

## Daniel: The Hidden Story of Hanukkah

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### 1. Daniel 3:16-18

<sup>16</sup>Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego said in reply to the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter, <sup>17</sup>for if so it must be, our God whom we serve is able to save us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will save us from your power, O king. <sup>18</sup>But even if He does not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your god or worship the statue of gold that you have set up.”

### 2. Daniel 12:2-4

<sup>2</sup>Many of those that sleep in the dust of the earth will awake, some to eternal life, others to reproaches, to everlasting abhorrence. <sup>3</sup>And the knowledgeable will be radiant like the bright expanse of sky, and those who lead the many to righteousness will be like the stars forever and ever. <sup>4</sup>“But you, Daniel, keep the words secret, and seal the book until the time of the end. Many will range far and wide and knowledge will increase.”

### 3. Megillah 3a

And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision; for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, and they fled to hide themselves. Who were these men? R. Jeremiah or some say, R. Hiyya b. Abba said: These were Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi. They were superior to him [in one way], and he was superior to them [in another]. They were superior to him, because they were prophets and he was not a prophet. He was superior to them, because he saw [on this occasion] and they did not see.

### 4. Daniel chapter 1

<sup>5</sup>The king allotted daily rations to them from the king’s food and from the wine he drank...<sup>8</sup>Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the king’s food or the wine he drank, so he sought permission of the chief officer not to defile himself... <sup>11</sup>Daniel replied to the guard whom the chief officer had put in charge of Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, <sup>12</sup>“Please test your servants for ten days, giving us legumes to eat and water to drink.

### 5. Daniel chapter 2

<sup>1</sup>In the second year of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, Nebuchadnezzar had a dream; his spirit was agitated, yet he was overcome by sleep. <sup>2</sup>The king ordered the magicians, exorcists, sorcerers, and Chaldeans to be summoned in order to tell the king what he had dreamed. They came and stood before the king, <sup>3</sup>and the king said to them, “I have had a dream and I am full of anxiety to know what I have dreamed.” <sup>4</sup>The Chaldeans spoke to the king in Aramaic, “O king, live forever! Relate the dream to your servants, and we will tell its meaning.” <sup>5</sup>The king said in reply to the Chaldeans, “I hereby decree: If you will not make the dream and its meaning known to me, you shall be torn limb from limb and your houses confiscated. <sup>6</sup>But if you tell the dream and its meaning, you shall receive from me gifts, presents, and great honor; therefore, tell me the dream and its meaning.”...<sup>10</sup>The Chaldeans said in reply to the king, “There is no one on earth who can satisfy the king’s demand, for great king or ruler—none has ever asked such a thing of any magician, exorcist, or Chaldean. <sup>11</sup>The thing asked by the king is difficult; there is no one who can tell it to the king except the gods whose abode is not among mortals.” <sup>12</sup>Whereupon the king flew into a violent rage, and gave an order to do away with all the wise men of Babylon.

<sup>13</sup>The decree condemning the wise men to death was issued. Daniel and his companions were about to be put to death..<sup>19</sup>The mystery was revealed to Daniel in a night vision; then Daniel blessed the God of Heaven.

### 6. Daniel chapter 9

<sup>2</sup>in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, consulted the books concerning the number of years that, according to the word of the LORD that had come to Jeremiah the prophet, were to be the term of Jerusalem’s desolation—seventy years...<sup>21</sup>while I was uttering my prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had previously seen in the vision, was sent forth in flight and reached me about the time of the evening offering. <sup>22</sup>He made me understand by speaking to me and saying, “Daniel, I have just come forth to give you understanding...”<sup>24</sup>“Seventy weeks have been decreed for your people and your holy city until the measure of transgression is filled and that of sin complete, until iniquity is expiated, and eternal righteousness ushered in; and prophetic vision ratified, and the Holy of Holies anointed.

### 7. Bava Batra 15a

The Men of the Great Assembly wrote (Mnemonic KNDG) Ezekiel, the Twelve Minor Prophets, Daniel and the Scroll of Esther.

8. Berakhot 4a

Till Your people pass over, O Lord: this is the first entry [into the Land]. Till the people pass over that You have gotten: this is the second entry. Hence the Sages say: The intention was to perform a miracle for Israel in the days of Ezra, even as it was performed for them in the days of Joshua bin Nun, but sin caused [the miracle to be withheld].

### THE FOUR KINGDOMS

	1	2	3	4
Hazal, Rashi, Ramban	Babylonia	Persia/Media	Greece	Rome
Ibn Ezra	Babylonia	Persia/Media	Greece/Rome	Ishmael
R. Sa'adyah Ralbag Abarbanel (6:1) Malbim (2:42)	Babylonia	Persia/Media	Greece	Rome/Ishmael
R. Yosef Albo	Babylonia	Media	Persia	Greece/Rome
R. Hayyim Galippapa (14 <sup>th</sup> c. Spain) Da'at Mikra R. Yaakov Medan	Babylonia	Media	Persia	Greece