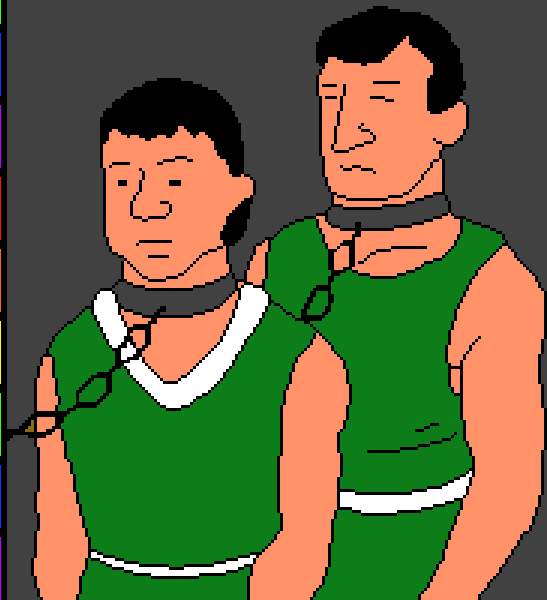


Bible for Children
presents

DANIEL
THE
CAPTIVE



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Daniel and his three friends lived in Israel. One day a great king came to their homeland and took all the smart young men away to his country. The king had a huge long name - Nebuchadnezzar - and he lived in a faraway country called Babylon.



The young men were treated very well in Babylon. The king had chosen the brightest and best young men from every country in the world. He planned to train them in the language of Babylon so they could become his servants and help him run the kingdom.



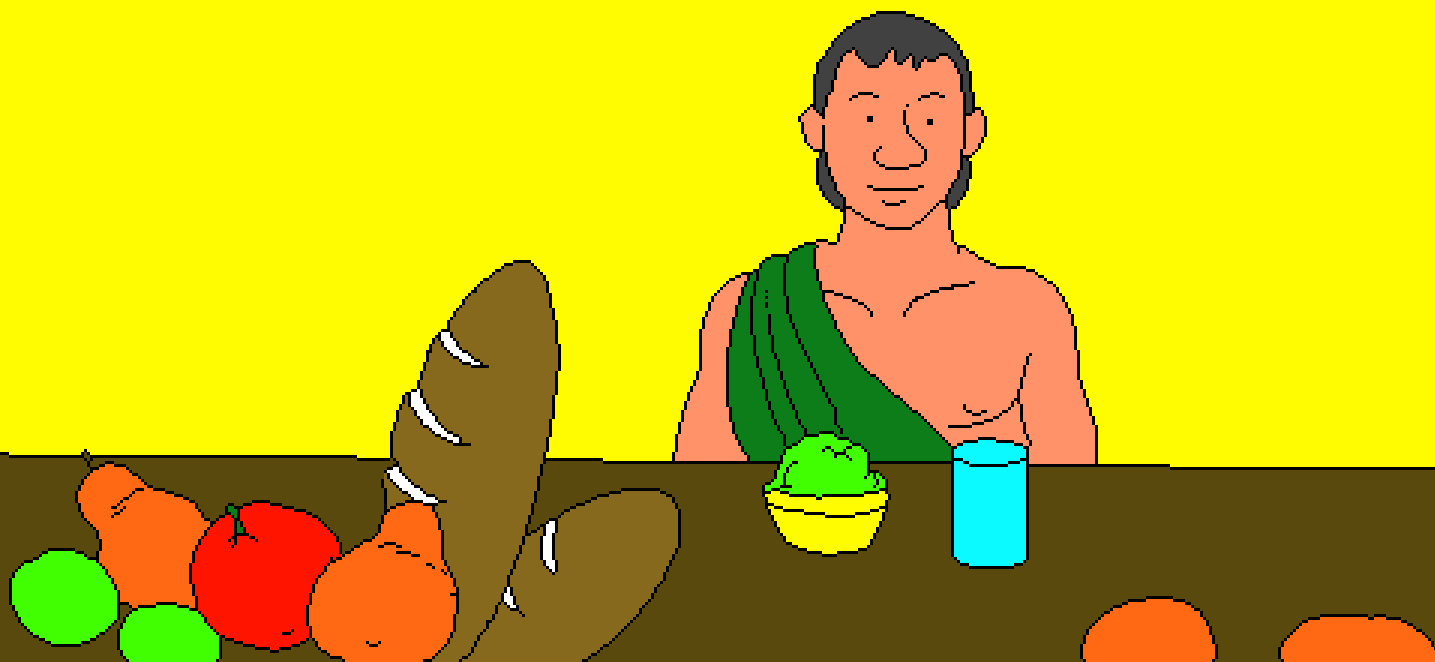
The food was good, too. The young men ate what the king ate. But Daniel and his friends did not want to eat the food because it had been devoted to false gods. Daniel had promised he would never do anything against his God. The God of Israel had commanded His people to have nothing to do with idols or false gods.



