

The City of Babylon

The city of Babylon is referred to multiple times in the Bible, and a search brings up the name “Babylon” more than 250 times. Major references to the city are found in the books of Daniel, Jeremiah, and Isaiah, as well as others. The city is also related to the story of the Tower of Babel.¹

Well-known biblical links to the city of Babylon have to do with the prophet Daniel and his three friends, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.² As noble Jewish teenagers in the city of Jerusalem, they and many others were taken as captives to the city of Babylon by Nebuchadnezzar’s government after Jerusalem had been conquered by the Babylonian Empire.³

Daniel lived the majority of his life in Babylon, diligently serving King Nebuchadnezzar and his successors in respected positions while remaining true to the God of Israel and being a positive influence for God.

The Hanging Gardens of Babylon were considered one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. Another famous site was the Ishtar Gate, built during the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, the eighth gate to the inner city of Babylon.⁴

Footnotes:

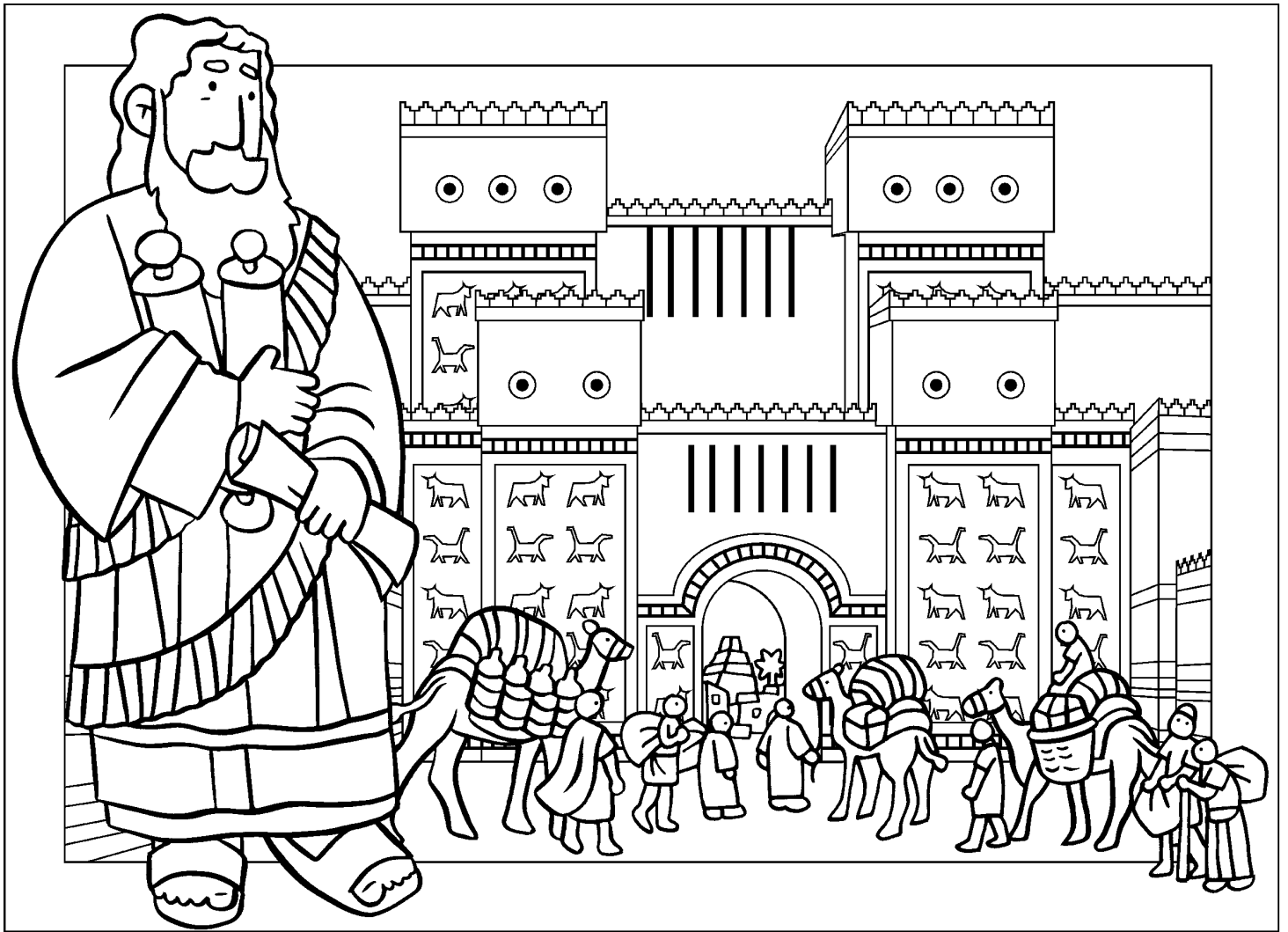
¹ Genesis 11:1–9

² Names given to them in Babylon were Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

³ See Daniel 2, 3, and 6 for three

miraculous stories of these four in Babylon.

⁴ A reconstruction of the Ishtar Gate can be seen in the Pergamon museum in Berlin, Germany.



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