



# OUR GOD REIGNS

GOD IS LARGE AND IN CHARGE DANIEL 1:1-7

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NEVADA • JANUARY 27, 2019

All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com. This passage can be found in the Pew Bible, in the Old Testament section, on page 628.

## INTRODUCTION TO THE BOOK OF DANIEL

- Title** **Daniel**—meaning “My God is Judge.” It is the Book of Revelation to the OT. It’s included in Jewish section called the Hagiographa (Holy Writings).
- Author** **Daniel**—Daniel claims this in Dan. 12:4, Jesus considers him to be the author in Matt. 24:15, as do the historians, Jerome and Josephus.
- Date:** **Daniel's story starts in 605 B.C.**, when he is taken captive to Babylon; and it continues for more than sixty years. He serves as a *palace official*, first for the Babylonians, and then for their successors, the Persians. The book was written no later than 530 B.C.
- Theme** **God is large and in charge!** Throughout the book, our sovereign God is revealed as the one true God who judges and destroys the rebellious world powers. He will faithfully deliver His covenant people according to their steadfast faith in Him.
- Key Principles**
1. **God is sovereign** over the kingdoms of the world.
  2. **God is able to deliver** but delivers on His terms—*not ours*.
  3. **The future is in God's hands** and under His sovereign control.
- Brief Outline**
1. **Daniel's Victories**—God is sovereign over all things (chaps 1-6).
  2. **Daniel's Visions**—God is the final judge over His enemies (chaps 7-12)
- Why Study This Book**
1. Daniel's situation parallels our own today.
  2. Daniel's prophecies will soon be fulfilled.
  3. Daniel's God is our God—we can live **Unshakable Lives** in His sovereignty.

# OUR GOD REIGNS

GOD IS LARGE AND IN CHARGE DANIEL 1:1-7

## 1. God gave Nebuchadnezzar the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Daniel 1:1–2, NLT** - <sup>1</sup> *During the third year of King Jehoiakim's reign* [for decades, the prophets had warned the rulers of Judah that their idolatry, immorality, and injustice toward the poor/needey would lead them to ruin] *in Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.* [as prophesied by Isaiah (13, 21, 39), Hab. (1), Micah (4:10), Lev. 26, and Deut. 27-30] <sup>2</sup> *The Lord gave him victory over King Jehoiakim of Judah and permitted him to take some of the sacred objects from the Temple of God. So, Nebuchadnezzar took them back to the land of Babylonia and placed them in the treasure-house of his god.*

## 2. God gave \_\_\_\_\_ to Daniel and His Friends.

**Daniel 1:3–16, NASB95** - <sup>3</sup> *Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials, to bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles,* <sup>4</sup> *youths in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in every branch of wisdom, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and who had ability for serving in the king's court; and he ordered him to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.* <sup>5</sup> *The king appointed for them a daily ration from the king's choice food and from the wine which he drank, and appointed that they should be educated three years, at the end of which they were to enter the king's personal service.* <sup>6</sup> *Now among them from the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.* <sup>7</sup> *Then the commander of the officials assigned new names to them; and to Daniel* [“God is my Judge”] *he assigned the name Belteshazzar* [Prince of Bel—a false god], *to Hananiah* [“Beloved of God”] *Shadrach* [“Illumined by the sun god, Rach”], *to Mishael* [“Who is as God”] *Meshaach* [“who is like Venus”] *and to Azariah* [“The Lord is my help”] *Abed-nego* [“Servant of the fire god, Nego”]. . . <sup>9</sup> *Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials. . .*

## LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

### TODAY, THE WORLD TRIES TO DESTROY THE CHURCH:

- By destroying our heritage** (v. 1)
- By destroying our faith** (v. 2)
- By destroying our values** (vv. 3-5)
- By destroying our identity** (vv. 6-7)

### THE WORLD WILL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST THE CHURCH (OR YOU)!

Answers: 1. Victory, 2. Favor.