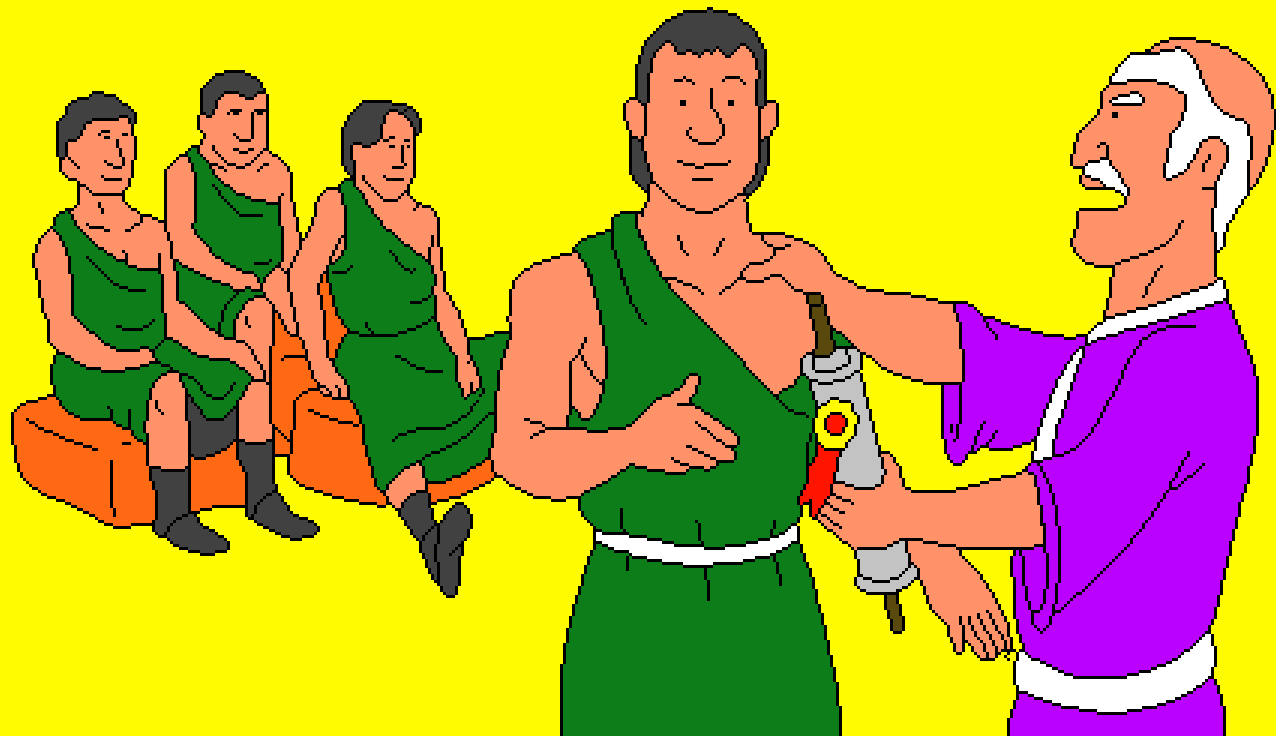
Daniel asked the person in charge of his training for permission not to eat the king's food. If the king found out, he would be very angry. But God had made Daniel a favorite with this man.

