

# **Sunday School Lesson**

**January 14, 2024**

**A Sincere Faith**

**Daniel 1:8-21**

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# Sunday School Lesson

## Questions for Us Today

January 14, 2024

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Have you ever been told to disregard your faithfulness to God?

If so, how did you handle the situation?

# Sunday School Lesson

## Objectives

**January 14, 2024**

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To understand the faithfulness of Daniel to God.

To understand how the Lord blessed Daniel and his three friends in a challenging situation.

# **Sunday School Lesson Segments – 1**

**January 14, 2024**

1. Bibliography

2. Points of Information: Daniel

# Sunday School Lesson Segments - 2

**January 14, 2024**

3. Lesson Context

4. Lesson Text

5. Remember These Things

## Points of Information – Daniel

Daniel is one of the four Major Prophets in our Bible – along with Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel.

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Daniel's life and spiritual service spanned the seventy years of the Babylonian Captivity for the Jews.

## Points of Information – Daniel

Daniel served in high positions for a series of rulers. Each recognized Daniel's (divinely anointed) sharpness and connection with the Lord.

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Daniel courageously refused the name change, dietary regimen and prayer prohibition which the captive cultures tried to impose on him.

## Points of Information – Daniel

Daniel's ability to interpret dreams and signs served as a vehicle for delivering messages to the rulers of the Babylonian and Medo-Persian empires.

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Daniel acknowledged the power of God in all things and did not take credit himself for the miraculous things which happened through him and for him.



## **Points of Information – Daniel**

Jesus spoke of Daniel and his prophecy.  
Matthew 24:15; Mark 13:14 (KJV).

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The Book of Daniel is evenly divided into two sections. The first six Chapters are historical and the last six Chapters are apocalyptic and prophetic.

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## Lesson Context - 1

Young Daniel and his friends (and many others) had been taken by the Babylonian conquerors into exile.

King Nebuchadnezzar aimed to take the best and the brightest for service in his kingdom.

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## Lesson Context - 2

Daniel 1:7 says that, once in exile, the four young men were given new – Babylonian – names:

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Daniel > Belteshazzar  
Hananiah > Shadrach  
Mishael > Meshach  
Azariah > Abednego

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## Lesson Context - 3

As the king ordered, the young men were given Babylonian language and literature training. This training was to last for three years, before they entered royal service to the king.

12

The young men were to be given a daily diet of food and wine from the king's kitchens.

Daniel 1:4-5.

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## **UMI Outline #1**

**Daniel 1:8-14**

**Purpose Over Pressure**

## Daniel 1:8-9 [NLT]

But Daniel was determined not to defile himself by eating the food and wine given to them by the king. He asked the chief of staff for permission not to eat these unacceptable foods.

Now God had given the chief of staff both respect and affection for Daniel.

## Daniel 1:10-11

But he responded, “I am afraid of my lord the king, who has ordered that you eat this food and wine. If you become pale and thin compared to the other youths your age, I am afraid the king will have me beheaded.”

Daniel spoke with the attendant who had been appointed by the chief of staff to look after Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

## Daniel 1:12-14

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“Please test us for ten days on a diet of vegetables and water,” Daniel said.

“At the end of the ten days, see how we look compared to the other young men who are eating the king’s food. Then make your decision in light of what you see.”

The attendant agreed to Daniel’s suggestion and tested them for ten days.



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## **UMI Outline #2**

**Daniel 1:15-16**

**Faith Over Fear**

## Daniel 1:15-16

At the end of the ten days, Daniel and his three friends looked healthier and better nourished than the young men who had been eating the food assigned by the king.

So after that, the attendant fed them only vegetables instead of the food and wine provided for the others.

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## **UMI Outline #3**

### **Daniel 1:17-21**

#### **Testimony After the Test**

## Daniel 1:17-18

God gave these four young men an unusual aptitude for understanding every aspect of literature and wisdom. And God gave Daniel the special ability to interpret the meanings of visions and dreams.

When the training period ordered by the king was completed, the chief of staff brought all the young men to King Nebuchadnezzar.

## Daniel 1:19-20

The king talked with them, and no one impressed him as much as Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. So they entered the royal service.

Whenever the king consulted them in any matter requiring wisdom and balanced judgment, he found them ten times more capable than any of the magicians and enchanterers in his entire kingdom.

## Daniel 1:21

Daniel remained in the royal service until the first year of the reign of King Cyrus.

## Remember these things:

“Keep the faith” can be an easy thing to say. However, it can be much harder to do.

The Lord will support us if we are faithful to Him.

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