

Is Your Mind Made Up? April 25, 2021

Daniel 1:3-6, *“Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials, to bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles, ⁴ youths in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in every branch of wisdom, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and who had ability for serving in the king’s court; and he ordered him to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. ⁵ The king appointed for them a daily ration from the king’s choice food and from the wine which he drank, and appointed that they should be educated three years, at the end of which they were to enter the king’s personal service. Now among them from the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.”*

Daniel 1:7, *“Then the commander of the officials assigned new names to them; and to Daniel he assigned the name Belteshazzar, to Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael Meshach and to Azariah Abed-nego.”*

Daniel: God is my judge.

Belteshazzar: Bel protect the king.

Hananiah: The Lord is gracious

Shadrach: Under command of Aku

Mishael: Who is like the Lord?

Meshach: Who is what Aku is?

Azariah: The Lord is my Helper

Abed-nego: Servant of Nego

Daniel 1:8, *“Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king’s choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself.”*

Daniel 1:9- 14, “Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials,¹⁰ and the commander of the officials said to Daniel, “I am afraid of my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink; for why should he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would make me forfeit my head to the king.”¹¹ But Daniel said to the overseer whom the commander of the officials had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah,¹² “Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink.¹³ Then let our appearance be observed in your presence and the appearance of the youths who are eating the king’s choice food; and deal with your servants according to what you see.”¹⁴ So he listened to them in this matter and tested them for ten days.”

Daniel 1:15; 18-19, “At the end of ten days their appearance seemed better and they were fatter than all the youths who had been eating the king’s choice food.” “Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar.¹⁹ The king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king’s personal service.”

1 Corinthians 3:6-7, “I planted, Apollos watered, but God was causing the growth. SO then neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but God who causes the growth.”