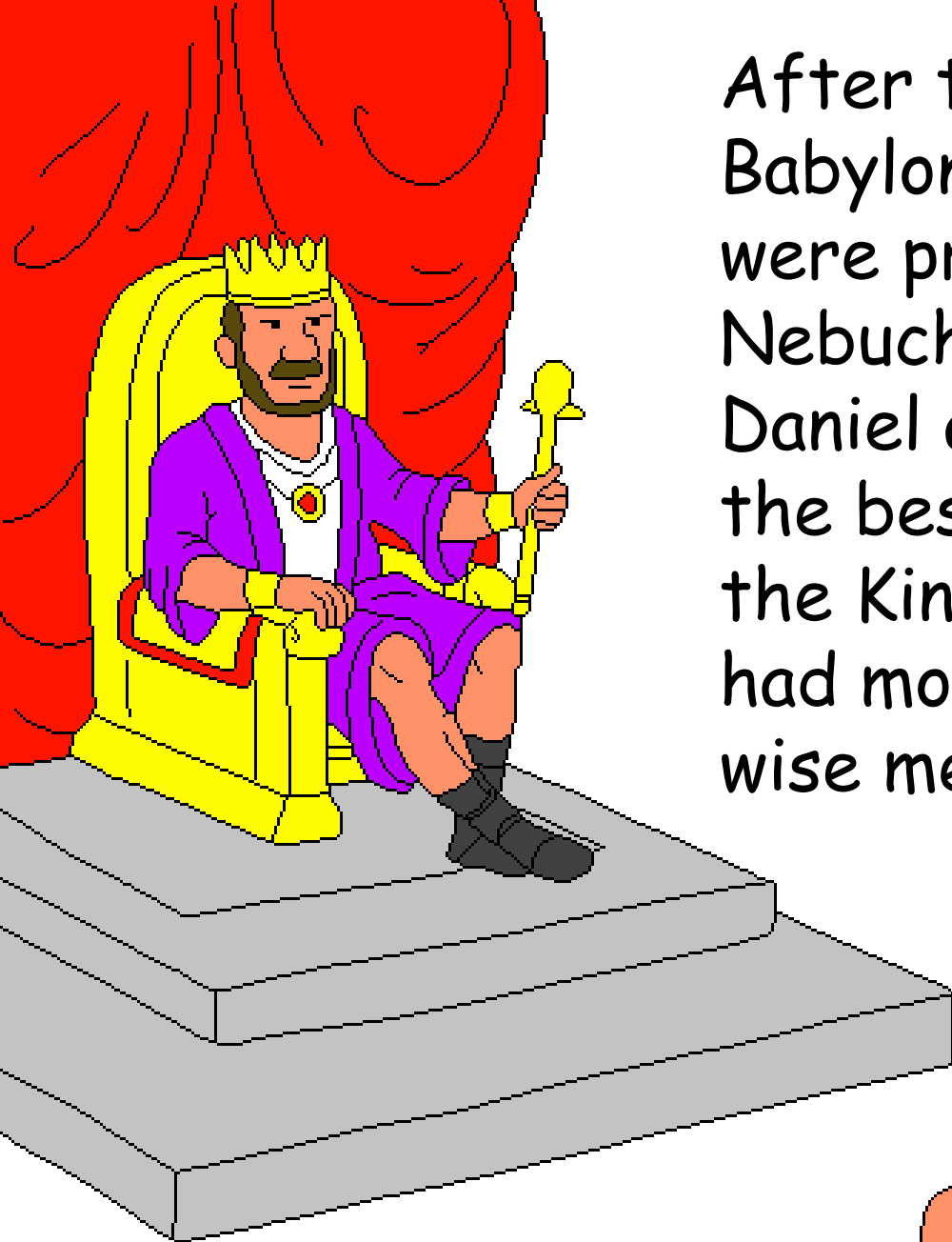


He agreed to give Daniel and his friends a test. For ten days they would eat only vegetables and drink only water. At the end of ten days Daniel and his friends looked much healthier than all the other young men who ate the king's food. So they were allowed to continue with vegetables and water.

