

NO COMPROMISE

Daniel 1:8-21

JOSIAH – 640–609 BC

JEHOAHAZ – 609 BC

JEHOIAKIM – 609-598 BC

1st wave of captives...605 BC

JEHOIACHIN – 598-597 BC

2nd wave of captives...597 BC

ZEDEKIAH – 597-586 BC

3rd wave of captives...586 BC

SECTION #1 – THE PERSONAL RESOLVE

8 But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank;

Ceremonially unclean foods are listed in *Lev 11* and *Deut 14*.

Lev 17:13-14 requires draining the blood.

1 Cor 10:25–28 - 25 Eat anything that is sold in the meat market without asking questions for conscience' sake; 26 FOR THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S, AND ALL IT CONTAINS. 27 If one of the unbelievers invites you and you want to go, eat anything that is set before you without asking questions for conscience' sake. 28 But if anyone says to you, "This is meat sacrificed to idols," do not eat it, for the sake of the one who informed you, and for conscience' sake;

8...so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself.

9 Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials...

Prov 21:1 - The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns it wherever He wishes.

favor = hesed

10 and the commander of the officials said to Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink; for why should he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would make me forfeit my head to the king."

SECTION #2 – THE CONFIDENT SUBSTITUTION

11 But Daniel said to the overseer whom the commander of the officials had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, 12 "Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13 "Then let our appearance be observed in your presence and the appearance of the youths who are eating the king's choice food; and deal with your servants according to what you see." 14 So he listened to them in this matter and tested them for ten days.

15 At the end of ten days their appearance seemed better and they were fatter than all the youths who had been eating the king's choice food. 16 So the overseer continued to withhold their choice food and the wine they were to drink, and kept giving them vegetables.

SECTION #3 – THE DIVINE ENABLEMENT

17 As for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom; Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and dreams. 18 Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar. 19 The king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's personal service.

20 As for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king consulted them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and conjurers who were in all his realm.

Gen 41:8 - Now in the morning his spirit was troubled, so he sent and called for all the magicians of Egypt, and all its wise men. And Pharaoh told them his dreams, but there was no one who could interpret them to Pharaoh.

Exo 7:11 - Then Pharaoh also called for the wise men and the sorcerers, and they also, the magicians of Egypt, did the same with their secret arts.

21 And Daniel continued until the first year of Cyrus the king.

Daniel = ca 620-535 BC

IMPLICATION #1 – The Priority of Faithfulness

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IMPLICATION #2 – The Encouragement of Models

FERGUSON: *From the beginning, in what to others seemed a trivial matter, he nailed his colors to the mast. In doing so, he gained a bridgehead into enemy occupied territory and found himself increasingly strong in the Lord. This is a great lesson for all Christians to learn, not least those who are younger and at the beginning of so many new experiences: relationships, occupations, and roles in life. Do not wait until you are in a position of social strength before you confess Christ and obey his commands. By the time you've gained that social position you may well have lost all moral strength to confess Christ openly and joyfully. For how can you confess Him later, as Savior and Lord, when the one thing you have failed to allow Him to be for you is Savior and Lord – saving you and your fears and ruling over your lips and your life? Always take the first opportunity to show yourself a decided Christian. It may not be easy, but the fact of the matter is that no easier opportunity will present itself....The second opportunity is always more difficult if the first has been refused.*

Jonathan Edwards – 18th century

RESOLVED – never to do any manner of thing, whether in soul or body, less or more, but what tends to the glory of God.

RESOLVED – that I will live just so as I can think I shall wish I had done, supposing I lived to old age.

RESOLVED – never to give over, nor in the least to slacken, my fight with my corruptions, however unsuccessful I may be.

RESOLVED – never to do anything, which I should be afraid to do, if I expected it would not be above an hour before I should hear the last trump.

IMPLICATION #1 – The Priority of Faithfulness

IMPLICATION #2 – The Encouragement of Models

1 Pet 2:23 - and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;

IMPLICATION #1 – The Priority of Faithfulness

IMPLICATION #2 – The Encouragement of Models

IMPLICATION #3 – The Right Perspective of Trials

Luke 4:13 - When the devil had finished every temptation, he left Him until an opportune time.

Luke 22:28 - You are those who have stood by Me in My trials;

Heb 2:17–18 - 17 Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, so that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.