

Daring... To Do What's Right

Daniel 1:1-21

Stay True To Your Convictions (v. 8)

- A. Daniel purposed in his heart (made a commitment) he would not defile himself.
- B. Daniel requested vegetables and water for 10 days. Why not eat the king's food?
 - 1. B/c they ate unclean beasts, forbidden by Jewish laws (Lev. 11).
 - 2. B/c they ate beasts which had been strangled, or not properly blooded.
 - 3. Animals that were eaten were first offered to their gods (1 Cor. 10:20-22).
 - 4. Daniel would have been going against what he knew was right.
- C. Think about the temptations Daniel faced...
 - 1. Temptation of Honor – he was an exiled slave who was offered an opportunity to become great.
 - 2. Temptation of Comfort – he watched as everyone else around him was eating it.

Make Up Your Mind Now That You Will Not Give In To Temptations (vs. 1-8)

- A. Daniel did not wait until he was in his present circumstances to decide to do what was right.
 - 1. If we don't make up our minds long before the time comes, we will most likely give in to the pressure to conform (Rom. 12:2).
 - 2. Many young men from the royal family/nobility were taken to Babylon. Yet, scripture records only four standing up for what they knew was right.
- B. The Bible speaks of the importance of preparing for temptations ahead of time.
 - 1. Psalm 119:9; 11
 - 2. Col. 3:2

Don't Try To Justify Sinful Actions (vs. 9-14)

- A. Daniel could have rationalized and made a case for eating what was served. After all, he was a hostage, surely God would understand? (Acts 5:29)
 - 1. He would only have to eat food not prepared according to the Law, what's the big deal?
 - 2. Children of God are children of God no matter what situation they find themselves in.
- B. There is always a price to pay for sinful actions! (ex: Adam/Eve; David; Solomon; Ananias/Sapphira)

People Will Notice Your Desire To Do What's Right (vs. 15-21)

- A. People took notice of the difference in Daniel's appearance after only 10 days!
- B. Does the world notice you are holy and different?