Summary

Daniel was a prophet in the time of Jehoiakim king of Judah. Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and sieged it. The king instructed the master of his eunuchs to bring some of the children of Israel and the young men with no blemish, good looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand. The king appointed them a daily provision of the king’s delicacies and the wine for after three years of training that they would serve before the king. Among those people were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. The chief gave them different names. Daniel was named Belteshazzar, Hananiah, Shadrach: Mishael, Meshach: and to Azariah, Abed-Nego. They requested to eat only vegetables and drink water for that time and to prove that they are as fit as the other men. At the end of ten days their features appeared better. God gave them knowledge, skill in all literature, and wisdom. He had an understanding in all visions and dreams.

Life Application

Daniel was given the king’s delicacies, like meat and wine, but were offered to idols. But, Daniel didn’t eat of the food, but asked the steward to give them vegetables and plain water, because he didn’t want to disobey God by eating food worshiped to idols. This tells us we must not give in to peer pressure to bad things, but do what is right. Another example is when the nobles of Darius’s court convinced the king to give a decree telling people to only worship the king for a few days, but Daniel just went back to his room and prayed.

“Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today.”
(Exodus 14:13a)