

SUNDAY SERVICE 21st OCTOBER 2018
THE HAND OF GOD ON DANIEL

Daniel 1:1-7

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God. And he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his god. Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility, youths without blemish, of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. The king assigned them a daily portion of the food that the king ate, and of the wine that he drank. They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king. Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah of the tribe of Judah. And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.

The Lord gave them over.

This is a book that was written by Daniel

Notice the revelation he had about their deportation.

- They besieged it but it is God who allowed them to take them.
- The enemy had no power to take them.
- God gave them over.
- No amount of defense would have changed the situation.
- The Lord was behind it.

The fathers had sinned

- But the children were suffering for the fathers mistake
- The things we do sometimes affect our children.
- The things we go through may have been caused by our ancestors.
- Our lifestyles affect our generations to come.

Daniel did not complain against God.

- Did not consider God to be wicked for punishing them.
- Humbled himself under the will of God.
- Don't complain, stick with God.

The system valued human development.

- Human Resources is the most important resource.
- Develop yourself.
- Develop people around you.
- The best you can do is develop people.
- The Jews have a saying , that if you borrow money, spend it on education. If you can't pay they will take you to jail and but can't take what is in your brain.
- Our system here values papers. Educate yourself.
- Better yourself.

They changed their names.

- They wanted to change their identities.
- To make them Chaldeans.
- To show authority over them.

- That they should submit themselves
- To naturalize and change their identities

Daniel's name did not stick.

- The name Belteshazzar did not stick on Him.
- God did not allow it.
-