

## ~ABEDNEGO (242)

(A-bed'ne-go) [probably, Servant of Nebo, a Babylonian god]

- The name given to Azariah, one of the youths of the Jewish royalty or nobility taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar in 617 B.C.E.
- Then the king said to Ashpenaz his chief court official to bring some of the sons of Israel and of the royal offspring and of the nobles. (Daniel 1:3)
- Children in whom there was no defect at all, but good in appearance and having insight into all wisdom and being acquainted with knowledge, and having discernment of what is known, in whom also there was ability to stand in the palace of the king, and to teach them the writing and the tongue of the Chaldeans. (Daniel 1:4)
- And to them the principal court official went assigning names. So he assigned to Daniel the name of Belteshazzar, and to Hananiah, Shadrach, and to Mishael, Meshach, and to Azariah, **Abednego**. (Daniel 1:7)
- Some scholars believe **Nego** to be an intentional corruption of the name Nebo, a Babylonian god, so as not to offend Azariah. The name **Azariah** means, **Yehowah Has Helped**, and it appears that these Hebrews, among themselves, continued to use their original names.

## See Also NEBO 4

- After that Daniel went to his own house, and to Hananiah, Mishael and **Azariah** his companions he made known the matter. (Daniel 2:17)
- In Babylon he, along with Daniel, Hananiah, and Mishael, passed, with high honors, a three-year training course and a regal examination personally conducted by Nebuchadnezzar, after having first demonstrated religious integrity in matters of food and drink.
- Children in whom there was no defect at all, but good in appearance and having insight into all wisdom and being acquainted with knowledge, and having discernment of what is

known, in whom also there was ability to stand in the palace of the king, and to teach them the writing and the tongue of the Chaldeans. (**Daniel 1:4**)

- Furthermore, to them the king appointed a daily allowance from the delicacies of the king and from his drinking wine, even to nourish them for three years, that at the end of these they might stand before the king. (**Daniel 1:5**)
- But Daniel determined in his heart that he would not pollute himself with the delicacies of the king and with his drinking wine. And he kept requesting of the principal court official that he might not pollute himself. (**Daniel 1:8**)
- Accordingly the true God gave Daniel over to loving-kindness and to mercy before the principal court official. (**Daniel 1:9**)
- So the principal court official said to Daniel; I am in fear of my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink. Why, then, should he see your faces dejected-looking in comparison with the children who are of the same age as yours, and why should you have to make my head guilty to the king? (**Daniel 1:10**)
- But Daniel said to the guardian whom the principal court official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and **Azariah**. (**Daniel 1:11**)
- Please, put your servants to the test for ten days, and let them give us some vegetables that we may eat and water that we may drink. (**Daniel 1:12**)
- And let our countenances and the countenance of the children who are eating the delicacies of the king appear before you, and according to what you see do with your servants. (**Daniel 1:13**)
- Finally he listened to them as regards this matter and put them to the test for ten days. (**Daniel 1:14**)
- And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the children who were eating the delicacies of the king. (**Daniel 1:15**)
- So the guardian kept on taking away their delicacies and their

drinking wine and giving them vegetables. ([Daniel 1:16](#))

- And as for these children, the four of them, to them the true God gave knowledge and insight in all writing and wisdom. Daniel himself had understanding in all sorts of visions and dreams. ([Daniel 1:17](#))
- And at the end of the days that the king had said to bring them in, the principal court official also proceeded to bring them in before Nebuchadnezzar. ([Daniel 1:18](#))
- And the king began to speak with them, and out of them all no one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and **Azariah**. They continued to stand before the king. ([Daniel 1:19](#))
- And as regards every matter of wisdom and understanding that the king inquired about from them, he even got to find them ten times better than all the magic-practicing priests and the conjurers that were in all his royal realm. ([Daniel 1:20](#))
- Later, at Daniel's request, the king made Azariah and his two companions administrators over the jurisdictional district of Babylon.
- And Daniel, for his part, made a request of the king, and he appointed over the administration of the jurisdictional district of Babylon Shadrach, Meshach and **Abednego**, but Daniel was in the court of the king. ([Daniel 2:49](#))
- **Abednego, Azariah**, along with his two Hebrew companions, was subsequently denounced before the king by certain Chaldeans for refusing to bow down to the king's golden image in response to particular music.
- That at the time that you hear the sound of the horn, the pipe, the zither, the triangular harp, the stringed instrument, the bagpipe and all sorts of musical instruments, you fall down and worship the image of gold that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up. ([Daniel 3:5](#))
- Because of this, at that same time certain Chaldeans approached and accused the Jews. ([Daniel 3:8](#))
- There exist certain Jews whom you appointed over the administration of the jurisdictional district of Babylon, Shadrach,

