

1  **Nebuchadnezzar's brainwashing plan**

Daniel 1:3-8

2  **Daniel 1:3-8 (1)**

• <sup>3</sup> Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles, <sup>4</sup> young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans.

3  **Daniel 1:3-8 (2)**

• <sup>5</sup> And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and three years of training for them, so that at the end of that time they might serve before the king. <sup>6</sup> Now from among those of the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.

4  **Daniel 1:3-8 (3)**

• <sup>7</sup> To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego. <sup>8</sup> But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

5  **Daniel's deportation as a Jewish P.O.W.**

- Reasons:
  - Apostasy and idolatry
  - Failure to keep the sabbatical year

6  **605 B.C.**

- Nebuchadnezzar defeats Judah in battle.
- Installs puppet king to rule.
- Take the best and the brightest of the teenage young men, retrain their minds, get them to think like a Babylonian, then use them to help govern their own people.

7  **Webster's Dictionary**

- Brainwashing means *to indoctrinate so intensively and thoroughly as to effect a radical transformation of beliefs.*
- That was Nebuchadnezzar's strategy.
- So today we consider the subject: Nebuchadnezzar's brainwashing plan

8  **The Fact of the Brainwashing Plan**

• vv. 3-7: " <sup>3</sup> Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel. . . . , <sup>4</sup> young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans."

9  **The Fact of the Brainwashing Plan (2)**

- Nebuchadnezzar's Purpose

- Nebuchadnezzar wanted the most promising of the captives to serve him
- He chose those of royal lineage, high intelligence, and physically fit
- They were to be taught in the school of the Chaldeans – equivalent to the largest and best state university.
- Convert them to the Chaldean world view
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10  **Modern-day brainwashing in Hitler's Germany**

11  **Communist China**

12  **North Korea**

13  **Brainwasher-in-chief for children**

14  **Brainwasher-in-chief for the nation of North Korea**

15  **Public schools**

16  **How universities indoctrinate America's youth**

17  **The future goal of the brainwashing plan**

- Long range goal was to convert these Hebrew youth completely to the Chaldean way of life
- The king assumed that by taking youth of such a young age, they would be completely susceptible to his brainwashing program
- They would become models to prove the superiority of Babylon and her system over the conquered nations.

18  **Lessons for us**

- When we leave this place this week, we will be going out into a world that, from our Christian world view, seems to be spinning out of control.
- Ancient landmarks are disappearing
  - Proverbs 23:28 -- *Do not remove the ancient landmark which your fathers have set.*

19  **Dangers for today**

- Today we are under pressure to conform to the new norms, landmarks or boundaries that have been set in our modern culture.
- Forsake the God-given ancient landmarks.
- Daniel was under incredible pressure.

20  **America Today**

- Everywhere you turn there is pressure to conform to the culture. We must learn from Daniel!
- Today the Bible is treated like Silly Putty.
- Remember -- We belong to God's kingdom. We have our own culture, our own language, our own literature, our own lifestyle, and we must be forever loyal to the truth of God.

21  **Dare to be a Daniel!**

- Today when we look around and see our nation and our world seemingly out of control. The book of Daniel reminds us that it was "the LORD" who gave King Jehoiakim into

Nebuchadnezzar's hand.

- God is in control. So what should we do?
  - *Dare to be a Daniel, Dare to stand alone, Dare to have a purpose firm! Dare to make it known!* (Majesty Hymns #578)

## 22 **The Fundamentals of the Brainwashing Plan**

- The First Step – Isolation
  - They were teenage boys, probably from 14 to 17 years of age.
  - Remove them from their families; remove them from regular worship with God's people; remove them from people who lived out biblical commitments; and remove them from their parents' daily religious teaching.

## 23 **The first step (2)**

- Christian parents who are seeking to raise their children to live in a 21<sup>st</sup> century Babylonian culture here in America should not think they can leave it to the school, or even to the churches, to instill these values.

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## 24 **A popular saying:**

- "It takes a village to raise a child."
- I disagree!
- It takes a mom and a dad to train these precious lives in the way that they should go.
- When we leave it to the village they will pull our kids down every time!

## 25 **Nebuchadnezzar's Method:**

- Communists use of torture, deprivation followed by periods of reward to accomplish their goal.
- Nebuchadnezzar chose the opposite method – Indulge them with every luxury. . . .
- A clever scheme. . . .