

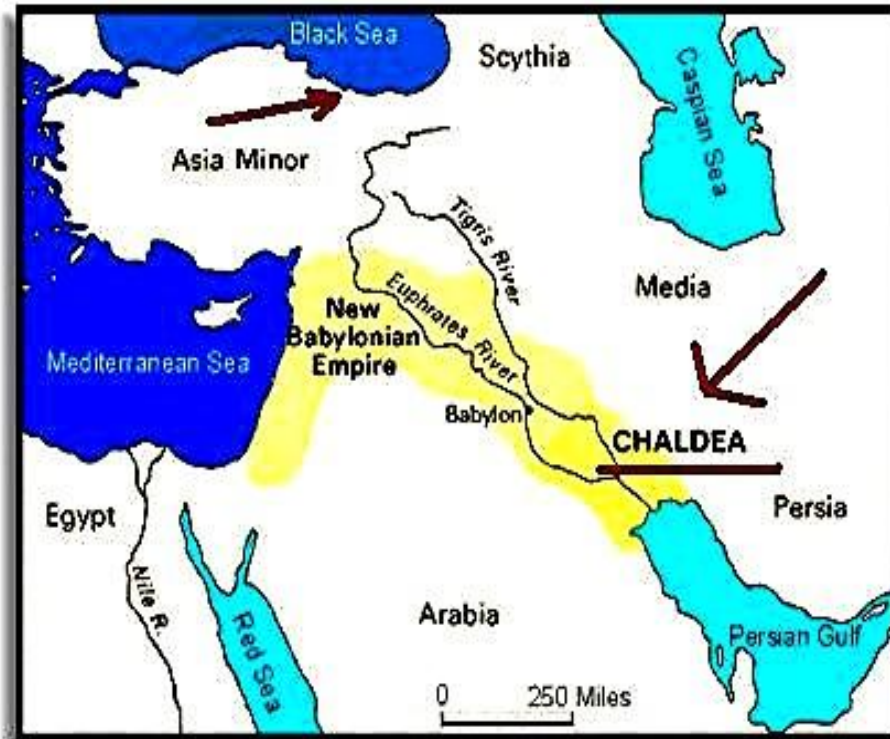
DANIEL AND FRIENDS TAKEN TO BABYLON IN 605 B.C.

- King Jehoiakim had broken a 3 year old vassal agreement
- Jerusalem damaged but not too badly
- Daniel and friends not slaves
- They were chosen for their intelligence, education, noble bearing and good looks



CHALDEANS

- *Kasdim* = Chaldeans
- At first spoken of as a territory near Babylon
- Later referred to as an elite class of intellectuals
- Chaldeans seem to have spoken Akkadian
- Language of the common folks was Aramaic
- Most folks were multi-lingual



BEING FED FROM THE KING'S TABLE



- They would receive the best food
- Chaldeans would give them a 3 year education
- **Daniel** = God has judged
- **Hananyah** = God is gracious
- **Mishael** = who is as God is?
- **Azaryah** = God has helped

THE 4 YOUTHS RECEIVE BABYLONIAN NAMES

- Symbolizes old life terminated; now a new life with new status
- *Daniel* = Belteshazzar
- *Hananyah* = Shadrakh
- *Mishael* = Meshack
- *Azaryah* = Aved-Nego
- Nego and Nebo probably the same
- Bel and Nebo were Babylonian gods



FOOD FIGHT !!

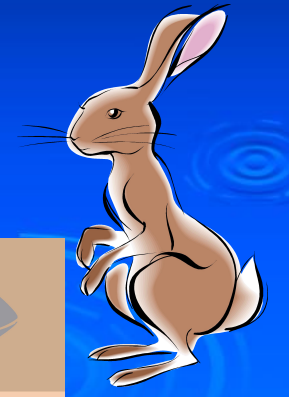
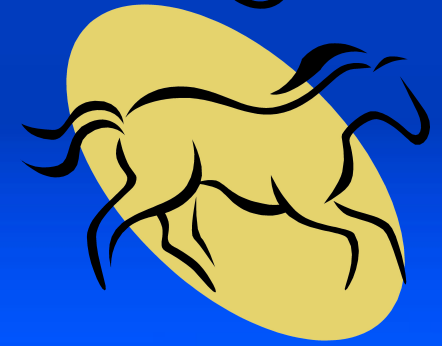
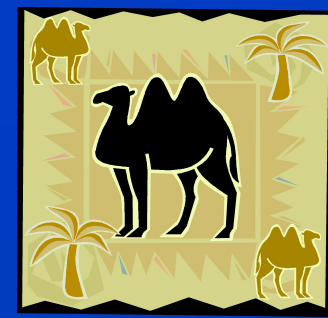
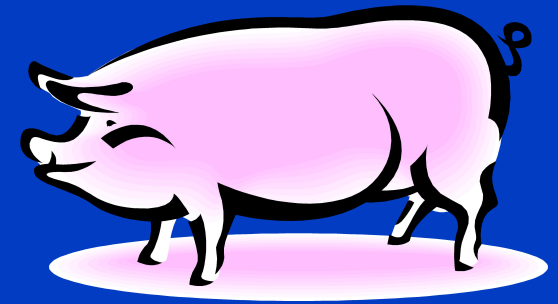


