

# 52. Daniel Obeys the Commandments

*The Word of the Lord: The Old Testament for Young Children*

## Notes for Parents & Teachers

### 52. Daniel Obeys the Lord's Commandments

- a. It's good that they realize that the people were taken to Babylon because they didn't listen to the Lord.
- b. This is a very simple story, but it shows these people really wanted to do what was right.
- c. The king realized how clever they were, and especially how clever Daniel was.



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## The Lord Rewards Daniel When He Obeys

There was a king called Nebuchadnezzar. He was King of Babylon. He fought against the city of Jerusalem. The Lord let him win against the Israelites because they had done wrong and were not following Him anymore. Then King Nebuchadnezzar told his chief prince to choose from the Israelite prisoners all the boys who were healthy and good looking and clever. The prince was to bring them to Babylon to King Nebuchadnezzar's palace. There they were to be taught the king's language and learn many things. And they were to eat the king's own food and drink his wine. Then after three years the king wanted to see them.

Now among these boys was a boy named Daniel. He had three friends. Daniel did not want to eat the king's food because he knew from the laws of the Lord that the food would be bad for him. So he asked the king's prince if he could eat other food. The prince said to Daniel, "I am afraid. The king will not be pleased when he sees that you do not look as healthy as your friends. Then he will want to kill me." Daniel said, "Let us do a test. For ten days give my three friends and me water to drink instead of wine. Give us beans and lentils to eat instead of the king's meat, and we will prove to you which is better."

So the prince listened to Daniel. And for ten days Daniel and his three friends ate beans and lentils and drank water. After ten days they looked much better than all the other boys who had eaten meat and drunk wine. So the prince let them continue to eat lentils and beans and drink water instead of eating the king's food and wine. Then the Lord rewarded the four friends, He made them clever in their learning and understanding. To Daniel, He also gave an understanding of the meaning of dreams.

Now at the end of the three years, all the Israelite boys were brought to the king. The king talked to them all. He found that the four friends were the best of all the boys. They were wiser even than all his magicians and astrologers. And the king was pleased with them.

Daniel 1