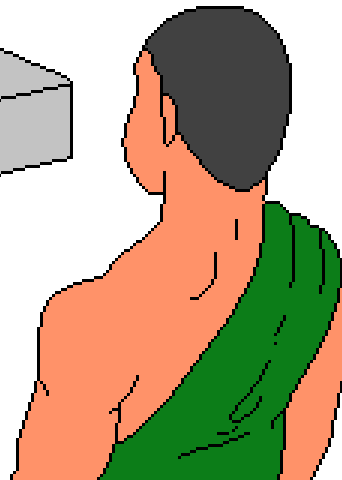


These young men honored God. And God honored them. God gave them knowledge and skill in the things they learned, and Daniel had wisdom to understand all visions and dreams.





After three years of school in Babylon, all the young men were presented to King Nebuchadnezzar. He picked Daniel and his three friends as the best of them all. In fact, the King discovered that Daniel had more wisdom than all the wise men in his kingdom.



One night, the king had a bad dream. He called for his magicians, astrologers and sorcerers to come and stand before him. The king said, "I have dreamed a dream, and my spirit is anxious to understand the dream."

The wise men answered, "O king, live for ever!

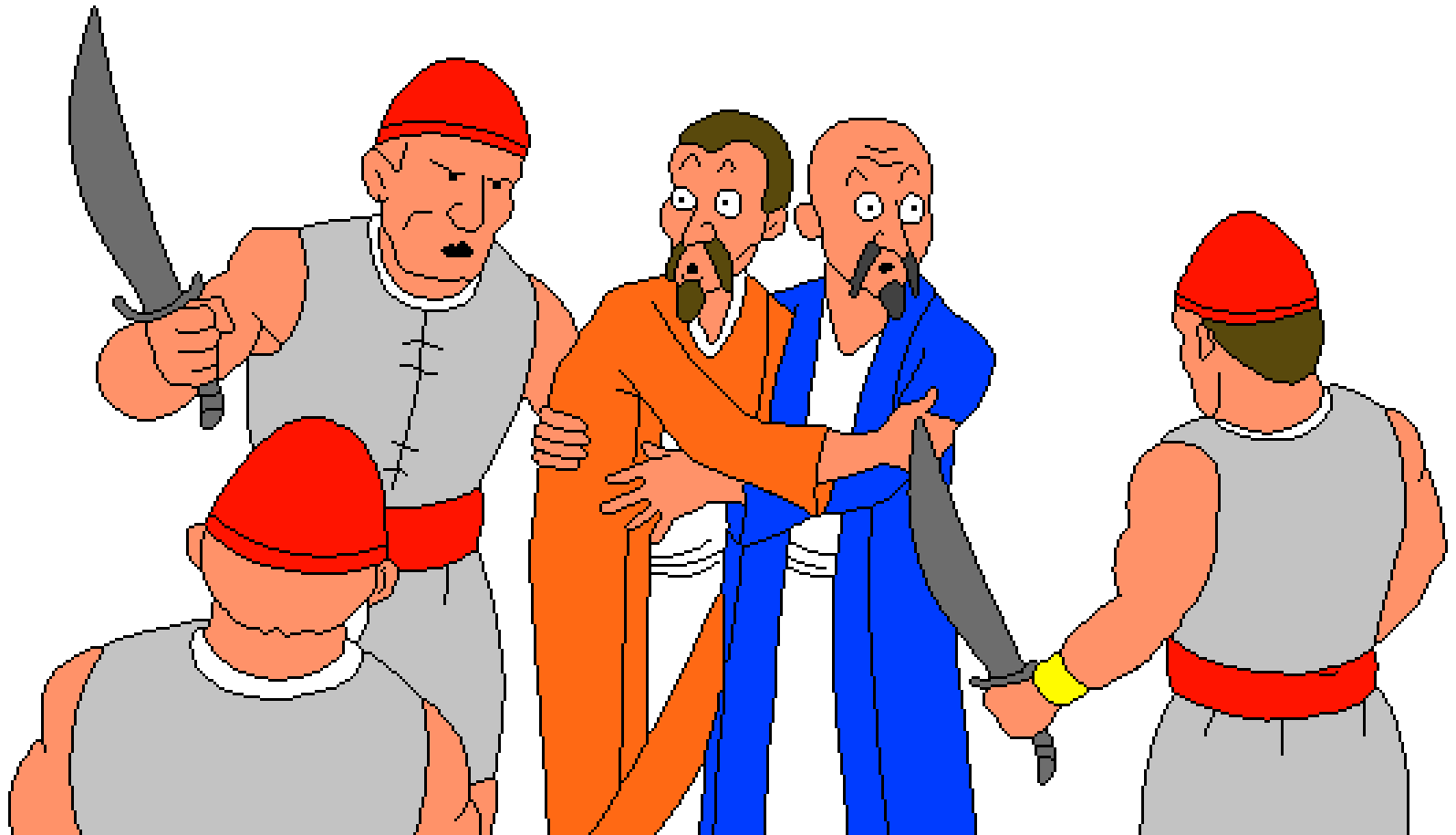
Tell your servants the dream, and we will tell you what it means."



