

**Daniel 1:9 KJV**

*9 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.*

**Daniel 1:9 AMPC**

*9 Now God made Daniel to find favor, compassion, and loving-kindness with the chief of the eunuchs.*

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**Daniel 1:10 KJV**

*10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.*

**Daniel 1:10 AMPC**

*10 And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, I fear, lest my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink, should see your faces worse looking or more sad than the other youths of your age. Then you would endanger my head with the king.*

The prince of the eunuchs is just sure that Daniel will look terrible, if he stops eating the food and wine the king has provided. When Daniel begins to look bad, the prince of the eunuchs will be in trouble with the king, and the king might have him killed.

The Hebrews, that were not in the palace, got very little to eat, and they were not very healthy looking. The king wanted his eunuchs to be the best looking people in the land.

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**Daniel 1:11 KJV**

*11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,*

**Daniel 1:11 AMPC**

*11 Then said Daniel to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,*

**“Melzar”** means: butler, or steward. We see from this, there were several ranks even among the eunuchs.

**Note:** Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are the Chaldean (Babylonian) names given to the three Hebrew teenagers by King Nebuchadnezzar's court to encourage assimilation. Their original Hebrew names were Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, respectively. The Babylonians assigned these names to replace references to the Hebrew God with their own deities

**Shadrach:** Originally Hananiah ("Yahweh is gracious"), changed to a name likely referring to the moon god Aku.

**Meshach:** Originally Mishael ("Who is what El is?"), changed to a name likely meaning "Who is as Aku is?".

**Abednego:** Originally Azariah ("Yahweh has helped"), changed to mean "Slave of the god Nebo/Nabu".

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**Daniel 1:12 KJV**

*12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.*

**Daniel 1:12 AMPC**

*12 Prove your servants, I beseech you, for ten days and let us be given a vegetable diet and water to drink.*

**"Pulse"** means: a vegetable. We can easily see that Daniel was trying to avoid eating an unclean animal from the king's table. This is not a total fast, but God will bless Daniel for taking this stand for Him.

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**Daniel 1:13 KJV**

*13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.*

**Daniel 1:13 AMPC**

*13 Then let our appearance and the appearance of the youths who eat of the king's [rich] dainties be observed and compared by you, and deal with us your servants according to what you see.*

We see that Daniel gives Melzar a way out of this. He explains that, if he looks any different than the people eating and drinking the king's food and drink, the prince can punish him.

**Note:** Servants is plural here, so Daniel is, probably, speaking for himself and Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They are all in this together - Daniel is not alone...

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**Daniel 1:14 KJV**

*14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.*

**Daniel 1:14 AMPC**

*14 So [the man] consented to them in this matter and proved them ten days.*

Since this will not get him in trouble, Melzar agrees to it.

**Daniel 1:15 KJV**

*15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.*

**Daniel 1:15 AMPC**

*15 And at the end of ten days it was seen that they were looking better and had taken on more flesh than all the youths who ate of the king's rich dainties.*

***Fatter*** indicates healthiness. Doing it God's Way brought a superior outcome. This is spiritual application about do what is right in the physical or natural regarding obedience. This is the first of the great manifestations of God in Daniel.

God intervenes and nourishes and blesses Daniel and his friend's; This food was blessed out of obedience to God. The success of Daniel's plan was due more to the sovereignty of God in  **blessing his spiritual commitment than it was to the diet.**

**Exodus 23:25 AMPC**

25 You shall serve the Lord your God; He shall bless your bread and water, and I will take sickness from your midst.

Obedience or serving God was first and then your needs shall be blessed. By being obedient, your choice (right or wrong), that which was troubling you in any area of your life was removed. By our faith, or acts of obedience, we can see God's faithfulness in every area of our lives.

### **James 2:21-26 AMPC**

21 Was not our forefather Abraham [shown to be] **justified (made acceptable to God) by [his] works when he brought to the altar as an offering his [own] son Isaac?**

22 You see that [his] **faith was cooperating with his works**, and [his] faith was completed and **reached its supreme expression [when he implemented it] by [good] works.**

### **Works in the greek: acts of obedience**

23 And [so] the Scripture was fulfilled that says, Abraham believed in (adhered to, trusted in, and relied on) God, and this was accounted to him as righteousness (as conformity to God's will in thought and deed), and he was called God's friend.

