



## Rice Memorial MBC

Pastor Jimmy L. Harper, Sr., President of State Convention  
Apostle Walter Camp, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Pastor Tremayne Harris, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President  
Pastor Harry Noble, President of State Congress of Christian Education  
Pastor Michael Hansberry, Southern District Moderator

**Rice Memorial Missionary Baptist Church**  
Apostle Walter F. Camp, Presiding Senior Pastor  
Pastor David K. Baker III, 2<sup>nd</sup> Presiding  
Apostle Kenneth Freeman, Sr., 3<sup>rd</sup> Presiding  
802 W. 15<sup>th</sup>, Little Rock, AR 72202, 501-773-6546  
[www.RiceMemorialBaptistChurch.org](http://www.RiceMemorialBaptistChurch.org)

## A Sincere Faith

Definitions in **bold** letters are from **Strong's** Exhaustive Concordance  
Other definitions are from **Webster's** Dictionary, 1828 /1913 Edition  
or Roget's Thesaurus – **January 7, 2018**

## Daniel 1:8-21

**Introduction:** ...as countless believers have learned throughout the centuries, when we trust in God and honor him above all things. He will **honor us** and **reward us** in his own way and **in his own time**. The Old Testament offers no better example of this truth than what we find in the experiences of young Daniel and his three friends as captives in Babylon.  
(Source: *The Bible Expositor and Illuminator*, Union Press Publication-Christian Life Series)

**Daniel 1:1-7**, In the third year of the reign of **Jehoiakim** king of Judah came **Nebuchadnezzar** king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the **vessels** of the house of God: which he **carried** into the land of Shinar... And the **king** (Nebuchadnezzar) spake unto **Ashpenaz** the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring certain of the children of Israel, and of the king's **seed**, and of the **princes**; Children in whom was no **blemish**, but **well favoured**, and **skilful** in all **wisdom**, and cunning in **knowledge**, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might **teach** the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans. And the king **appointed** them a daily provision of the king's **meat**, and of the **wine** which he drank: so nourishing them **three years**, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king. Now among these were of the children of **Judah**, **Daniel**, **Hananiah**, **Mishael**, and **Azariah**: Unto whom the **prince** of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto Daniel the name of **Beltshazzar**; and to Hananiah, of **Shadrach**; and to Mishael, of **Meshach**; and to Azariah, of **Abednego**.

**Thought 1.** The names of Daniel and his other three Hebrew companions are defined as follows: Daniel is defined, judge of God. Hananiah is defined, Jah has favored. Mishael defined, who (is) what God (is)? And Azariah is defined, Jah has helped. The word "Jah" is another word meaning Lord. See Psalms 68:4.

**Daniel 1:8**, But Daniel **purposed** (**determine** [fixed, SETTLED]) in his **heart** that **he** would not **DEFILE** himself with the portion of the king's **meat**, nor with the **wine** which he drank: therefore he **requested** of the **prince** of the eunuchs that he might not **defile** himself.

**NOTE:** The chief reasons why Daniel would not eat meat from the royal table were probably these three:- 1. Because they ate **unclean beasts**, which were forbidden by the Jewish law. 2. Because they ate, as did the heathens in general, beasts which had been strangled, or not properly blooded. 3. Because the animals that were eaten were first **offered** as victims to **their gods**. It is on this account that Athenaeus calls the beasts which here served up at the

tables of the Persian kings, victims, lib. iv. c. 10, p. 145.

(Source: *The Adam Clarke Commentary* [classic.studylight.org/com/acc/](http://classic.studylight.org/com/acc/))

**Leviticus 11:4-13** ... these shall ye **NOT eat** of them that chew the **cud**, or of them that divide the **hoof**: as the **camel**, because he cheweth the **cud**, but divideth **not** the **hoof**; ...And the **coney (species of rock-rabbit)**, because he cheweth the **cud**, but divideth **not** the hoof ...And the **hare**, because he cheweth the **cud**, but divideth not the **hoof** ...the **swine (hog, boar)**, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth **not** the cud ... ...And all that have **NOT fins** and **scales** in the seas ...the rivers ...in the waters ...any living thing which is in the waters, they shall be an **abomination (filth)** unto you: ...ye shall **NOT eat** of their flesh, but ye shall have their carcasses in abomination. ...And these are they ...among the **fowls**...

**Thought 1.** Since Daniel and the others were in captivity because of the breaking of the Covenant with God by evil kings and those that followed them, being there was a graphic reminder to OBEY God, and not break his Covenant by eating the wrong foods. Another truth is all of this about what to eat, and not eat points to Jesus and his words.

**John 6:53-55**, Then **Jesus** said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Except** ye eat the **flesh** of the Son of man, and **drink** his **blood**, ye have **NO LIFE** in you. Whoso eateth **my** flesh, and drinketh my blood, hath eternal **life**; and I will **raise** him up at the last day. For my flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed.

