



# DANIEL

## Chapter 1:1-8

Pastor Balan Swaminathan

House of Intercessory Prayer Ministries

# Daniel 1:1-8

- **The great Decline**
  - Fall of the northern kingdom
  - The preaching of the prophets
  - At the time of the fall
- **The great Deportation**
  - Criteria for the selection of the hostages
  - The curriculum for the schooling
  - The campaign for seduction
- **The great Decision**

# The great Decline

- The sudden fall of Judah
- How tragic and unnecessary it was
- Pre-warned by God
- But people never repented
- God's hand of judgment was upon the land

# The great Decline

- Fall of the northern kingdom
  - Solomon->Jeroboam –Wicked king who led people into idolatry
  - He revived the worship of golden calves
  - God raised the evil nation of Assyria against the northern kingdom
  - But the southern kingdom of Judah didn't learn from that

# The great Decline

- The preaching of the prophets
  - Isaiah the prophet prophesied 150 years ago in Isaiah 39:5-7
  - Micah 4:10
  - Jeremiah 25:8-11
  - Habakkuk 1:6

# The great Decline

- At the time of the fall
  - How wicked Jehoiakim was –  
illustration
  - Jeremiah's imprisonment, Jeremiah 36  
:22-24

# The great deportation

- Nebuchadnezzar has taken the four young men along with 70 others as captives
- Along with them, also taken some articles of the temple of God

# The great deportation

- Criteria for the selection of the hostages
  - The physical criteria
    - Young men or youth
    - No blemish
    - Good-looking



# The great deportation

- Criteria for the selection of the hostages
  - The mental criteria
    - Gifted in wisdom
    - Possessing knowledge
    - Quick to understand
  - Social requirement
    - Able to stand in the right place and do the right thing

# The curriculum for the schooling

- Chaldean language
- Astronomy
- Astrology and
- Architecture

# The campaign for seduction

- Emasculation
- Obligation
- Consolidation
  - 1) Daniel (God is my judge)
  - 2) Hananiah (Jehovah is gracious)
  - 3) Mishael (who is like God?)
  - 4) Azariah (Jehovah is my helper)

# The campaign for seduction

1. Daniel - Belteshazzar (a servant of Bel)
2. Hananiah - Shadrach (the sun god)
3. Mishael - Meshach ( the moon god is)
4. Azariah - Abed-Nego (servant of Nebo, the fire God)

# The great decision V8

- Reasons Daniel saying 'no' to the kings table
  - Not meeting his dietary requirements, so unclean
  - Offered to idols
- Possibilities that Daniel could have failed
  - Age
  - peer pressure
  - no one knows
  - not safe to play with Nebuchadnezzar
  - spiritual compromise

# The great decision V8

- Why Daniel said 'no' to king's food and drink?
  - In OT, no prohibition to take name of another culture
  - In OT, no prohibition to learn another culture
  - But in OT there is a strong prohibition to eat food offered to idols