



Fill in the boxes by writing the letter that comes before each letter in the alphabet.

Therefore the LORD

N F S D Z

XBJUT

to be gracious to you, and therefore he



Answers: 1) Babylon, 2) Meshach, 3) Hananiah, 4) Healthier, 5) Judah, 6) Vegetables, 7) Daniel, 8) Azariah

himself to show

to you. For the

is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him. Isaiah 30:18

What You Heard In the Word

- · Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah obeyed God by refusing to eat foods forbidden by God and instead ate only vegetables and drank water.
- · God blessed the four young men with favor, good health, skill, wisdom, and positions within the palace.

OutWord For Family Discussion

Suppose you heard someone say that if a person becomes a Christian, he will have no more sickness, money troubles, or problems, but will have the best life ever. What could you say?

The Bible is clear that Christians will have a new life with Christ. Jesus said we will have life more abundantly. But that doesn't mean we will live longer and be richer. When you look at the whole Bible, you will see what Jesus was saying is that our life will be better because we know him and because he is with us in all we do. The Holy Spirit dwells in us to help us overcome sin. He gives us love and joy beyond measure. The things of this world pale in comparison to those things.

And when we have troubles—and the Bible says we will—we can go to the Creator of the universe for help. Christians also have hope—the hope of life forever with God someday. That's life more abundant!



Ini HomeWord For Parents

Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were brought from Judah to serve in the court of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon (Daniel 1:6). As captives, these men were given the rich food of the king's table to eat. But Daniel (and the others) would not defile themselves with the food and wine offered by the king. They wanted to obey God and his dietary laws given through Moses. The king's food had been dedicated to his false gods and was forbidden by God (Leviticus 11). Eating this food would be blending the worship of false gods with worship of the one true God. Daniel and his friends refused to compromise, knowing it could bring them trouble with the king.

God honored their loyalty and trust in him. After having only vegetables and water (Daniel 1:12-14), Daniel and his friends appeared better and healthier than the other young men who had eaten the king's rich food. Because they appeared so healthy, they were allowed to continue the diet that honored God. Further blessing from God came in the way of learning, skill, and wisdom. Daniel was also blessed with the gift to interpret visions and dreams (Daniel 1:17). And each of the men served the king in high positions (Daniel 2:48-49).

God rewarded the obedience of Daniel, Mishael, Hananiah, and Azariah. God preserved their lives and prospered them. They would face other tests in the future, but they would continue to honor and obey God. This is the attitude that all true followers of Jesus Christ should have. Trials will come. And as they do, we need to remember that Jesus said to expect tribulation (John 16:33). We should not be surprised by trouble but be obedient to God through our trials with Jesus as our example and the Holy Spirit empowering us. Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, he has overcome this world and all of its trouble.

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