also RESCUES in surprising ways. God's concern and protection for each individual was clear even to the king of Babylon.

What is it that enables some people to have death defying faith? What does the experience of Daniel 3 teach us about God's special interest in us? These are some of the questions we will examine in our next dialogue session. Until then, remember: With God you are never alone!