- Daniel says he can't eat the king's food as it would defile him
- Two distinct sets of Torah Laws
 - 1) Permissible vs. Prohibited
 - 2) Contamination of otherwise permissible food clean/unclean
- The issue of clean and unclean is about the handling of food, not a determination of which foods are permissible

PERMITTED



PROHIBITED



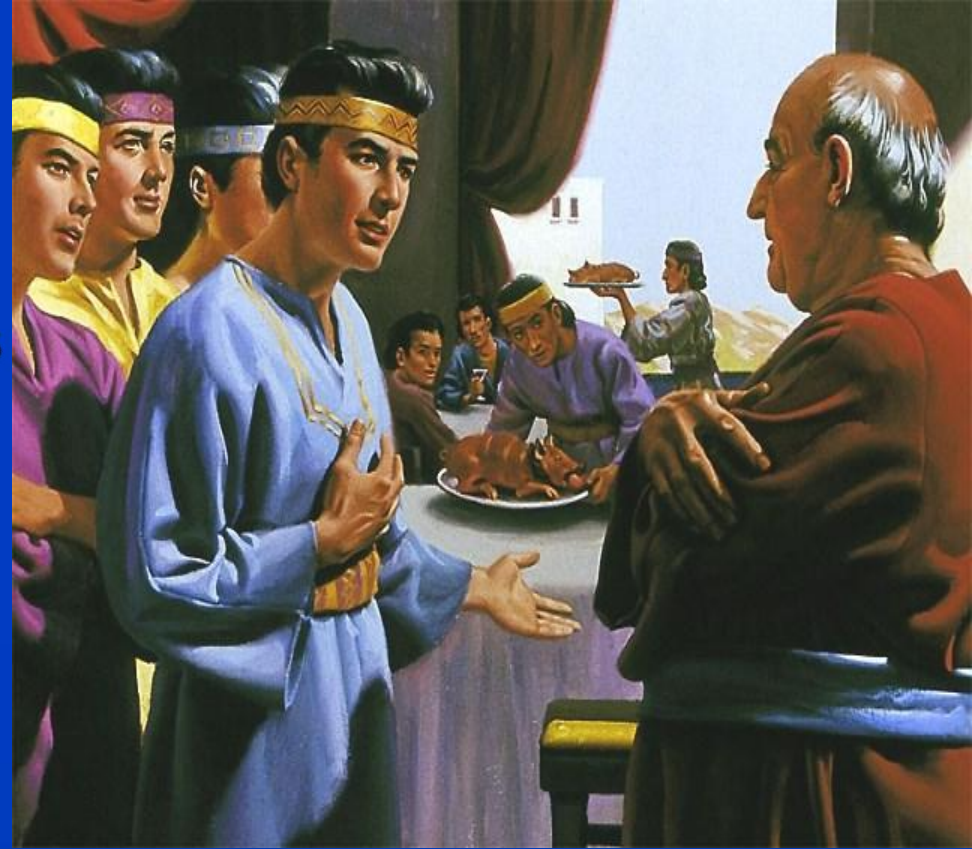
FOOD SACRIFICED TO IDOLS



- 1 Cor.8:4 – 7
- Dealing with gentiles
- Food is ONLY what is permissible in the Law of Moses
- Paul says since this idol is nothing, it cannot physically change the food
- People who don't know YHWH and the Torah don't know how it works
- It is a spiritual issue involving obedience and faith

ISSUE IS RITUAL DEFILEMENT

- Physically the King's food was edible and nutritious
- The chief officer was fearful that the boys wouldn't look good with such a restricted diet, he'd get in trouble
- Guard's name was Melzar
- A 10 day test was approved
- At the end of the test the 4 youths looked better than all the others who ate the King's food



