

THE BOOK OF DANIEL  
LESSON 3 - QUESTIONS  
DANIEL 1:8-21  
THE MORAL TEST

Read Daniel 1:8-21 Pray for wisdom and understanding as we continue our study of Daniel, that we might truly understand the sovereign hand of God from the beginning, through Daniel's time and see how God faithfully carries out His plan in every generation. If you have New American Standard Bible, answers to questions are NASV

1. Today our passage finds Daniel with a real dilemma. Up to now we have seen major upheaval in his young life. Taken captive from his native homeland, brought into the palace of a foreign king, being required to be educated into foreign languages and ways of life, being given a new Babylonian name in place of his Hebrew name, to study for 3 years and then called into the service of this foreign king, and now during this preparation time, being required to eat from the table of this foreign king. If you were Daniel, how are you feeling right now? What might be your thoughts?

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2. Looking at verse 8, of all of the changes that have happened and that are to come, what does Daniel focus on?

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3. Look up the word 'defile' 'to defile' or 'defilement' in a bible dictionary. What does the word mean?

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4. Was Daniel's dilemma spiritual or moral? Give the reasons for your answer.

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5. Why would eating food 'Fit for a Babylonian King' cause concern for a Hebrew? Leviticus 11.

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6. Was it Daniel alone or were there others who saw fit to follow Daniel's example? Verses Daniel 1:11-13

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7. What are some other places we find in scripture where we find eating or temptation to eat have caused or could cause defilement? Matt 4:1-11; Genesis 3:1-7; 1 Cor. 10:25-28

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8. As we continue to see that it was 'set upon his heart'(NIV Resolved) not to eat the king's food, how does Daniel handle it? V 8-14

a. What does Daniel request?

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b. Who did he ask? \_\_\_\_\_

c. How did he ask? \_\_\_\_\_

d. Do we have reason to believe that Daniel was able to share about his faith?

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e. What was the response of the Chief Officer to Daniel? V 9-10

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f. Why might the chief Officer fear for his own life in this situation? Dan 2:5; 12; 3:13.

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g. How did Daniel make an appeal to the Chief Officer regarding his fear for his life? V 12 – 13

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h. What was the response to Daniel?

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i. What was the result at the end of the 10 days?

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9. As we look at Daniel's example of taking a stand in a very hard situation, what can we learn from how he handled it?

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10. Does God always work in the lives of His children like He did Daniel's this time? Give examples.

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11. We know from our overview and from last week's lesson that King Nebuchadnezzar had a specific type of young man in mind when he asked for captives to be taken, describe what he was looking for? Dan. 1:4a

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12. Describe the 4 young men in verse 17.

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Had the provision the king made for their care brought this about? Why or why not?

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13. Look up the following passages and give reasons why God would have gifted these young men the gifts He did, or why He gives His children any gifts at all. James 1:17; 1 Cor. 12:7; 1 Cor. 14:12; 1 Peter 4:10

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14. We see Daniel was also given specifically the gift of understanding visions and dreams of all kinds. Why in his position would those be important gifts in a Babylonian Kingdom?

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15. Fast forward 3 years and we find our 3 young men presented to the King for his review and to enter into his service should they be found acceptable. What do verses 18-20 tells us he found?

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16. Why is Daniel’s statement in verse 21 important for us to know? What can it tell us about the years in between?

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Extra Credit \*

17. Throughout these passages we see the words “The Lord delivered”, “God caused”, “God gave” in regard to the lives of these 4 young men. Looking back at your own life, do you see the sovereign hand of God delivering, causing or giving you an opportunity to live for Him even though it might be in a situation that you didn’t want or like. Take the time to write out a prayer of Thanksgiving to Him for giving you the privilege to represent Him that way.

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