Committed

Walking with Jesus in a Post-Christian Generation

No Accident

Pastor Craig Sweeney January 23, 2022

Belteshazzar - May Marduk protect his life

Daniel - God is my judge

After decades of living and working in the palace in and around 4 kings and court:

- He is called Daniel - God is my advocate, my help.

2 Questions:

- 1. Daniel honored God in every area of his life, how about me?
 - a) Would others who know us and work around us say God is our advocate?
- 2. Were there practices in his life that guided him to this result?
 - **a)** Whether we acknowledge them or not, we are who we are largely because of our life practices.

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: Choose your practices well.

Daniel's story offers a few key insights.

- 1. Worked with excellence.
- 2. When will I experience God today?
- 3. "Daniel determined not to defile himself." Daniel 1:8 NLT
 - a. What will I STOP?
 - b. What will I START?
- 4. Who will I pull close?
 - a. "Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were four of the young men chosen, all from the tribe of Judah." Daniel 1:6 NLT
 - b. "Daniel spoke with the attendant who had been appointed by the chief of staff to look after Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. "Please test us for ten days."
 - Daniel 1:11-12 NLT
- 5. Where will I place my faith?

- **a.** "I tell you the truth, if you had faith even as small as a mustard seed, you could say to this mountain, Move from here to there, and it would move."
 - Matthew 17:20 NLT
- b. "Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see." **Hebrews 11:1 NLT**
 - i. A few ways to look at FAITH in your life:
 - 1. What do you choose to see God's way each day?
 - 2. What am I believing God for?
 - 3. What evidence do you submit every day?
 - 4. What will I believe God for?
- c. "Daniel, you are very precious to God...Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer." Daniel 10:11-12 NLT
- 1. Worked with excellence.
- 2. When will I experience God today?
- 3. "Daniel determined not to defile himself."

Daniel 1:8 NLT

- 4. Who will I pull close?
- 5. Where will I place my faith?

Challenge:

• What practices do I want to focus on?

CHECK OUT THESE FREE ONLINE RESOURCES:

Trust God. Remember His Faithfulness www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/remember-his-faithfulness

Let the Holy Spirit Guide You www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/listen-to-holy-spirit

Make Wise Decisions about How You Spend Your Time www.dougbrittonbooks.com/resources/make-decisions

SUMMIT UP DEVOTIONALS:

https://heightschurchonline.com/daily-devotionals/