

## STRANGERS IN A STRANGE LAND

(Daniel 1:1-7)

### I. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND TO THE BOOK OF DANIEL

### II. PERSONAL INTRODUCTION TO THE FOUR JUDEANS

#### A. Nebuchadnezzar Besieges Jerusalem and Takes Jewish Captives (Daniel 1:1-4)

1. Prince Nebuchadnezzar did \_\_\_\_\_ need unnecessary violence to overcome the city, but apparently it was a \_\_\_\_\_ takeover. (1:1)
  
2. The biblical way to view these events is that Nebuchadnezzar \_\_\_\_\_ take the city of Jerusalem, but as the text states, “*the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand.*” (1:2)
  
3. The reasoning behind Nebuchadnezzar’s actions in bringing “\_\_\_\_\_” of the articles from the Jewish temple “*to the house of his god*” was most likely so that...
  - a. his new subjects and vassal king Jehoiakim would be able to \_\_\_\_\_ with their ongoing worship and not outwardly \_\_\_\_\_
  
  - b. by bringing articles from the temple into “*the house of his god*” which was Marduk (among others), he was demonstrating that the God of Judah was \_\_\_\_\_ to his gods

\* Whatever became of these “*articles*” that were now in the hands of the Babylonians?
  
4. Certain “*select*” Jewish youths were chosen for their \_\_\_\_\_, their \_\_\_\_\_, and their \_\_\_\_\_ to serve the king of Babylon in his royal court. (1:3)

5. The young Judeans were enrolled and indoctrinated in a three year course of the \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Babylonian people.

\* What was offered to these young teenagers to encourage their studies?

\* What would it take for you to compromise your principles?

6. While there were certainly many fellow prisoners from other defeated countries, Daniel only lists \_\_\_\_\_ other individuals from \_\_\_\_\_; and he lists them by their Hebrew names...

a. Daniel- *God is my* \_\_\_\_\_

b. Hananiah- *Jehovah has been* \_\_\_\_\_

c. Mishael- *Who is He that is* \_\_\_\_\_?

d. Azariah- *The Lord* \_\_\_\_\_

\* There most likely was more than four Jewish captives; what is a possible explanation?

7. Consequently these four young Judeans were also given Babylonian names which represented \_\_\_\_\_.

\* What lessons can you learn from this study?