

# EXILIC & POST-EXILIC PROPHETS OF THE BIBLE

Senior Adults & Friends Bible Study — Summit View Church of Christ  
Summer 2022

## PART TWO — THE EXILE OF 605 BC

### Section 1 — Daniel and the First Exile of Jerusalem

#### 605 BC

**2 Kings 24:1a** — \_\_\_\_\_ king of Babylon invaded Judah. As a result of his invasion, Judah became a vassal state and its king, Jehoiakim, became a vassal of the Babylonian king for three years.

#### DANIEL 1

#### 605 BC

##### Daniel 1:1-2

1:1 — What did Nebuchadnezzar do to Jerusalem? \_\_\_\_\_  
1:2 — Nebuchadnezzar took control of Judah's king, who became his vassal (recall 2 Kings 24:1). What did he do with the articles he took from God's temple? (*Remember this when we get to Daniel 5.*)

#### 605/604 BC

##### Daniel 1:3-17

1:3-5 — We don't know how many people were forced (exiled) from Jerusalem/Judah to Babylon, but at least some were taken from Judah's \_\_\_\_\_ family and nobility. The young men described here were to be taught the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the Babylonians. They were to be trained for \_\_\_\_\_ years and then enter the king's service.

1:6-7 — List the Hebrew and Babylonian names of the young Judahite men mentioned here:

*Hebrew*

*Babylonian*

D \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

H \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

M \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

A \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

1:8-14 — What test did Daniel and his friends undergo?

1:15-16 — How did the test turn out?

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1:17 — God gave these four young men knowledge and understanding. But to Daniel in particular he gave the ability to understand \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

## **about 602 BC**

**Daniel 1:18-21** — How did Daniel and his three companions fare when interviewed by the king after their years of training?

- *Daniel 1:21 tells us Daniel remained in the royal court of Babylon until the first year of King Cyrus (over Babylon), ruler of the Persian Empire. That year was 539 BC (he ruled Persia 559-530 BC). Including his 3 years of training, Daniel served in the royal court for about 66 years!*

## **Reflections...**

- 1) How does the (forced) removal of Daniel and his companions (and likely many others) to Babylon fit into God's overall work in Judah at this time? What is God working to accomplish?
- 2) One challenge Daniel and his companions—and in the future, all Jewish exiles—quickly face is pressure and a temptation to assimilate into the powerfully influential culture of the nation that conquered them.
  - How do the Babylonians press Daniel and his companions to assimilate into their culture (1:4-5)?
  - In what ways, if any, do Daniel and his companions accept assimilation (1:8-21)?
  - In what ways, if any, do they resist (1:8-21)? Why might it be important to them to resist?
- 3) It must have been tempting for the Jewish exiles to imagine that God had abandoned them when their lives were turned upside-down by the Babylonian invaders. But God was still active in the lives of Daniel and his companions. What does God do for them in their first three years in Babylon (1:9, 1:17)?

**Bonus:** The names and their meanings:

**Daniel** = God is (my) Judge.

**Hananiah** = The Lord shows grace.

**Misrael** = Who is what God is?

**Azariah** = The Lord helps.

**Belteshazzar** = Bel [Marduk], protect his life!

**Shadrach** = Command of Aku [Sumerian moon-god]

**Meschach** = Who is what Aku is?

**Abednego** = Servant of Nego [Nabu, Marduk's son]

*NIV Study Bible page 1463, note on Daniel 1:6*