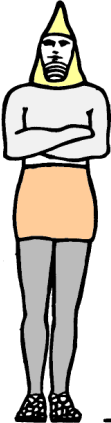


		KINGDOM	DATES
GOLD		BABYLON	606-539BC
SILVER		MEDO-PERSIA	539-331BC
BRONZE		GREECE	331-30BC
IRON AND CLAY		ROME	30BC-397AD

- F) The result of explaining the dream was that Daniel became a top man in the kingdom of Babylon. **2:48-49.**
- G) Daniel did not forget his friends. They were appointed to office. *Vs. 49.*

Conclusion:

1. God arranged for Daniel to be trained in Babylon just as he had arranged for Joseph and Moses to be trained in Egypt.
2. He tested Daniel before giving the big assignment.
3. Daniel passed the test and unfolded the future for the most powerful man on earth.
4. Daniel became a top official in the world's leading government. From that position, he was ready to unfold more of the future.

This lesson available for printing at: <http://goo.gl/r1pzUY>

Bible Personality Series -

Daniel, The Man and His Book Part 1

Charles Dailey © 2014 NASB Revision of 11/14

Introduction:

1. Daniel means *God is my judge*.
2. Little is known about the family of Daniel.
 - a) He descended from one of Judah's prominent families, if not from royal blood. **Daniel 1:3.**
3. Daniel lived at the same time as the prophets Jeremiah and Ezekiel, about 600 years before Christ.
4. He was taken to Babylon as a teenager to be trained. **Daniel 1:3-4.**
5. There is no record that Daniel ever married.
6. Inspiration:
 - a) Daniel claims inspiration. **Daniel 9:21-22.**
 - b) Jesus endorsed his writings, calling him a prophet. **Matthew 24:15.** He also quoted Daniel in **Matthew 26:64.**
 - c) Ezekiel, himself a prophet, quotes God as commending Daniel. **Ezekiel 14:14, 20; 28:3.**
 - d) While called a prophet, he was not formally enrolled among them, but was primarily a statesman.
 - e) Critics claimed that Daniel was written in New Testament times as a false evidence for Christ. This claim was silenced when a copy of Daniel appeared among the Dead Sea Scrolls that dated many years before Christ and His Apostles.
7. Daniel the book is written in two languages. The first half is in Aramaic, the language of Babylon, and the second half is in Hebrew because the prophecies pertained to them alone.

Key Events in Daniel's Life:

- I. **Daniel and the Food Challenge.** Daniel 1

- A) He was required to eat the government-issued food.
- B) Daniel requested a test for his own diet. **1:5-14**
 - 1. Daniel had “made up his mind.” Vs. 8. So his view was based on earlier Scripture.
 - 2. The food was not according to Hebrew laws. *Leviticus 11:4-20.*
 - 3. It may have been strangled. *Deuteronomy 12:23-24.*
 - 4. It may have been part of idol worship. *Deuteronomy 32:36-38.*
 - 5. Daniel was not a vegetarian. *Daniel 10:3.*
 - 6. Daniel was very courteous to Ashpenaz.
 - 7. Daniel was still a teenager, but he considered these years important.
- C) The results of the diet were excellent. **1:15-21**
- D) Other Hebrew teenagers did not stand up for the diet God had prescribed in *Leviticus. Vs. 15.*
- E) Daniel was established as a man who obeyed God before obeying man, in this case king Nebuchadnezzar. This shows faith.
- F) The success with the diet controversy set the stage for Daniel becoming a top official. This is similar to the story of Joseph where Joseph handled minor matters successfully and so was entrusted with explaining the dream that made him a top official in the Egyptian government.
- G) God gave the four young men wisdom and understanding. *Vs. 17.*
- H) The four who passed the food challenge were added to the king's staff. *Vs. 19.*

II. Explaining King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream. **Daniel 2**

- A) Neb had royal insomnia over a dream. **2:1**
- B) His usual advisors could not explain it. **2:2-12**

- 1. Many of the king's advisors were Chaldean and so spoke to him in his mother tongue of Aramaic, for he was also a Chaldean. **Ezra 5:12**
- 2. At verse 4, Daniel switches writing in Hebrew to using Aramaic.
- 3. The frightened advisors asked for the dream but Neb refused. *Verse 4.*
- 4. Neb reasoned that if they could tell the future, they would certainly know the past. *Verse 4.*
- 5. Neb pronounced the death penalty for failure to explain his dream and its meaning. *Vs. 5.* These advisors were about to retire from government service!
- C) Daniel asked for a time extension on the death penalty when he heard about it and the extension was granted. **2:13-16**
- D) There was an urgent prayer meeting . **2:17-23**
 - 1. God revealed the mystery of the dream to Daniel in a night vision. *Vs. 19.*
 - 2. God gives wisdom to wise men *Vs. 23.* We must be seekers of wisdom in order to receive a greater measure of wisdom. *Vs. 21.*
 - 3. All of Daniel's training had been for this hour.
- E) Daniel explained the dream to Nebuchadnezzar. **2:24-47**
 - 1. Statues were common in the land. **3:1**
 - 2. There would be four kingdoms.
 - 3. He was the first of the four, the head of gold. *2:37-38.*
 - 4. In the days of the fourth kingdom, God would set up a permanent kingdom *2:44.*
 - 5. Jesus was born in the days of Roman Empire. He set up the kingdom promised in *2:44.* Fulfilled in Luke chapter 2. It became worldwide according to *Colossians 1:23.*
 - 6. The stone became larger than the image! *Vs. 35.*