**Meshach and Abednego.** These able-bodied men have paid no regard to you, O king, they are not serving your own gods, and the image of gold that you have set up they are not worshipping. (Daniel 3:12)

- **When they were questioned by the enraged king, their firm refusal to violate their conscience and their expression of faith in Yehowah resulted in the kings having them thrown into a superheated furnace, where they were miraculously protected by God's angelic representative. Following their release by the shaken king, and after members of the royal court saw that the three men had escaped unharmed, they were restored to royal favor.**
- **Now if you are ready so that when you hear the sound of the horn, the pipe, the zither, the triangular harp, the stringed instrument, and the bagpipe and all sorts of musical instruments, you fall down and worship the image that I have made, all right. But if you do not worship, at that same moment you will be thrown into the burning fiery furnace. And who is that god that can rescue you out of my hands? (Daniel 3:15)**
- **Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego answered, and they were saying to the king; O Nebuchadnezzar, we are under no necessity in this regard to say back a word to you. (Daniel 3:16)**
- **If it is to be, our God whom we are serving is able to rescue us. Out of the burning fiery furnace and out of your hand, O king, he will rescue us. (Daniel 3:17)**
- **But if not, let it become known to you, O king, that your gods are not the ones we are serving, and the image of gold that you have set up we will not worship. (Daniel 3:18)**
- **Then it was that Nebuchadnezzar himself got filled with fury, and the very expression of his face was changed toward Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. He was answering and saying to heat up the furnace seven times more than it was customary to heat it up. (Daniel 3:19)**
- **And to certain able-bodied men of vital energy who were in his military force he said to bind Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, in order to throw them into the burning fiery furnace. (Daniel 3:20)**

- Then it was that these able-bodied men were bound in their mantles, their garments and their caps and their other clothing and were thrown into the burning fiery furnace. ([Daniel 3:21](#))
- Just because the king's word was harsh and the furnace was heated to excess, these able-bodied men that took up Shadrach, Meshach and **Abednego** were the ones that the fiery flame killed. ([Daniel 3:22](#))
- But these other able-bodied men, the three of them, Shadrach, Meshach and **Abednego**, fell down bound in the midst of the burning fiery furnace. ([Daniel 3:23](#))
- At that time Nebuchadnezzar the king himself became frightened and he rose up in a hurry. He was answering and saying to his high royal officials; Was it not three able-bodied men that we threw bound into the midst of the fire? They were answering and saying to the king; Yes, O king. ([Daniel 3:24](#))
- He was answering and saying; Look! I am beholding four able-bodied men walking about free in the midst of the fire, and there is no hurt to them, and the appearance of the fourth one is resembling a son of the gods. ([Daniel 3:25](#))
- Then it was that Nebuchadnezzar approached the door of the burning fiery furnace. He was answering and saying; Shadrach, Meshach and **Abednego**, you servants of the Most High God, step out and come here! At that time Shadrach, Meshach and **Abednego** were stepping out from the midst of the fire. ([Daniel 3:26](#))
- And the satraps, the prefects and the governor's and the high officials of the king that were assembled were beholding these able-bodied men, that the fire had had no power over their bodies, and not a hair of their head had been singed, and even their mantles had not been changed and the smell of fire itself had not come onto them. ([Daniel 3:27](#))
- Nebuchadnezzar was answering and saying; Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and **Abednego**, who sent his angel and rescued his servants that trusted in him and that changed the very word of the king and gave over their bodies, because they would not serve and would not worship any god at all except their own God. ([Daniel 3:28](#))

- And from me an order is being put through, that any people, national group or language that says anything wrong against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and **Abednego** should be dismembered, and its house should be turned into a public privy, forasmuch as there does not exist another god that is able to deliver like this one. (**Daniel 3:29**)
- At that time the king himself caused Shadrach, Meshach and **Abednego** to prosper in the jurisdictional district of Babylon. (**Daniel 3:30**)

**See Also MESHACH**  
**See Also SHADRACH**