**John 6:63**, It is the **SPIRIT** that **quickeneth (give life)**; the **FLESH** profiteth nothing: the **WORDS** that I speak unto you, they are spirit ...they are life.

**Thought 2.** We should **believe (EAT)** only Gods' words. This means unclean animals represent unclean SPIRITS, and their words, spoken or thought.

Now, when it comes to “physical food”, we, being Christians through faith in Jesus under the New Covenant, CAN eat anything! But, there are guidelines so as to not offend.

**1 Timothy 4:4-5** ...**every creature** of God is good, and **nothing** to be refused, **IF** it be received with thanksgiving: For it is **sanctified** by the WORD of God and prayer.

**Roman 14:14-17**, I know, and am **persuaded** by the Lord Jesus, that there is **nothing** unclean of itself: but to him that **esteemeth (think)** any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean. But **IF** thy brother be grieved with thy **meat**, now walkest thou not charitably. Destroy not him with thy meat, for whom Christ died. Let not then your **GOOD** be evil spoken of: For the **kingdom** of God is not **meat** and **drink**; but **righteousness**, and **peace**, and **joy** in the Holy Ghost.

**Daniel 1:9**, Now God had **brought** Daniel into **FAVOUR** and **tender love (mercy, pity)** with the prince of the eunuchs.

**Thought 1.** God was able to do this because of Daniel's reverence and love of the truth.

**Proverbs 3:3-4**, Let not **mercy** and **TRUTH** forsake thee: bind them about thy neck; write them upon the table of thine heart: So shalt thou find **FAVOUR** and good understanding in the **sight** of **God** and **man**.

**Proverbs 8:1, 35**, Doth not **wisdom** cry? and understanding put forth her voice? For whoso findeth me **findeth LIFE**, and shall obtain **favour** of the Lord. (See Pro. 12:8)

**Daniel 1:10-16**, 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. Then said Daniel to **Melzar**, whom the prince of the eunuchs **had set** over Daniel, Hananiah,

Mishael, and Azariah, **Prove (TEST)** *thy servants*, I beseech thee, **ten days;** and let them give us **pulse (vegetable as food)** to eat, and **water** to drink. 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*. So he consented to them in this matter, and **proved (test)** them **ten days**. And at the end of **ten days** their **countenances** appeared **fairer** and **fatter** (firm) in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat. Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them **pulse (vegetable as food)**.

**NOTE:** The inadequacy of the Hebrew language, especially with regard to tenses of verbs, is evident in the rendition in Dan. 1:16, where "the wine that they should drink" actually means "the **wine they would** (or should) **have drunk**."

The steward ran little or no risk at all in complying with Daniel's request; because, if the **experiment** had not been successful, he could have altered the diet...

(Source: Coffman Commentaries on the Old & New Testament classic.studylight.org/com/bcc/)

**Daniel 1:17**, As for these **four children (young man)**, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had **understanding** in all **visions** and **dreams**.

**NOTE:** They were very sober and diligent, and studied hard; and we may suppose their tutors, finding them of an uncommon capacity, took a great deal of pains with them, but, after all, their achievements are ascribed to God only. It was he that gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom; for every **good** and **perfect gift** is from above, from the Father of the lights. It is the Lord our God that gives men power to get this wealth; the **MIND** is furnished only by him that formed it.

...he (*Daniel*) knew how to **interpret dreams**, as Joseph, not by rules of art, such as are pretended to be given by the oneirocritics (interpreter of dreams), but by a **divine sagacity** (acuteness [sharpness] of discernment or penetration) and wisdom which God GAVE HIM.

**Numbers 12:6**, And he said, Hear now my words: **IF** there be **a prophet** among you, I the Lord will **make** myself **known** unto him in a **vision** (something supernaturally presented to the MIND) and will speak unto him in a **dream**.

According to **this GIFT** given to Daniel, we find him, in this book, all along employed about dreams and visions, interpreting or entertaining them; for, *as every one has received the gift*, so shall he have an opportunity, and so should he have a heart, to *minister the same*, 1 Pet. 4:10. II. Their great acceptance with the king. After *three years* spent in their education (they being of some maturity, it is likely, when they came, perhaps about twenty years old) they were presented to the king with the rest that were of their standing (Source: *The Matthew Henry Commentary on the whole Bible* classic.studylight.org/com/mhc)

**1 Corinthians 12:27-28**, Now ye are the **body of Christ**, and members in particular. And God hath SET some in the church, first apostles, secondarily **prophets**...

**Daniel 1:18-21**, 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. And the king **communed** (talk together) with them; and **among** them all was found

**NONE** like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood **they** before the king. And in all matters of WISDOM and understanding, that the king inquired of them, he found them **TEN times better** than **ALL** the **magicians** and **astrologers** that were in **all his realm**. And Daniel Continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus.

**Thought 1.** Even today, the people whose wisdom and thoughts come from Satan's spirits cannot compare with that which comes from our Father through Jesus by his Holy Spirit.