



The Temptation Itch

MAY BIBLE STUDY SERIES



Dare To Be Daniel

Lesson Five

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Daniel 1:1-21

Scripture Lesson

Introduction To The Siege And Exile - Then And Now!

Daniel 1:1-2, In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 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.



Babylon means 'confusion.'

**Babylon stands for this present
world with its false religion and
systems.**

THE GOAL OF THE BABYLONIANS - INDOCTRINATION!

Daniel 1:3-7, Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring in some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility - 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.

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



Names and Meanings of Daniel and His Friends:

Daniel ("God is judge") become **Belteshazzar** ("May Bel protect his life")

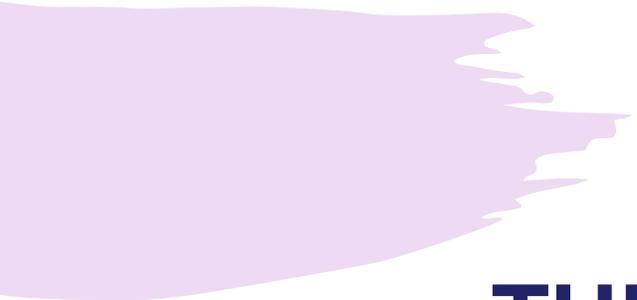
Hananiah ("Yahweh is gracious") becomes **Shadrach** ("command of Aku")

Mishael ("Who is what God is") becomes **Meshach** ("Who is what Aku is")

Azariah ("Whom Yahweh helps") becomes **Abed-nego** ("Servant of Nebo")

**Don't Let The World Change
Your Name Or Your
Character!**





THE INNER RESOLVE FROM GOD.

Daniel 1:8, But Daniel resolved (purposed in his heart) not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.

Leviticus 17:10-12, And whatever man of the house of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell among you, who eats any blood, I will set My face against that person who eats blood and will cut him off from among his people. For the life of the flesh *is* in the blood, and I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your souls; for it *is* the blood *that* makes atonement for the soul.’ Therefore, I said to the children of Israel, ‘No one among you shall eat blood, nor shall any stranger who dwells among you eat blood.’ Daniel’s decision was guided by the Laws of God.

Daniel 1:9-14, Now God had caused the official to show favor and sympathy to Daniel, 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.' Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, 'Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. 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.' So, he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.

“PURPOSED IN HIS HEART” It means to establish, to set or fix something so firmly that it becomes unmovable and unshakeable.

CONVICTIONS are truths and directions we are so sure of and convinced about that nothing can ever make us move away from them.

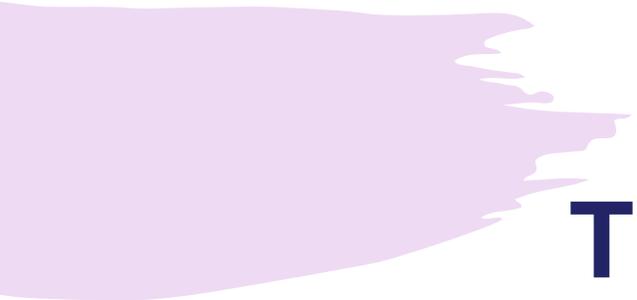


**Your convictions are the
backbone of your spiritual life.**

FRIENDS AND FELLOWSHIP

It is important to have Godly friends around you that can support you. God helps us in our trials but one of the methods He uses is support from fellow believers.

**Do not try to justify
sinful actions. There is
always a price to pay.**



THE GOD WHO WATCHES...

Daniel 1:15-16, At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. So, the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

Psalms 33:13-19, The LORD looks from heaven; He sees all the sons of men; From His dwelling place He looks out on all the inhabitants of the earth, He who fashions the hearts of them all, He who understands all their works. The king is not saved by a mighty army; A warrior is not delivered by great strength. A horse is a false hope for victory; Nor does it deliver anyone by its great strength. Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear Him, on those who hope for His lovingkindness, to deliver their soul from death and to keep them alive in famine.

A DIVINE SIMPLICITY.

We need a simple, uncomplicated faith. A faith that says God watches, God cares, and God acts.

EVERY GOOD AND PERFECT GIFT...

Daniel 1:17-21, 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. At the end of the time set by the king to bring them in, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so, they entered the king's service. 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. And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

Two Temptations (Verses 1-8):

1. Temptation of Honor

2. Temptation of Comfort

Make up your mind now that you will not give in to temptations.

**It we do not make up our minds
long before the time comes, we
will most likely give in to the
pressure to conform.**

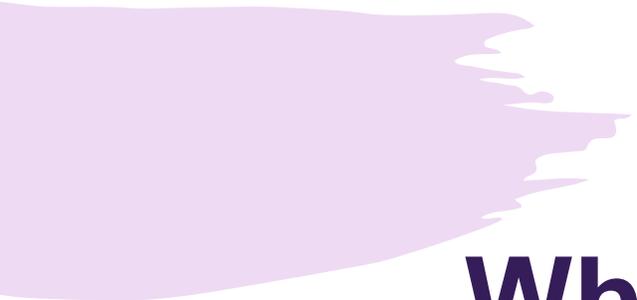
Romans 12:2, And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. ...

Psalm 119:9, How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word.

Psalm 119:112, I have inclined my heart to perform Your statutes Forever, to the very end.

Colossians 3:2, Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

**“We make our decisions,
and our decisions turn
around and make us.”**



**When we disobey God in the
small things, it leads us
down a path of disobeying
Him in the major decisions
of life.**

**“It is the little foxes that
spoil the vines.”**

(Song of Solomon 2:15)

**God's "investment plan"
has a guaranteed "high
rate of return" not only in
this life but the life to
come.**

Bible Study Follow Up Chat Questions:

- 1. Where do you feel the pressure of “Babylon” (the world) most in your life?**
- 2. We guard and protect those things that are important to us. What is something you own that is important to you? How do you protect or take care of these important things? How would you feel if someone took them from you?**
- 3. There is no compromise for our faith. Had Melzar not allowed Daniel and his companions to eat the food that God required of them, what do you think would have been his next move?**

4. What do you feel when you stand up for something you believe? What often keeps you from taking a stand? What is your greatest resource for taking a stand?

5. How would you feel if you only had vegetables and water to eat? Would you be tempted to eat the food from the king's table, even if you knew doing so was wrong?

6. How far are you willing to go to obey God and do what is right? What if it cost you a job in the future? Or a friend? Or a family member? Or a guy or girlfriend that you really, really like? Again, how far would you be willing to go to keep doing what is right?

7. How important are Godly friends in your life?