

# Committed

Walking with Jesus in a Post-Christian Generation

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**Series Thread: To live a God-honoring life in a culture that does not always honor God, we start with keeping our commitment.**

**Message Thread: Daniel knew he was NOT here to be ABANDONED, but rather to learn to walk closer to God.**

**First Test – Daniel’s commitment to become a fierce follower of God.**

**Second Test – To keep a commitment, I have to anchor deep into an identity.**

## Nebuchadnezzar

- (V2) I OWN you.
- (V3-4) Cared only about the outward appearance.
- (V5) Intentional redefining of truth/morality.
- (V5) The demon gods PROVIDE for you.
- (V7) Rename you, to shape you in my image.

- Belteshazzar - *May marduk protect his life.*
- Shadrach - *An unclear reference honoring marduk.*
- Meshach - *Who is what aku is (moon god).*
- Abednego - *Servant of nebo.*

Are you allowing others to define you against WHO God says you are?

## Yahweh

- You belong with me.
- Cares about the heart/inward devotion.
- Standard of truth/morality.
- I am your Provider.
- My name for you is My HOPE for you.

Daniel - *God is my judge.*

Hananiah - *My God is gracious.*

Michael - *Who is what God is.*

Azariah - *The Lord is a help.*

**Yahweh is not degrading people’s value; He is revealing it!**

**Daniel anchored his faith for his IDENTITY in God alone.**

**Struggling to see God's perspective regarding moral issues?**

- Exercise your faith and align with God. He's the ONE placing a high value on your life.

**- (V5) The demon God's PROVIDE for you. - I am your provider.**

- Are you struggling with God being your provider?
- Daniel knew this was a FOUNDATIONAL decision that he would be building on for the rest of his life.
- *"For my people have done two evil things: They have abandoned me – the fountain of living water. And they have dug for themselves cracked cisterns that can hold no water at all!"* – Jeremiah 2:13
- What could be used as evidence to prove you look to God to be your provider?
- What can you do to exercise your faith for God being your provider?
  - Do you acknowledge it in prayer?
  - Do you tell others when you have an opportunity?
  - Are you GENEROUS with your TIME, TALENTS, and TREASURE trusting He will give you more?
  - Are you grateful for His provision?

**Daniel had choices about his IDENTITY.**

- AM I a SLAVE to BABYLON? AM I a SERVANT of God?
- Am I ABANDONED? Will I learn to walk closer to God?

**Faith is a shield to protect you from all the fiery bolts of the enemy.**

**Daniel knew who he was.**

**Daniel knew WHO his FAITH was in. So, he raised his shield of faith, in faith, each time the bolts came his way.**

- The one being helped not hurt.
- The one being rescued not rejected.

- The one in this Babylonian world, but not of this world.

### **Application:**

- We are the readers; we are the ones deciding who our identity will be in.
- For the reader – WHO is in CONTROL?
- For the reader – WHO is worthy of your FAITH?
- For the reader – What are you struggling to exercise your FAITH for?

### **Challenge:**

- Are you committed?
- Do you know who you are?
- Who do you find your identity with?

## **CHECK OUT THESE FREE ONLINE RESOURCES:**

**Embrace Your True Identity — You are God's Child**

**[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/you-are-child](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/you-are-child)**

**God's Spirit Lives in You**

**[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/gods-spirit-in-you](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/gods-spirit-in-you)**

**Depend on God's Power**

**[www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/depend-on-god](http://www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/depend-on-god)**

### **SUMMIT UP DEVOTIONALS:**

**<https://heightschurchonline.com/daily-devotionals/>**