

STUDY TO THE GLORY OF CHRIST: DANIEL



Daniel: A Student in Babylon (Daniel Ch. 1 - 3)

3 Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility, **4** youths without blemish, of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. (Daniel 1:3-4 ESV)

LOVE FOR GOD

Daniel loved God and was **committed from his heart to honor God**. Daniel refused to submit to King Nebuchadnezzar's command to eat meat and drink the wine from Babylon (Daniel 1:8). Like Daniel, you must settle in your heart your commitment and love for God that you may remain committed to Him as you transition to college. Satan will present many things to turn you from your commitment to God, but to those who are in Christ Jesus, we have the Spirit of God to overcome all temptations.



DISCERNMENT



Daniel was able to **distinguish between the good**, what honored God - not to defile himself by eating and drinking the meat and wine of Babylon, **and the bad** - following the command of King Nebuchadnezzar to eat and drink the king's food and wine for strength (Daniel 1:8). As a student, to remain committed to God, you must continuously discern what is from the Lord and what is not, what honors Him, and what does not.

FAITH

Daniel needed faith to stand with God and against the pressure to conform. Daniel trusted God to maintain his strength by eating only vegetables and water. From standing with the Lord in faith, not only was Daniel given strength, his countenance was better than the young men who ate the king's meat (Daniel 1:12-16). As you continue in college, you must have **faith in the Lord's promises and His power** concerning every area of your life. As God helped Daniel, He will also help you in any situation, even if it seems impossible.



COURAGE



It took great courage for Daniel to refuse to obey the king's command (Daniel 1:8). Daniel would **stand courageously for God** throughout his life, even when thrown into a lion's den. What we learn from Daniel's courage is that God will never forsake those who will stand in courage for His glory. As you enter college, and throughout your life, you will face many situations where you must stand for, and be faithful to Jesus. Always remember, God will never abandon you as you stand for Him.

BELIEVING FRIENDS

Like Daniel, his friends Meshach, Shadrach, and Abednego also loved God and remained committed to Him. The four young men prayed and stood in faith to the Lord together (Daniel 1:12-16). It is essential to surround yourself with other believers who will pray and stand in faith in Christ with you as you fight the good fight of faith as a student. The Christian life is lived best among believers, the body of Christ for strength, encouragement, and growth.



HUMILITY

Daniel was very wise, skilled, and was given the second-highest position under King Nebuchadnezzar. With all of Daniel's wisdom, skill, and status from a position, **Daniel knew he was only a vessel used by GOD to accomplish GOD's purposes for His glory** (Daniel 2:19b - 23). It will be tempting to believe that the knowledge that you acquire or the opportunities presented to you are from the work of your own hands and abilities. The truth is that God is in control of all things, including every event in your life. He created you for His glory, to be used by Him as a vessel of honor through humility.

