Interview with Four Hebrews Script

Cast: Talk Show Host, Belteshazzar (Daniel), Shadrach (Hananiah), Meshach (Mishael), Abed-Nego (Azariah)

Set/Props: Set a desk or small table and chair aside for the talk show host. Four empty chairs are set up in a semi-circle next to his seat. He will address a live audience (the rest of the class). Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, Abed-Nego are waiting off stage and enter at the appropriate time.

Talk show host enters the scene and sits down behind the table.

Talk Show Host: Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. It's great to be here tonight. I am excited to introduce some special guests who join us from the king's palace. Let's welcome Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego!

Belteshazzar and his friends enter and take their seats in the chairs.

Talk Show Host: Welcome, friends! You have quite a reputation. Everyone wants to know about the four Hebrews from Judah! Let's start with Belteshazzar. Tell us about your background.

Belteshazzar: (Speaking respectfully.) I lived in Judah. When your Babylonian army captured my country, I was brought to Babylon to live. I went through extensive training in the palace. The king's steward taught me your customs. Babylon is my new home. Now I am assigned to serve King Nebuchadnezzar.

Talk Show Host: We have heard so much about you. Including some odd things about your diet! You are definitely healthy, and you look better than many of the richest men from our country. Yet I'm told that you don't eat the food of a rich man. What can you tell us about that?

Shadrach: May I answer that question?

Talk Show Host: Of course! Thank you.

Shadrach: We serve the God of Abraham. God has commanded that we eat certain foods. Those foods are far different from the foods the king was asking us to eat. We are dedicated to God and His commands. We did not want to dishonor Him by obeying King Nebuchadnezzar and eating things that God would not approve of.

Meshach: When we heard about the food the king of Babylon wanted us to eat, we knew in our hearts we had to obey God—not the king.

Talk Show Host: You went against what the king told you to do? Weren't you scared to do that?

Abed-Nego: Scared or not, we knew what we had to do. We love God. And He demands that we obey Him. And that is what we wanted to do.

Talk Show Host: So what did you do? How did you get by with it? You were in prison and disobeying the king. That is unheard of!

- **Belteshazzar:** God was gracious to us. We talked with the king's servant—the chief eunuch. We told him we could not eat the food of the king—food not permitted by God's laws.
- **Meshach:** God moved the servant to show us kindness. And he allowed us to eat only vegetables and drink only water so we would not dishonor our holy God.
- **Talk Show Host:** How could you survive on only vegetables and water? It seems you would have been sick.
- **Abed-Nego:** That is what you would think. But the truth is, God blessed us for our obedience to Him. In fact, we were considered healthier, and we looked better than any of the other men in the palace who were eating the rich food from the king's table.
- **Belteshazzar:** And when the king interviewed us, he chose us to serve him.
- **Talk Show Host:** That's right. I heard that the king said there were none like the four of you! And not only were you healthy but you were wise! It is reported that you are far better than all the magicians and astrologers working for the king. You show incredible wisdom and can answer the king's questions clearly! How do you explain that?
- **Meshach:** Again, God showed mercy to us. He has given us the wisdom and understanding we need to answer the king's questions and to serve him well.
- **Belteshazzar:** Yes, God gave us all knowledge and skill in literature and wisdom. God honored our obedience to Him. God gets all the glory for the positions we now hold with the king. We can't take any credit for these things God has done for us.
- **Talk Show Host:** (To Belteshazzar.) One more thing. What about the dreams and the visions? Is it true you have special power to know what these dreams mean?
- **Belteshazzar:** Yes. Again, it is a very special gift from the Lord. I certainly could never understand visions and dreams on my own. Who could? The Lord has blessed me. God shows me the meanings of others' dreams. And it will allow me to serve the king better.
- **Talk Show Host:** (Looking at his watch.) We're about out of time, ladies and gentlemen. But you heard it here first on Palace TV. The God of Abraham has blessed these Hebrew men because of their obedience. They did not want to disobey their God. And now Belteshazzar and his three friends are serving the king with knowledge, wisdom, and skill. And Belteshazzar has understanding in visions and dreams. These Hebrews are far better than the king's magicians and astrologers. And they do this all while living on a strict diet of vegetables and water! Thank you, gentlemen. And good night.

