

# **A Study of the Prophets**

## **O.T. Survey Lesson 186--Daniel 1:1-21**

**Introduction:** Daniel was taken captive to Babylon in 605 by Nebuchadnezzar. God exalted him to a position of power first in the Babylonian courts and then many years later in the Persian court. Daniel's prophecies made known God's sovereign control over earthly governments in accomplishing His purposes; and how that God's kingdom would be established and ultimately prevail over the kingdoms of men.

**Lesson aim:** To emphasize the importance of maintaining a commitment to one's principles in difficult circumstances.

### **Daniel' s faith tested--Daniel 1:1-7**

1. With what historical event does the book of Daniel begin? (v. 1) Who was responsible for the victory of Nebuchadnezzar over the king of Judah? (v. 2) What did the Nebuchadnezzar bring to Babylon as spoil? (v. 2)
2. What regal order did Nebuchadnezzar give to his chief official, Ashpenaz? (v. 3-5) What special privileges did the candidates receive? (v. 5)
3. What Hebrews were among those chosen? (v. 6) What new name was given to each of them? (v. 7) What do you think might have been the significance of this?

### **Daniel's faith revealed--Daniel 1:8-16**

1. What threat to Daniel's faith did the king's food and drink serve? (v. 8) What did Daniel purpose not to do? How did he handle it?
2. What apprehensions did the Ashpenaz have concerning Daniel's request? (v. 10) What proposal did Daniel make? (v. 11-13) What were the results of this test? (v. 14-16) Who was

responsible for the favor Daniel acquired with the court officials? (v. 9)

### **Daniel's faith rewarded--Daniel 1:17-21**

1. Who was the source of the knowledge given to the four Hebrew youths? (v. 17) What special knowledge did Daniel possess?
2. What did the king discover about Daniel and his fellow-Hebrews in his interview with them? (v. 18-19) Consequently, to what position were they exalted? (v. 19)
3. Did the four Hebrew youths prove to be reliable sources of advice to the king? (v. 20) To what extent?
4. For how long did Daniel maintain a position of influence in the Babylonian government? (v. 21) How long would this have been?