

Daniel

Daniel 1 - 2



God was with Daniel and his friends in a strange country. God told Daniel the king's dream about the future of the kingdom of Babylon.



The Story

Great changes came in the life of a boy named Daniel and his three friends. First a large army from the land of Babylon carried them off from their home in Judah.

Then the king's servant chose them to live at the palace and learn the new language of this land. But the king wanted them to eat his meat and drink his wine. Daniel knew God would not want them to do this. God had made laws about what the children of Israel should eat and drink. He asked the king's servant, "Could we eat vegetables and drink water instead?"

The king's servant said, "If you look weak and sickly, the king may kill me."

Daniel said, "Just let us try it for ten days."

The king's servant agreed to the test. After ten days he was surprised to see that Daniel and his three friends looked healthier than the other boys that had been chosen to live in the palace. The servant allowed them to keep eating their simple food.

At the end of three years the king spoke with all the young men and found there were none like Daniel and his friends. After this they worked for the king and were ten times wiser than the older magicians and wise men at the king's court.

One night King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream. It bothered him so much that he could not sleep. The next day he called his wise men and said, "Tell me what my dream meant."

"Tell us your dream," the wise men

said.

The king said, "Unless you tell me my dream and its meaning you will be killed and your houses destroyed."

Because none of the wise men could do such a thing the king became very angry and commanded all the wise men to be killed.

Daniel and his friends were some of the wise men. When they heard of the king's command they prayed to God for help. God showed Daniel the dream and its meaning.

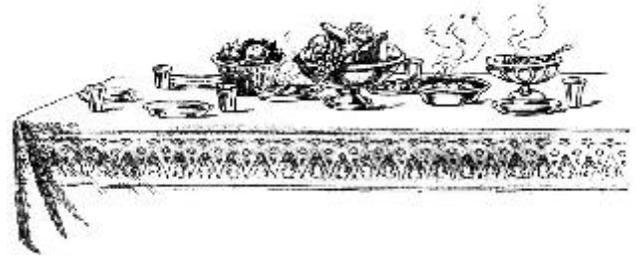
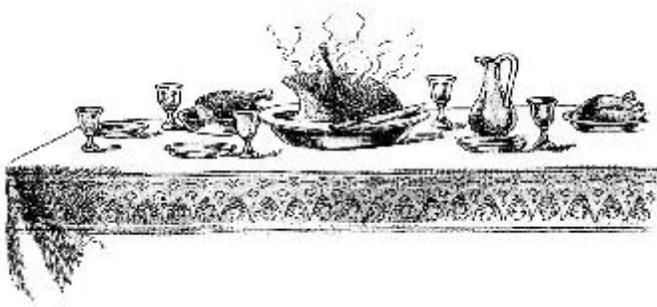
The next day Daniel went to the king and told him, "Only God can tell you the dream and its meaning."

"You dreamed of a great statue. Its head was gold, its arms and chest were silver, its belly and thighs were brass, its legs were iron and its feet were iron mixed with clay. A stone cut out without hands rolled into the feet of the statue and broke them. Then the whole statue fell, broke into pieces and was blown away by the wind. The stone grew into a great mountain and filled the earth.

The dream means that your kingdom is like the statue's gold head. After your kingdom, three weaker kingdoms will come. The final one will be the weakest. They will all be destroyed while the Kingdom of God will fill the whole earth."

King Nebuchadnezzar was thankful to know the meaning of his dream. He bowed down to Daniel, gave him gifts and made him and his three friends rulers in Babylon.

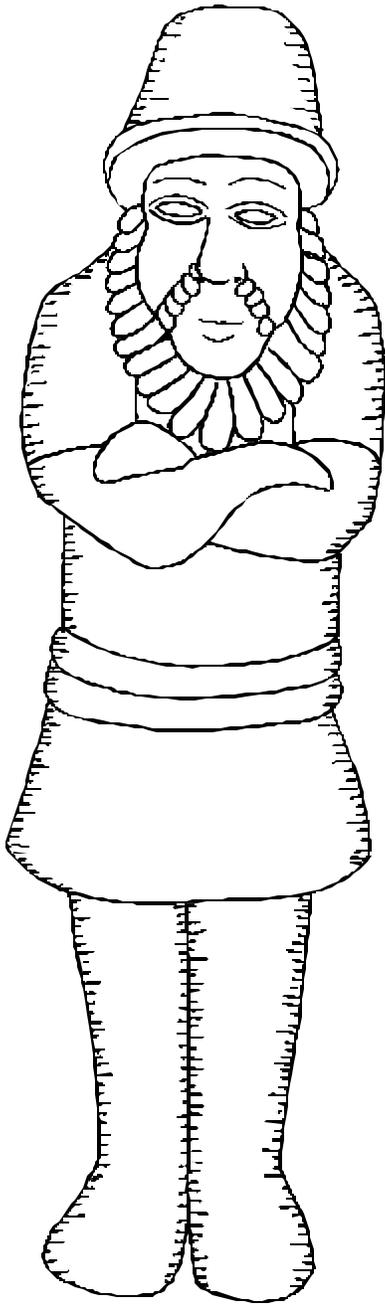
Activity One - Circle the table with the food Daniel and his friends ate. Put an X on the table of the king's food. Why couldn't Daniel and his friends eat that food?



Activity Two - Circle the Y if the answer is YES. Circle N if the answer is NO.

1. Daniel and his friends were taken from their home. **Y N**
2. Daniel ate what the king ordered them to eat. **Y N**
3. Daniel loved and obeyed God. **Y N**
4. The king told the wise men his dream. **Y N**
5. The wise men were all killed. **Y N**
6. God told Daniel the dream and what the dream meant. **Y N**
7. The stone destroyed the statue. **Y N**
8. The stone was small. **Y N**
9. God's kingdom will fill the earth. **Y N**

Activity Three - King Nebuchadnezzar had a dream about a statue. Draw a line to match the parts to what it was made



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. SILVER

<----- .

. IRON

. GOLD

<----- .

. BRASS

. IRON & CLAY

<----- .

<----- .

Although our nation and all nations will one day be destroyed, we are believers and members of the Kingdom of God and so shall live forever.

Passages

Luke 17:20-21 "The kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you."

Psalms 2:4 He who sits in the heavens shall laugh; the LORD shall hold them in derision.

Hymn - TLH 341 v. 1

Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Thro' all eternity.

Prayer

Dear Father in heaven,

We have a great country. It may not always be as strong and powerful as it is today. We pray that You, Lord, will send us leaders who fear God and will lead our land according to Your will. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.