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## Reading Notes

<b>myrrh blossoms</b>	balm of Gilead; used in perfume and incense
<b>tetrarch</b>	governor of one-fourth of a country in Roman Empire
<b>bar</b>	Aramaic for “son”
<b>synagogue</b>	Jewish place of meeting for worship or religious study
<b>rabbi</b>	master; person trained in Jewish law, ritual, and tradition
<b>scribe</b>	copyist of manuscripts and documents
<b>Zealot</b>	member of a Jewish movement in the 1st century A.D. that fought against Roman rule
<b>legionaries</b>	members of Roman legion, which consisted of 3,000-6,000 infantry and 100-200 cavalry

## Vocabulary

Write the meaning of each bold word or phrase.

1. splashed with **burgeoning** thickets of oleander. v. growing, flourishing
2. splashed with burgeoning thickets of **oleander**. n. evergreen shrub with showy flowers
3. He looked down at his bare **calloused** feet adj. toughened, hardened
4. his back still raw from the last **flogging**. n. a beating with a whip as punishment

## Expressions for Discussion

1. *“No one is free. So long as the land is cursed by the Romans.”* - Daniel, p. 9
2. *“All the mighty ones. Joshua, Gideon, David, all of them fought on the soil of Galilee. No one could stand against them. It will be so again.”* - Daniel, p. 11

## Comprehension Questions

Answer the following in complete sentences.

1. Why is Daniel “puzzled and uneasy” about the two strangers climbing the mountain? \_\_\_\_\_  
They remind him of the village he had left behind and thought he wanted to forget, but he is drawn to them as a link to his past.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. How does Daniel know that Joel is not a coward? \_\_\_\_\_  
Joel clenches his hands in preparation for defending Malthace and himself when Daniel approaches them. Daniel thought they would run, rather than face his rough appearance.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Why would the men in the cave have “hooted” if they could see Daniel washing his hands before a meal? \_\_\_\_\_  
When Daniel moved into the mountains, he quit observing the strict Jewish laws. The men in the cave lived rough, dirty lives, and handwashing before a meal would not have been a consideration.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. How does Joel’s view of the Romans differ from Malthace’s view? \_\_\_\_\_  
Malthace thinks that the Roman captivity is only temporary and that deliverance from God will come eventually. Joel, like Daniel, despises the Romans and is in favor of an active move to oust them from Palestine.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. How is Daniel able to show Joel and Malthace that he is not an ignorant savage or simply a runaway slave? \_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel knows the story of Joshua marching against the heathen kings. He knows who Joshua, Gideon, and David were and their histories, proving he has some education.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions / Enrichment

1. Where do you think the Jewish ritual of handwashing before a meal originated?
2. Was being a rabbi a full-time occupation?
3. Why do the Jewish people have such animosity towards the Romans?

## Reading Notes

<b>galley</b>	a seagoing vessel propelled mainly by oars
<b>litter</b>	a vehicle that is carried, consisting of a bed or couch, covered and curtained, suspended between shafts
<b>blacksmith</b>	one who forges and shapes iron with a hammer and anvil
<b>barley bread</b>	bread made with the grain of barley grass

## Vocabulary

Write the meaning of each bold word or phrase.

1. The cause of the **fracas** stood motionless \_\_\_\_\_ n. a noisy disturbance or quarrel
2. Rosh waved a greasy **mutton** bone in his direction. \_\_\_\_\_ n. flesh of sheep used for food
3. It was not the first time he had removed **manacles**. \_\_\_\_\_ n. handcuffs (Latin: *manus*)
4. After an **interminable** time \_\_\_\_\_ adj. endless, tediously long
5. The black eyes ... looked like bits of polished **basalt**. \_\_\_\_\_ n. volcanic rock

## Expressions for Discussion

1. *“What kind of patriots are you? We’ll have no slaves on this mountain. He’s one of us—get that through your heads. I’ll double the watch so you pigeonhearted can sleep. But the man sleeps free.”*  
- Rosh, about Samson, pp. 25-26
2. *“Rosh is the finest leader you could ask for. He pretends to be careless, but actually he leaves nothing to chance, not the slightest trifle. He has eyes in the back of his head. That’s why he’s been successful, and his band is growing, while other bands break apart or get captured. And he is afraid of nothing on earth, nothing. He laughs at the Romans.”* - Daniel, to Samson, p. 27

## Comprehension Questions

Answer the following in complete sentences.

