

דָּנִיֵּאל

Daniel

The name “Daniel” means “God is my Judge” (others suggest the meaning “God is mighty”). Daniel lived out the meaning of his name. When he was challenged by a pagan culture to give up his faith in God, he chose to live in accordance with God’s commandments, and left the outcome to the Almighty.

Daniel was a young man when he, along with thousands of other Israelites, were taken captive after the defeat of Jerusalem to the Babylonian king, Nebuchadnezzar. Having destroyed the Temple and the city of Jerusalem, Nebuchadnezzar transported the defeated Israelites to Babylon where he enslaved them as his servants. He chose some of the best and brightest young men to become servants in his court, and he commanded the teachers of Babylon to train these young men in the culture and language of Babylon. Among those who were chosen were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah (Dan 1:6). In attempting to erase the Hebrew training and culture of these young men, he even gave them new names: “... to Daniel he assigned the name Belteshazzar, to Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael Meshach and to Azariah Abed-nego” (Dan 1:7).



But these particular young men had learned their lessons well as they were trained in the truths of God’s Torah. Even though the Babylonian king and his teachers attempted to erase the truths of God from their lives and actions, they remained firm in their convictions and obedience to God. Instead of eating the non-kosher food of the Babylonian palace, they requested that vegetables be given to them instead. God blessed their desire to obey Him, and gave them favor with the officials, so that they ate acceptable food, and remained physically healthy.

The king’s officials attempted to destroy the Hebrew men by making a decree that everyone needed to worship Nebuchadnezzar as a god. Once again, the young men refused to disobey God, and as a result, they were thrown into a furnace of fire. But God protected them, preserving their lives even in the fire. Daniel even openly prayed to God three times each day, and as a result, was thrown into a den of lions to be destroyed. Once again, God preserved Daniel’s life by shutting the mouths of lions. Daniel’s life is an example for us: we must obey God regardless of the cost, and remember that “God is my judge” and He will protect us.

Daniel

"God is my judge"

P U Y W N E B U C H A D N E Z Z A R C I C K T X X
G P E D Y W U J N V Q C X E H Q Q M Q P P N U W P
U M L N S Z E J J R J L N J S E R V A N T S L C K
E A Q I K P E P F O C N X J E Q K B D W C X W R A
D C D A O H O L D K A E F O E C X C W R Q Q L D O
E K P G O N S Y P C U U Y U R N Q C K Q P J S M L
Z S R W E V S T C M R B E V H B N D X T H L E E H
I B W I R G W D B N E H J R T P Q U P O L E L I Q
D E L P M A X E A U T T A C O C A U I A D I B L B
Z R A B R Y S C H X K P Q N J X A L V Z X N A I F
K K F R K R E B U Z M I E G A R R K Y A R A T J W
X I D J W C S N A W X I K O P N N X F R N D E C L
F J U N U N R U N B G H S P A N I D L I F G G T L
Y Y L D G O X N M S Y P J H F Y K A Q A F K E O X
X V W H E G V N U Q Z L B H A B U S H H S W V U D
R O A L F H Z P E V B P O Y L E N A M E S A C N E
J B L E T E S H A Z Z A R N K X L Z W C V A H Z E

DANIEL

BABYLON

NEBUCHADNEZZAR

HANANIAH

BLETESHAZZAR

MISHAEL

AZARIAH

LIONS

FURNACE

VEGETABLES

THREE

NAMES

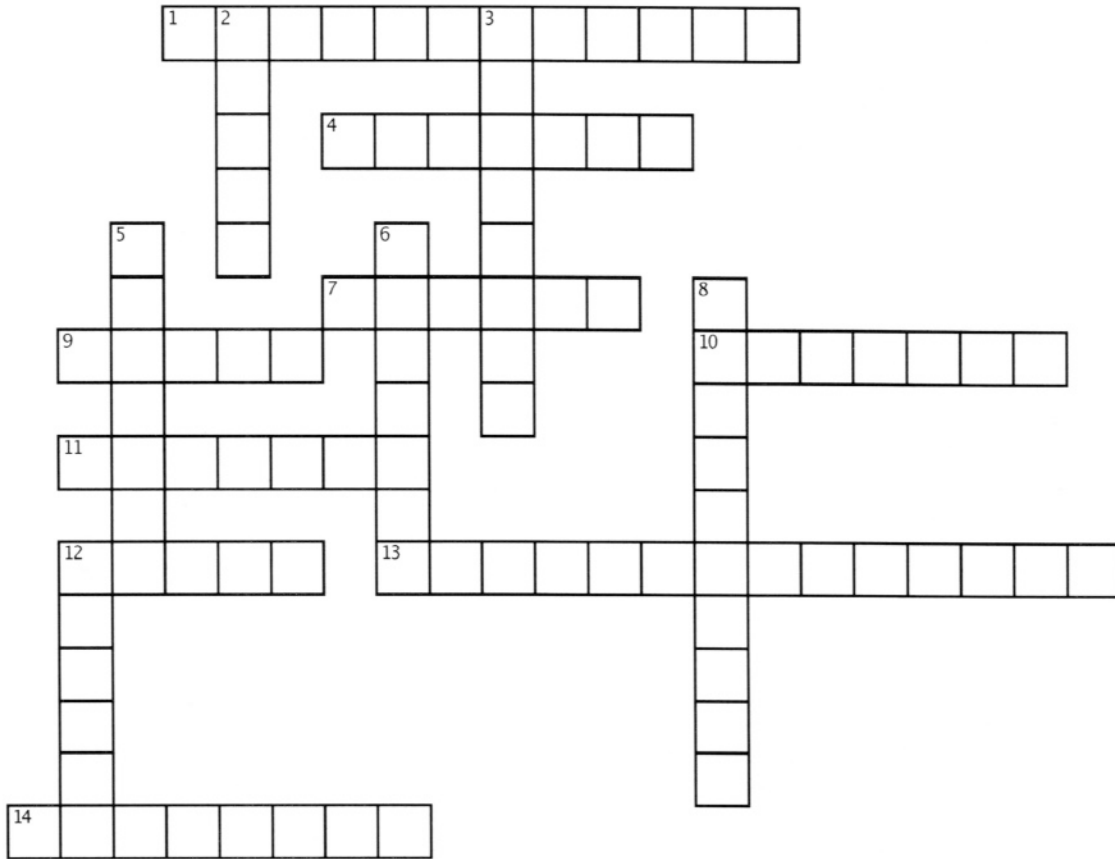
TEMPLE

SERVANTS

EXAMPLE

Daniel

"God is my judge"



Across

1. Daniel's name was changed to _____
4. Daniel's three friends were thrown into a _____ of fire
7. His name means "God is my judge"
9. The Babylonian king gave Daniel and his friends new _____
10. Daniel is a good _____ for us to follow
11. One of Daniel's friends whose name begins with M
12. Daniel prayed _____ times a day
13. The name of the Babylonian King
14. Nebuchadnezzar made the Israelites his _____

Down

2. Daniel was thrown into a den of _____
3. One of Daniel's friends whose name begins with H
5. One of Daniel's friends whose name begins with A
6. The country to which Daniel was exiled
8. Instead of eating unclean foods, Daniel and his friends requested _____
12. Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the _____ in Jerusalem



King Nebuchadnezzar saw the power and love of God when He protected the three men from death. But the king still didn't trust God himself. Six things are hidden in the picture. Can you find the fourth man in the furnace, the king, two soldiers, a horn, and a harp?



