

June Memory Verse: Daniel 2:44 ESV

"And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed, nor shall the kingdom be left to another people. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever."

Daniel 1 – Dare to Be a Daniel

God wants us to shine in the darkness of Babylon for His glory and witness. We must dare to be Daniels in Babylon!

SHINE IN THE DARKNESS. Daniel 12:3, And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

DARE TO BE A DANIEL! Daniel 1:8, But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself.

Dare to be a Daniel, shining in the darkness, because no one is like our God.

Transition. Four aspects to daring to be a Daniel.

1. Resolve to serve God above all.

- Isolation (1:3).
- Indoctrination (1:4).
- Assimilation (1:5).

They were relocated, re-educated, and renamed.

You need to remember WHO you are and WHOSE you are!

- Daniel was Determined (1:8).
- Daniel was Different (1:8).
- Daniel was Disarming (1:9).

2. Rely on influences from God above all.

- There is the influence of the church (1:1).
- There is the influence of parents (1:6).

Daniel's name means = "God is my judge." Psalm 127:4; Psalm 78:4–7

• There is the influence of the Lord (9, 17).

3. Realize the impact of serving God above all. (1:11-14)

• His personal choice of holiness had a powerful impact on three areas of his person (1:15-17, 20).

Daniel's body was healthier (1:15). Daniel's spirit was in tune with God (1:17). Daniel's mind was sharper (1:20).

- His personal holiness had an impact on three influential kings of Babylon (1:21).
- His personal holiness had an impact on his three friends (1:7-8, 11-12, 19).

4. Remember that God is in charge above all. (1:2, 9, 17)

Hear those words, "And God gave and God gave and God gave".

"Dare to be a Daniel, dare to stand alone! Dare to have a purpose firm! Dare to make it known." - ©Philip Paul Bliss 1873