1. Why is Daniel disgusted and disappointed when he sees the man in the caravan with the purple and yellow headdress? The man is fat, out of breath, and scared. Daniel thinks Rosh doesn't trust him with a real challenge, and so is giving him the easy target to subdue.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. Why does Daniel "step forward and speak first" when Rosh notices Joel? Rosh was looking at Joel with hostility, so Daniel wants to protect him from Rosh's anger by introducing him as a friend to their cause, not an enemy.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. How does Daniel know that Rosh will allow Joel to return to the village even after witnessing the attack on the tradesmen? Daniel knows that Rosh has had a price on his head in the village for far too long to be threatened by anything Joel could go to the village and say about him.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Why are Rosh's men fearful of the slave? Why does Daniel volunteer to take the slave up the mountain? The slave is a powerful giant of a man who shows an animal wariness. Daniel wants to prove himself to Rosh since Joel had found favor with Rosh. He is jealous of Joel.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. What evidence exists to suggest that Daniel and Samson might become friends?  
Samson gives Daniel credit for freeing him since Daniel was the one to remove his chains.  
Daniel covers Samson for the night and is not afraid of him. They already show signs of trusting each other.  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions / Enrichment

1. What is the only requirement of those who join Rosh's band? What do you think about it?
2. Rosh's men debate on whether to call the slave Samson or Goliath. Using knowledge of both stories, why do you think they settled upon Samson? In your opinion, was this a good choice? Why or why not?
3. Research. Samson was considered "too good to waste on the galleys." What are the "galleys"? What was life like on the galleys for slaves during this time?
4. When Joel leaves the mountain, he and Daniel have a "wordless exchange that was both a farewell and a beginning." In a one-page paper, provide specific examples that support their relationship as potential friends and/or enemies.

## Reading Notes

<b>mezuzah</b>	parchment scroll with the words of the Shema
<b>Shema</b>	Deuteronomy 6:4-9
<b>ketzah</b>	Hebrew for black cummin (an herb)

## Vocabulary

Write the meaning of each bold word or phrase.

1. What thoughts went on behind that **impassive** face? \_\_\_\_\_ adj. expressionless, emotionless
2. **Chagrined**, Daniel hastened to find the coolest water \_\_\_\_\_ adj. embarrassed, mortified
3. they reached a small **ford** that crossed a mountain stream. \_\_\_\_\_ n. shallow place in a river
4. a watery stew made of **lentils** \_\_\_\_\_ n. bean-like seeds
5. which had by law to be left for **paupers** to gather. \_\_\_\_\_ n. extremely poor people
6. filled the room with a **rancid** odor. \_\_\_\_\_ adj. rank, foul-smelling

## Expressions for Discussion

1. *“Praised be Thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, Who hast sanctified us by Thy commandments and commanded us to kindle the Sabbath light.”* - Daniel, p. 39

## Discussion Questions / Enrichment

1. What is the significance of the ram’s horn sounded as the first call to the Sabbath?
2. What is the “Sabbath lamp”?
3. Explain the law that said sheaves had to be dropped for paupers to gather.
4. What was the mezuzah?

## Comprehension Questions

Answer the following in complete sentences.

1. In the opening paragraph of Chapter 3, explain what Daniel and Samson are doing. \_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel and Samson are smelting iron. To smelt means to melt ores to separate the metallic components.

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2. Although Samson helps Daniel with many of his chores, at times Daniel hates him. What is Daniel's reason for this hatred? \_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel is feeling smothered by Samson because he follows him around all the time, and Daniel even has to remember to feed him and give him water because Samson will never ask for anything from Daniel.

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3. How did Simon the Zealot know that Daniel was alive and hiding in the mountains? \_\_\_\_\_  
Joel gave Simon Daniel's message that he was fine and living in the mountains.

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4. Why is Daniel able to finally return to the village? Why is he hesitant to return? \_\_\_\_\_  
Amalek, the man Daniel had been sold to as a slave, had died, so Daniel is now a free man and can return home without a price on his head. Amalek had no relatives to inherit Daniel's bond even though he was bound to Amalek for four more years. Daniel is hesitant to return because he doesn't want to see his family or be bothered with old troubles. He now has more freedom in the mountains.

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5. Simon and Rosh "work for the same end, but don't exactly see eye to eye." What end are they working toward? How are their views different? \_\_\_\_\_  
Simon and Rosh are both working toward ridding Palestine of the Romans. Their views are different in that Simon prefers to earn his own food, but Rosh steals his, thinking that the end justifies the means.

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6. At the end of Chapter 3, we find Daniel back in his grandmother's house and reunited with his sister after five long years. As he gets ready for bed, he "could have wept for homesickness." Look up the word "ironic." Explain why this situation is ironic. \_\_\_\_\_  
Irony is the use of words to express something different and often opposite to their literal meaning. Daniel is finally "home," but he is now weeping with homesickness for his home in the mountains. He is "homesick" about being "home."

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