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VOICE OF PROPHECY

0316/12

Unsealing Daniel

HOLIDAY WORK TERM 1, 2026

You must answer on the Question Paper.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Write your name in the space at the top of this page.
- The paper consists of **2** sections.
- Answer **ALL** questions in both Sections.
- Use a black or dark blue pen.
- Do not use an erasable pen or correction fluid.
- Read Daniel 3 and 4 in your Bible exclusively and responsibly.

DO NOT WRITE IN ANY OTHER SPACES.

INFORMATION

- The total mark for this Holiday Work is 20.

This document has 6 pages. Any blank pages are indicated

God's Initiative for Atonement in History

Notes 4: Unsealing of Daniel

Daniel 3

In chapter 2 Nebuchadnezzar had dreams and it was made known the interpretation thereof by God through Daniel how God would rule at the end.

Daniel 3:1 Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, whose height was threescore cubits, and the breadth thereof six cubits: he set it up in the plain of Dura, in the province of Babylon.

Verse 1-7

Now he opposes what God had revealed to him by making up an image of gold in the plain of Dura.

Why did all these other people bow down to the image?

It is because their lifestyle made them to worship, their conscience was bad they could not distinguish wrong from right.

Verse 8-12

Why these boys did not bow down to the image?

It is because they had live conscience.

Where was Daniel when these three were being accused?

Since Daniel had been promoted to next to king, when the King was thinking of doing this Daniel had rejected the idea so the king did it knowing that Daniel was not going to do it.

So, by not putting him among the boys, the king was afraid of embarrassment that could come from Daniel if he accuses him of not bowing to worship.

Verse 15-30

The Hebrew boys are given an option to repent but the boys refused. And next, we see Nebuchadnezzar challenging God

They offer a challenging response to the king by saying, "we need not to answer you king if you are challenging God, for our God is not an image so let Him answer for himself" and the king got very angry.

The boys though they had conquered Nebuchadnezzar through God's deliverance, they still hear and obeys the voice of the heathen King when he calls them.

In the end the king promotes the boys again. God triumphs with his people.

What was the test here?

Public worship. Who do you worship publicly? God or Man?

Lesson

God wants people who cannot be bought by friendship or who are hungry of promotion at the expense of the will of God.

Mark 12:17, Acts 4:18-19 and Act 5:29 teach us how to relate with our government's officials.

But when they go against the will of God it is always best to remain on the side of God the supreme King.

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Daniel 4

We look at different scenario all together

Nebuchadnezzar is writing here telling of what God has done for him.

He now acknowledges God for what he has done for him.

It might seem that when Daniel is writing this chapter he took from the archives of the nation.

He has a dream again but now he remembers the dream.

He calls again the wise of Babylon forgetting how the Lord has revealed what troubled him in the past through Daniel.

After they failed he then calls Daniel and he is recognizing that the spirit of God is with Daniel.

Daniel is dismayed he then tells the king the meaning of the dream.

The tree was Nebuchadnezzar

He was the one to go to the bush

He was saying he would allow his sins to punish him

What do we learn?

Up to now Nebuchadnezzar still doesn't want to accept that God is the King of kings. God now stands out to act on him.

God does not change his principles but we are to change to fit in his principles. Nebuchadnezzar did not repent, he only feared and we all know that fear comes and go.

After 12 months of the dream fear had departed and he sins.

Because of his lifestyle he became foolish and uttered nonsense.

He became mad.

Whenever the word of God comes to us we need not to fear but repent for fear comes and go but repentances stays.

No mental hospital was taken Nebuchadnezzar to, to mend his senses but bush diet

He looks up and he remembers God.

He prays and honors the God of heaven.

He was refusing Daniel's lifestyle so in the jungle he was a vegan and his senses came back to him. Daniel's Diet healed.

When he was well God said to Nebuchadnezzar's counselors go find him.

Only obedience to Gods will and lifestyles will help us in overcoming.

SCHOLARS' ISSUES

Nebuchadnezzar's building achievements (based on v30)

Scholars say that, Herodotus, Ctesis, Strabo and Pliny

They do not refer to Nebuchadnezzar as the builder of New Babylon

The history of Babylon is known to reach far back into time yet Nebuchadnezzar is quoted as to having built it, therefore the book of Daniel has an error in it.

Response:

Archeological finds confirms the validity of this statement. Excavations in 1899 by the German excavator Robert Kolbeway brought into light the following:

1. Thousand of sun baked mud bricks containing an inscription that claims that Nebuchadnezzar was the builder of Babylon
2. In another inscription Nebuchadnezzar claims "fortification of Esagila (referring to the temple of Maduk) and Babylon I strengthened and established my name forever"

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3. Further more, there is a Grotfend cylinder which states “then built I the palace the seat of my royalty, the bond of the race of man, the dwelling of rejoicing”

This is full proof that Nebuchadnezzar is builder and further that since these later historians did not have such information, only a 6th century man who lived in Babylon having a full knowledge of history could have written this book.

