

Observation and interpretation

Read Daniel 1 and Daniel 6. Mark: *God, Lord, and pronouns; King Nebuchanezzar, Daniel, youths, commissioners and satraps, injunction/law.*

1. Read Dan 1 again and answer these questions:
 - Who are the main characters? Focus in on Daniel.
 - What happens to Daniel?
 - When does this happen?
 - Where does this take place?
 - Why is Daniel a captive? Why is he not eating the king's food?
 - How do you see God working in this chapter?
2. How is Daniel described in Dan 6:3-4? What is King Darius' plan for him?
3. What new "injunction and statue" has been enacted by King Darius? What is the punishment for breaking this law? Who gets caught breaking this law?

4. What does King Darius say to Daniel when he comes to check on him in the lion's den the next morning (Dan 6:20)? What is Daniel's response?

5. What new decree does King Darius make after taking Daniel out of the lion's den?

Interpretation: *what does the author mean?*

6. In Dan 1, why do you think King Nebuchadnezzar wanted to teach Daniel and his friends the "literature and language of the Chaldeans?"

7. In Dan 6, why are the commissioners and satraps of King Darius trying to find a "ground of accusation and evidence of corruption" against Daniel?

8. Why do you think King Darius is fasting and unable to sleep? (Dan 6:18)

Application: *therefore, what shall I do?*

9. King Nebuchadnezzar worked to "indoctrinate" these young captives. Can you think of any modern historical examples of the "indoctrination of youth?" Are you being "indoctrinated?" How? Where? Why?

10. You would not be thrown into the lion's den for disobeying any laws. However, can you think of laws that are currently enacted that you should disobey for the sake of being obedient to God's laws? What are they? When would you be willing to "go into the lion's den" rather than disobey God?