

— the book of —
DANIEL

Courageous Faith in Uncertain Times



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Blend or Influence

Daniel 1



MISSION

To help people know Jesus, be transformed
by Jesus and to live out Faith in Real Life.



DANIEL IS A BOOK OF:

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DANIEL IS A BOOK OF:

- Heroic tales

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DANIEL IS A BOOK OF:

- Heroic tales
- Martyrdom tales

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DANIEL IS A BOOK OF:

- Heroic tales
- Martyrdom tales
- Wisdom Stories

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DANIEL IS A BOOK OF:

- Heroic tales
- Martyrdom tales
- Wisdom Stories
- Apocalyptic Literature

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DANIEL IS A BOOK OF:

- Heroic tales
- Martyrdom tales
- Wisdom Stories
- Apocalyptic Literature
 - Things being revealed

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DANIEL IS A BOOK OF:

- Heroic tales
- Martyrdom tales
- Wisdom Stories
- Apocalyptic Literature
 - Things being revealed
 - What God is doing

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How do you navigate being a follower
of God when culture and the world are
going in a different direction?



DANIEL 1 (NIV)

Daniel's Training in Babylon

¹ In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.

² And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the articles from the temple of God. These he carried off to the temple of his god in Babylonia and put in the treasure house of his god.

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DANIEL 1 (NIV)

³ Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility—⁴ young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians.

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DANIEL 1 (NIV)

⁵ The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

⁶ Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. ⁷ The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.

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DANIEL IN CONTEXT

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DANIEL IN CONTEXT

- Judah in captivity 605 BC

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DANIEL IN CONTEXT

- Judah in captivity 605 BC
- Babylonian Influence

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DANIEL IN CONTEXT

- Judah in captivity 605 BC
- Babylonian Influence
 - Education

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DANIEL IN CONTEXT

- Judah in captivity 605 BC
- Babylonian Influence
 - Education
 - Proximity

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DANIEL IN CONTEXT

- Judah in captivity 605 BC
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 - Education
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 - Influence

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DANIEL IN CONTEXT

- Judah in captivity 605 BC
- Babylonian Influence
 - Education
 - Proximity
 - Influence
 - Conformity

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DANIEL IN CONTEXT

- Judah in captivity 605 BC
- Babylonian Influence
 - Education
 - Proximity
 - Influence
 - Conformity
 - Identity

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DANIEL 1 (NIV)

⁸ But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.

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TAKING A STAND

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TAKING A STAND

- How far will Daniel go?

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TAKING A STAND

- How far will Daniel go?
- Developed faith

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TAKING A STAND

- How far will Daniel go?
- Developed faith
- Obedience vs. Comfort

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TAKING A STAND

- How far will Daniel go?
- Developed faith
- Obedience vs. Comfort
- Right = Hard

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DANIEL 1 (NIV)

⁹ Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel, ¹⁰ but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you."

¹¹ Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah,

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DANIEL 1 (NIV)

¹² "Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. ¹³ Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your servants in accordance with what you see." ¹⁴ So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.

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DANIEL 1 (NIV)

¹⁵ At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. ¹⁶ So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

- Daniel's Posture

— the book of —
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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

- Daniel's Posture
 - Respectful

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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

- Daniel's Posture
 - Respectful
 - Polite

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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

- Daniel's Posture
 - Respectful
 - Polite
 - Disarming

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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

- Daniel's Posture
 - Respectful
 - Polite
 - Disarming
 - Favourable

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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

- Daniel's Posture
 - Respectful
 - Polite
 - Disarming
 - Favourable
- Food for thought

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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

- Daniel's Posture
 - Respectful
 - Polite
 - Disarming
 - Favourable
- Food for thought
 - Vegetarian

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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

- Daniel's Posture
 - Respectful
 - Polite
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 - Favourable
- Food for thought
 - Vegetarian
 - Following Jewish law

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RESPECTFUL RESISTANCE

- Daniel's Posture
 - Respectful
 - Polite
 - Disarming
 - Favourable
- Food for thought
 - Vegetarian
 - Following Jewish law
- God's provision

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DANIEL 1 (NIV)

¹⁷ To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

¹⁸ At the end of the time set by the king to bring them into his service, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹ The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's service.

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DANIEL 1 (NIV)

²⁰ In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanterers in his whole kingdom.

²¹ And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

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THRIVING IN EXILE

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THRIVING IN EXILE

- God honours faithfulness

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THRIVING IN EXILE

- God honours faithfulness
- Counter cultural

— the book of —
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THRIVING IN EXILE

- God honours faithfulness
- Counter cultural
- Standing firm

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REFLECTION:

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REFLECTION:

1. How do you navigate being a follower of God when culture and the world are going in a different direction?

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REFLECTION:

1. How do you navigate being a follower of God when culture and the world are going in a different direction?
2. What cultural pressures (media, education, relationships, career) tempt you to compromise?

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REFLECTION:

1. How do you navigate being a follower of God when culture and the world are going in a different direction?
2. What cultural pressures (media, education, relationships, career) tempt you to compromise?
3. What do you need to stand firm with Grace and Wisdom in the face of cultural pressures?

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