The king responded, "No! You must tell me what I dreamed and what it means. If you don't, you will be cut in pieces and your houses burned! But if you tell me the dream and what it means," the king continued, "you will receive gifts and rewards and great honor." Of course, none of the wise men could tell the king his dream.



The king's wise men told the king, "There is not a man on the earth that can do what you ask. Only the gods can do that, and they don't live on earth." The king got very angry. "Destroy all the wise men of Babylon!" he commanded.



When the soldiers came for Daniel, he said to Arioch, the king's captain, "Why is the king destroying all the wise men?" Then Arioch told Daniel everything that had happened. Daniel went to see the king. He asked for more time so he could tell the king the meaning of his dream.



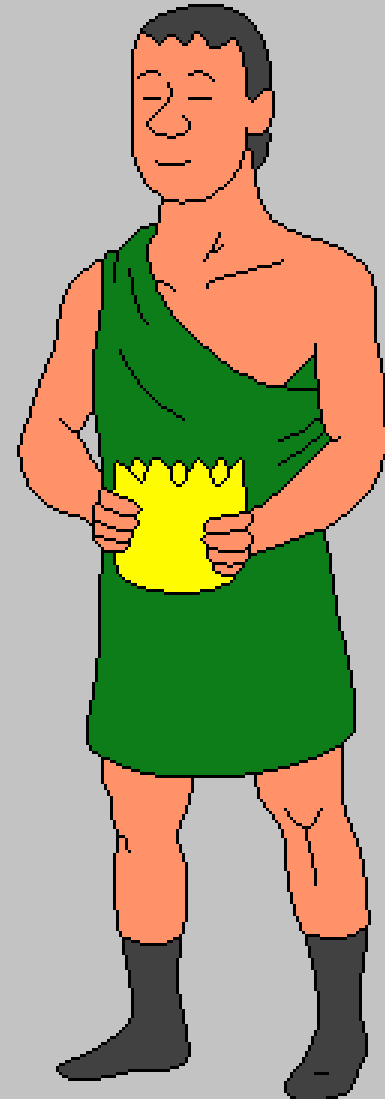
Then Daniel went to his house, and told everything to his friends Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Daniel didn't know what the dream was or what it meant, but he knew Somebody who knows everything. That Somebody is God. So, Daniel and his friends prayed.



God showed Daniel the dream and its meaning. Daniel blessed the God of heaven, saying, "Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever, for wisdom and might are His." Daniel hurried to the king and said to him, "There is a God in heaven who reveals secrets." He told the king what he had dreamed and what the dream meant.



When King Nebuchadnezzar heard the dream and its meaning, he fell down before Daniel and said, "Truly your God is a God of gods, and a Lord of kings, and a revealer of secrets, since you could reveal this secret!" Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts. He made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief over all the wise men of Babylon.



Daniel the Captive

A story from God's Word, the Bible,

is found in

Daniel 1 and 2

"The entrance of Your Words gives light."

Psalm 119:130



The End



This Bible story tells us about our wonderful God who made us and who wants us to know Him.

God knows we have done bad things, which He calls sin.

The punishment for sin is death, but God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and be punished for our sins. Then Jesus came back to life and went home to Heaven! If you believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive your sins, He will do it! He will come and live in you now, and you will live with Him forever.

If you want to turn from your sins, say this to God:

Dear God, I believe that Jesus died for me and now lives again. Please come into my life and forgive my sins, so that I can have new life now, and one day go to be with You forever. Help me to live for You as Your child. Amen.

Read the Bible and talk with God every day! John 3:16