Nebuchadnezzar madness?

Some scholars, R. H. Pfeiffer claim that his madness was an unhistorical term. It is confused reminiscent years in which Nabonidas spent in Arabia.

Response:

Discoveries have altered the picture.

- 1) a. Contemporary cuneiform evidence from Harem Stelae 1st published in 1958 informed that Nabonidas stayed in Tema for 10years not 7. He had gone there for political reasons
b. Furthermore there are such differences:
 - i. Nebuchadnezzar was inflicted by an illness in Babylon and Nabonidas in Tema.
 - ii. The illness of Nabonidas was called malignant boils (bad rash) whereas Nebuchadnezzar had a rare mental disorder called monomania
 - iii. The illness of Nebuchadnezzar was a punishment for arrogance while for Nabonidas was for idolatry.
 - iv. Nebuchadnezzar was cured by God himself when he recognised his sovereignty while Nabonidas was healed by a Jewish exorcist.
- 2) In 1975 the Assyriologist A. K. Grayson published a fragmentary cuneiform text from the British*** which mentions Nebuchadnezzar and Evil Merodach his son and successor. The tablet is so badly damaged that a few phrases can be read. It says,

*Nebuchadnezzar considered-----His life appeared to have no value to-----
--stood and took the good road to-----and speaks bad council to Evil
Merodach-----then he gives an entirely different order but----- he
does not heed the words from his lips, he does not show love to son and
daughter-----*

God's Initiative for Atonement in History
Reflection 4: Unsealing of Daniel

Theme: *Standing for Truth*

Key Text: Daniel 3:17–18 – *“The God we serve is able to deliver us... But even if He does not, we will not serve your gods.”*

Story Summary

King Nebuchadnezzar built a huge golden statue and commanded everyone to bow down. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refused because they worshipped only God. They were thrown into a fiery furnace, but God protected them, and they came out unharmed.

Main Point

God honours those who stand for truth. Even in danger, He is with His faithful children.

Reflection

- Courage means trusting God no matter the outcome.
 - Faithfulness may bring trials, but God's presence brings victory.
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Worksheet (Form 2 Learners)

Part A: Multiple Choice

1. What did King Nebuchadnezzar build?
 - a. A temple
 - b. A golden statue
 - c. A palace
 - d. A tower
 2. What happened to the three friends when they refused to bow?
 - a. They were rewarded
 - b. They were thrown into the furnace
 - c. They were sent home
 - d. They were forgotten
 3. Who appeared with them in the fire?
 - a. An angel of God
 - b. Nebuchadnezzar
 - c. Daniel
 - d. A soldier
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Part B: Short Answer

1. Why did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego refuse to bow to the statue?
 2. How can you stand for truth in your school or community today?
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Part C: Activity

- **Draw or write:** Sketch the fiery furnace with the three friends and the angel inside.
- **Group Discussion:** Share one situation where you might feel pressured to “bow” to wrong choices. How can you respond with courage?

“Whatever It Takes” Salvation
Reflection 5: Unsealing of Daniel

Theme: *“Whatever It Takes” Salvation*

Key Text: Daniel 4:37 – *“Those who walk in pride He is able to humble.”*

Story Summary

King Nebuchadnezzar became proud and thought his power was his own. God humbled him by making him live like an animal for seven years. When he finally acknowledged God’s greatness, his kingdom was restored.

Main Point

God saves us by humbling our pride. He wants us to depend on Him, not ourselves.

Reflection

- Pride separates us from God, but humility brings restoration.
- God’s discipline is meant to lead us back to Him.

Worksheet (Form 2 Learners)

Part A: Multiple Choice

1. What sin did King Nebuchadnezzar struggle with?
 - a) Anger
 - b) Pride
 - c) Laziness
 - d) Fear

2. How long did the king live like an animal?
 - a) 3 years
 - b) 7 years
 - c) 10 years
 - d) 1 year

3. What happened when Nebuchadnezzar praised God?
 - a) He was destroyed
 - b) His kingdom was restored
 - c) He was forgotten
 - d) He became richer only

Part B: Short Answer

1. Why did God humble Nebuchadnezzar?
2. How can humility help you in your school or family life?

Part C: Activity

- **Draw or write:** Sketch Nebuchadnezzar living in the field like an animal, then restored as king.