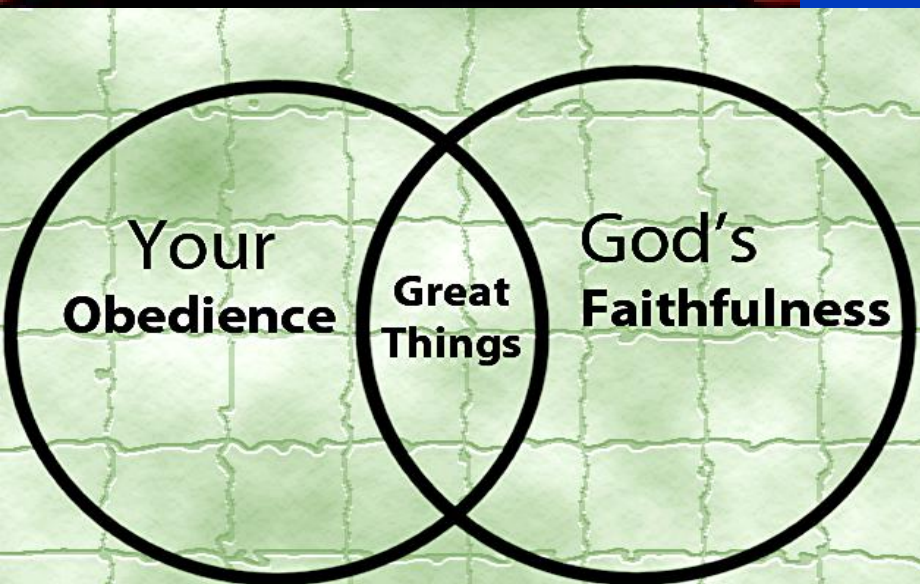
OBEDIENCE AS A PROPER RESPONSE



AS FOR ME AND MY HOUSE
WE WILL SERVE THE LORD



- The King's food was probably permissible food
- But it would have been ritually unclean
- The Law doesn't redeem
- A habitual determination to trespass against God's commandments may indicate lack of trust / faith
- The result was not a natural result; it was a supernatural blessing



ADAM AND EVE HAD A ONE COMMANDMENT TORAH !

- Nebuchadnezzar's purpose was to change the 4 youths' identities
- The King used 4 elements to do this: location, name, education and diet
- Gen. 2:15 – 17
- The only commandment given to Adam and Even was about food
- The food was delicious, but eating it caused sin to enter the world
- Obedience brings spiritual blessing
- Disobedience brings spiritual curse

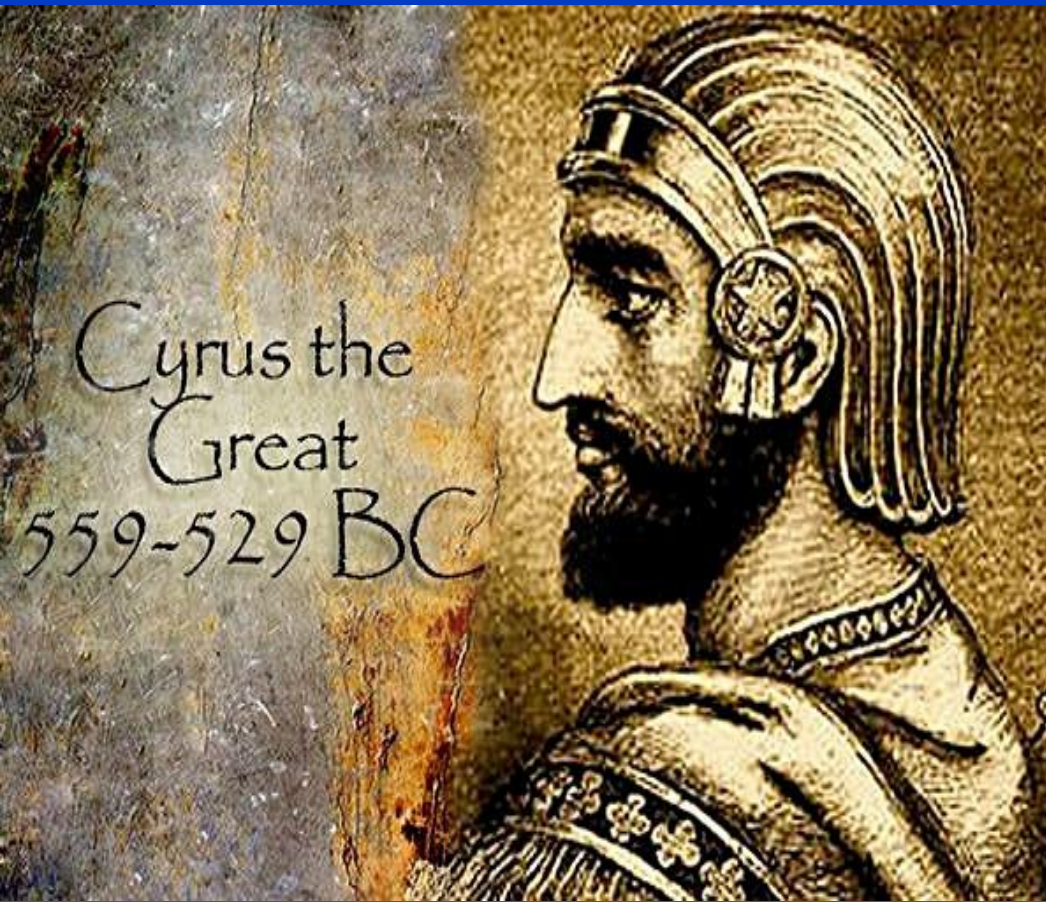


DANIEL GIVEN UNIQUE GIFT OF UNDERSTANDING VISIONS & DREAMS



- The spiritual gifts of learning and wisdom included ALL types
- But the wisdom gave them the ability to discern truth from falsehood
- Acts 7:22
- After 3 years of training Daniel and the 3 others were presented to the King
- He found them superior to all the others in his court

KING KORESH



- Bible Critics use this as evidence that Daniel is a fraud
- Dan. 1:21 Daniel with King Koresh “until the 1st year”
- Dan. 10:1 A word revealed to Daniel in Koresh’s 3rd year
- Bible Critics see this as a contradiction
- **Ad** = “up until”, or “while” or “during”