


# Living in Exile

Daniel – Part 1

## Exodus 19

*"You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to me above all people..."*

*"The people all responded together, 'We will do everything the Lord has said.'"*



## Leviticus 26


*"If you follow my decrees and are careful to obey my commands, I will send you rain in its season, and the ground will yield its crops and the trees their fruit. Your threshing will continue until grape harvest and the grape harvest will continue until planting, and you will eat the food you want and live in ease..."*

**Bless You!**

## Leviticus 26

*"But if you will not listen to me and carry out all these commands... if you continue to be hostile toward me, then in my anger I will be hostile toward you, and I myself will punish you for your sins seven times over... I will turn your cities into ruins and lay waste your sanctuaries..."*

**Discipline You!**




## JEREMIAH

### Jeremiah – "The Weeping Prophet"

- Prophesied in the final years of Judah before God's people were exiled to Babylon
- The first 45 chapters focus primarily on the coming judgment because of its disbelief and disobedience.
- However, "grace" is also present! (E.g. The fall of Jerusalem comes nearly 200 years after the original covenant at Sinai. Also, promises of restoration!)

## Jeremiah 2:2


*"I remember the devotion of your youth... how as a young bride you loved me and followed me even through the barren wilderness..."*



*Jeremiah 2:11-13*

*"Has a nation ever changed its gods?  
(Yet they are not gods at all.)*

*But My people have exchanged their glorious  
God for worthless idols. Be appalled at this,  
you heavens, and shudder with great horror,"  
declares the Lord. For My people have  
committed two sins:  
They have forsaken me, the  
spring of living water  
and have dug their own cisterns,  
broken cisterns that cannot  
hold water...."*




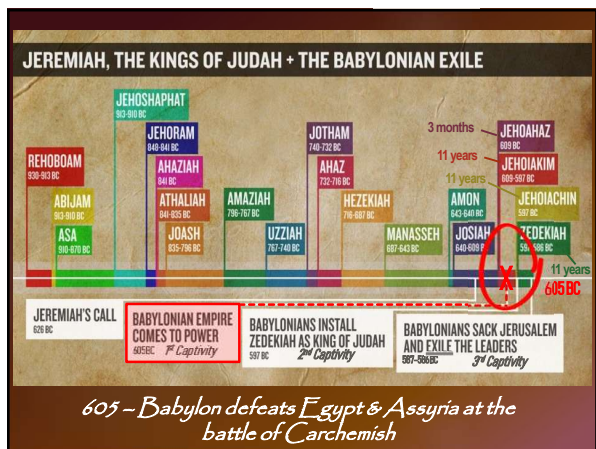
*Jeremiah 4*

*"This is what the Lord says to the people of Judah  
and to Jerusalem:  
'Break up your unplowed ground and do not sow  
among thorns. Circumcise yourselves to the Lord,  
circumcise your hearts..."*

**OR...**

*...my wrath  
will flare up and burn  
like fire because of the  
evil you have done...  
For I am bringing  
disaster from the north,  
even terrible  
destruction."*

*"...but you did not listen!"  
(2:3-4)*

**IMPACT OF THE EXILE**

- ~25% of the Old Testament
- Lev 26, Deut 28, 2 Kings 24-25, 2 Chronicles 36
- Major Prophets
  - Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel
- Minor Prophets
  - Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Micah, Habakkuk, Zephaniah
- Ezra, Nehemiah, Haggai, Zechariah (Post-Exilic)

*Many writings of "the prophets" had not yet been written or circulated!  
This contributes to the shock & questions raised by the fall of Jerusalem!*

*Daniel 1*

*"In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of  
Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon  
came to Jerusalem and besieged it..."*

**Babylon**

- Genesis 10 & 11
- Originally settled by Nimrod, descendant of Noah's son Ham.
- Area out of which Abraham was called.



*Daniel 1*

*"In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of  
Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon  
came to Jerusalem and besieged it..."*

**1**

*...And the Lord gave  
Jehoiakim king of Judah  
into his hand...*



## Sovereign God!

*"Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: 'Behold, I will send and take Nebuchadnezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and I will set his throne above these stones...'"*

Jeremiah 43:10



**1**

*...And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand...*

## 1 Sovereign God!

*"I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like me. I make known the end from the beginning... I say, 'My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.'"*

Isaiah 46:9-10



*...And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand...*

## 1 Sovereign God!

*"He changes times and seasons; He deposes kings and raises up others."*

Daniel 2:21



*...And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand...*


## 1 Sovereign God!

*"Now I know that You are God; You can do all things and no purpose of Yours can be thwarted."*

