

# Melbourne Community Church (MCC)

Sunday Service — April 23, 2023

## UPCOMING EVENTS (cont'd)



**07/10-14:** Vacation Bible School (VBS), ages 4-12. Volunteers and/or participants) signup starting now. <https://vbspro.events/p/0700ee>.



## Sermon Notes

**Last week:** “Daniel: ‘God is My Judge,’” [Daniel 1:1-2](#), by Brandon Harris, Teaching Pastor

Old Testament Reading: [Jeremiah 24](#); New Testament Reading: [Revelation 18:1-8](#)

**This week:** “Just no.’—Daniel,” [Daniel 1:1-21](#), by Brandon Harris, Teaching Pastor

Old Testament Reading: [Jeremiah 29:1-14](#); New Testament Reading: [1 Peter 2:11-17](#)

## The Captives: Royal Young Judahites, [vv. 3-7](#)

### What's in a Name

#### Hebrew Name

- Daniel  
⇒ “God is my judge”
- Hananiah  
⇒ “Yah has been gracious”
- Mishael  
⇒ “Who is like God?”
- Azariah  
⇒ “Yah has helped”

#### Babylonian Name

- Belteshazzar  
⇒ “Bel guard his life”
- Shadrach  
⇒ “command of Aku”
- Meshach  
⇒ “Who is like Aku?”
- Abednego  
⇒ “servant of Nabu”

### The Fate of the Captives in Babylon

- Forced to relocate to a foreign and hostile community
- Conscripted into the enemy’s service
- Compelled to learn, read, write, and speak the enemy’s language
- Involuntarily enrolled into the academy of the “dark arts”
- Renamed after the likeness of the enemy’s culture

## The Contest: *Conviction or Compromise*, [vv. 8-21](#)

What was the Babylonian official asking Daniel (and his three comrades) to do in eating from the king’s table?

(over)

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Who did the Babylonian official fear by feeding Daniel only vegetables and water?

What compromise did Daniel make that was a test of his faith?

What kinds of skills did the four men attain in their two years of preparation before being presented to king Nebuchadnezzar?

How wise and skilled were these men as attested to by the king?

How long did Daniel work in service to the Babylonian kings?

By what other name do we know the “wise men” of Babylon?

### Three Helpful Takeaways:

- God’s in charge of who’s in charge
  - ⇒ 3 times—*God gave*
    - ◇ “The Lord gave [them] into the hands of [Babylon],” [v. 2](#)
    - ◇ “God gave Daniel favor and mercy before the official,” [v. 9](#)
    - ◇ “God gave knowledge and understanding [to them],” [v. 17](#)
  - ⇒ Daniel’s witness to God’s promise (70 year exile)
    - ◇ Daniel came with the first wave of exiles ([1:1,6](#))
- *In but not Of*
  - ⇒ “My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.” [John 17:15-16](#)
- Wise & wide-eyed
  - ⇒ “I am sending you out like sheep among wolves, so be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.” [Matthew 10:16](#)

### Additional Notes:

### Internet Resources:

[The Bible Project Video: Daniel](#); [Download Daniel Overview Poster](#)

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