

Daniel

Background on the reign of Nebuchadnezzar:

The kingdom of **Babylon** existed from 626-539 BC. **Jehoiakim** was king of **Judah** from 609-598 BC.

Nebuchadnezzar (*a.k.a. Nebuchadnezzar II*) besieged **Jerusalem** in 606 BC (**Dan 1:1**) but not as king. He was not made king until 605 BC. In the meantime (from 606-603 BC) the captives were being "*prepped*" for service (**Dan 1:5**). **Nebuchadnezzar's** second year as king (**Dan 2:1**) would then have been the third year of the prepping of the captives.

Kings went into battle through their generals. They were given credit as having conquered enemies while still sitting on their thrones or a general is given credit later after having assumed the throne.

- Example: **Titus** was general during the siege of **Jerusalem** (70 AD) who later became **Caesar** (71-81 AD). It can be said that **Caesar** (**Augustus**) **Titus** sacked **Jerusalem** but it would be understood that he did it while general **Titus**.
- When speaking of **President Ronald Reagan** as a child we would not be saying that **Reagan** was president since childhood. We would only be referring to **President Reagan** as "*when*" he was a child.

Thus, **Nebuchadnezzar** sacked **Jerusalem** before he became king but reference is made to a "*past*" event spoken of in "*present*" understanding of his position.