Job 42:2




*...And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand...*



*A question to consider...*

*Do we trust that God is truly sovereign in all things?*

*...even when circumstances seem to contradict His promises or His will?*



*A question to consider...*


*When judgment seems delayed, how do We respond?*

*Daniel 1*  
 "Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring to the palace some of the young men of Judah's royal family and other noble families, who had been brought to Babylon as captives." **2**


**Innocent... yet impacted!**



**?** *A question to consider...*  
*In what ways can our decisions affect the lives of others?*



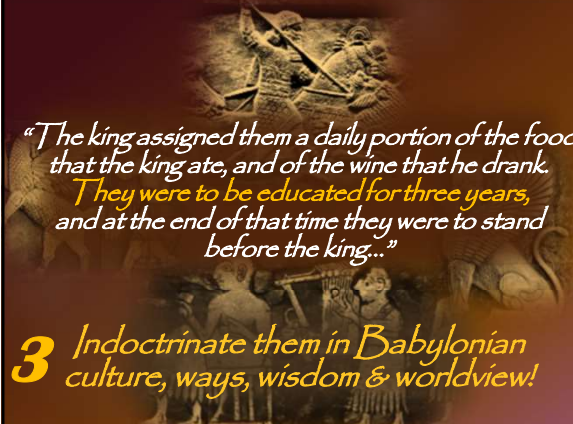
*Daniel 1*  
 "Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring to the palace some of the young men of Judah's royal family and other noble families, who had been brought to Babylon as captives. **2**  
 Select only strong, healthy, and good-looking young men," he said. "Make sure they are skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans\*."  
**3**



\*Babylon is an independent state and the capital city of the Chaldean empire of ancient Mesopotamia. It included modern-day Iraq, Syria & south-west Turkey.

*"The king assigned them a daily portion of the food that the king ate, and of the wine that he drank. They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king..."*


**3** *Indoctrinate them in Babylonian culture, ways, wisdom & worldview!*



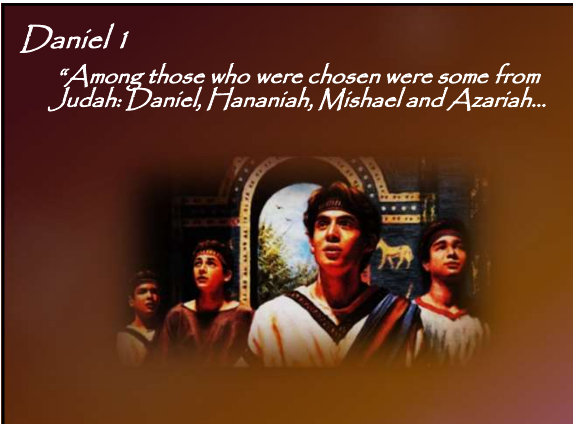
**4**

*"The king assigned them a daily portion of the food that the king ate, and of the wine that he drank. They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king..."*

*Become accustomed to eating at "another's table" and dependent on a new master.*



*Daniel 1*  
 "Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishacl and Azariah..."



**5** *The chief official gave them new names:*

Daniel	> Belteshazzar
"God is my judge"	"Bel protects his life"
Hananiah	> Shadrach
"The Lord is Gracious"	"Commanded of Aku" (the moon god)
Mishael	> Meshach
"Who is like God?"	"Who is what Aku is?"
Azariah	> Abednego
"The Lord is a helper"	"Servant of Nego"

Forced assimilation - Encouraging them to forget the God and traditions of their homeland and become conformed to the ways and gods of Babylon.

*With their previous identity fully obliterated...*

*...they would now become servants unto Nebuchadnezzar!*

**?** *A question to consider...*

*Can you see any similarities to Satan's tactics used today?*

**?** *A question to consider...*

*Can we trust that God is Sovereign over all the circumstances of our lives?*

*Even a sparrow does not fall without His permission! (Mt 10:29)*

*Daniel 1*  
*"But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way..."*

**Daniel resolved**

*Dual Identity!*

*Honor God! Submitted!*



*A question to consider...*

*Why not just “give in” and become part of the culture?*

*...did God fail or give up on us?*

*...do we even have a future?*

*Even the symbols of our worship are in the temple of the Babylonian gods!*



*A question to consider...*

*How do We live with our dual identity?*

*As - Citizens of Heaven  
yet, still citizens of the world?*



*Questions to consider...*

*When judgment seems delayed, how do We respond?*

*In what ways can our decisions affect the lives of others?*

*Can you see any similarities in the tactics Satan uses today?*

*Why not just give in and become part of the culture?*

*How do we live with our dual identity?*

*Can we trust that God is sovereign over all the circumstances of our lives?*