24 You see that a man is justified **(pronounced righteous before God) through what he does and not alone through faith [through works of obedience as well as by what he believes].**

26 For as the human body apart from the spirit is lifeless, **so faith apart from [its] works of obedience is also dead.**

In the Greek New Testament, the word for "works" (ergon) often refers to deeds, actions, or labors, which are frequently interpreted as outward expressions of internal faith or acts of obedience to God's commandments. While ergon signifies the action itself, "obedience" is primarily conveyed by hupakoē (or hupakouō), which means listening under or submitting to authority

**Daniel 1:16 KJV**

*16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.*

**Daniel 1:16 AMPC**

*16 So the steward took away their [rich] dainties and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables.*

When the steward saw they were no worse for their restricted diet, he allowed them to continue on that diet. The steward could see evidence that choosing God's Way made them better than the others.

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**Daniel 1:17 KJV**

*17 As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.*

**Daniel 1:17 AMPC**

*17 As for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all [kinds of] visions and dreams.*

Notice where their skill and knowledge had come from, God had given it to them as a gift. Their faithfulness to God was overwhelming and God gave them gifts to help them in this hostile place.

Daniel's received the gift of interpretations, along with the understanding and wisdom. God would also communicate with Daniel in dreams and these "things" or "gifts" were what Daniel needed to do the task or plan the God had for him.

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**Daniel 1:18 KJV**

*18 Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.*

**Daniel 1:18 AMPC**

*18 Now at the end of the time which the king had set for bringing [all the young men in], the chief of the eunuchs brought them before Nebuchadnezzar.*

They were to be trained and groomed, before they were brought before the king. It appears this time has elapsed here, and it is time to bring them to the king for his approval.

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**Daniel 1:19 KJV**

*19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king.*

**Daniel 1:19 AMPC**

*19 And the king conversed with them, and among them all none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they were assigned to stand before the king.*

From this, we see there were many more than these 4, but the king was the most impressed with Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. He chose these 4 to serve close to him.

**Matthew 7:16 KJV**

**16 Ye shall know them by their fruits.** *Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?*

**Matthew 7:16 AMPC**

**16 You will fully recognize them by their fruits.** *Do people pick grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles?*

***"You will know them by their fruit"*** is a teaching from Jesus, meaning a person's true character, faith, or motives are revealed by their actions, behavior, and the results of their lives—not just their words or appearance. Just as a tree is identified by the fruit it bears, a person's inward nature inevitably produces outward actions (good or bad).

Paul wrote the church to define what that “fruit” is which is required to be identified as an imitator of Jesus or the Word.

**Galatians 5:22-23 AMPC**

***22 But the fruit of the [Holy] Spirit [the work which His presence within accomplishes] is love, joy (gladness), peace, patience (an even temper, forbearance), kindness, goodness (benevolence), faithfulness,***

***23 Gentleness (meekness, humility), self-control (self-restraint, continence). Against such things there is no law [[a]that can bring a charge].***

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**Daniel 1:20 KJV**

*20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.*

**Daniel 1:20 AMPC**

*20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding concerning which the king asked them, he found them ten times better than all the [learned] magicians and enchanters who were in his whole realm.*

Magicians and astrologers have a little power, but their power comes from another source other than God. Their wisdom and understanding does not measure up to the 4 headed up by Daniel. Daniel and his friends get their wisdom and understanding from God.

We see the comparison in the Scripture above is 10 to 1. Satan has a little power that God allows him to have, he does not have unlimited power. God's power is unlimited and God controls and limits the power of satan. These men who had stood up for God were representing God to this court. God's power through them was unlimited.

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**Daniel 1:21 KJV**

*21 And Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.*

### **Daniel 1:21 AMPC**

*21 And Daniel continued there even to the first year of King Cyrus [at the close of the seventy years' exile of Judah in Babylonia, **which Jeremiah had foretold**].*

### **Jeremiah 25:11-12 AMPC**

*11 And this whole land shall be a waste and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.*

*12 Then when seventy years are completed, I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, says the Lord, for their iniquity, and will make the land [of the Chaldeans] a perpetual waste.*

Daniel's life continued ... mentioned until Cyrus of Persia who conquered Babylon (in 539 B.C.). His third year in (10:1), is the latest historical year that Daniel mentions. Daniel 6:28 "So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian." The purpose of (1:21), is to give a chronological overview of Daniel's ministry: he served from the time of Nebuchadnezzar to the time of Cyrus.



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