

Dare To Be a Daniel?

Introduction:

- A. Let us notice some things about Daniel's character and life-style to be of help to us.

Daniel Was a Man of

I. Preeminence— Dan.1:3,4,6.

A. He Was of Royal Descent.

1. Because he was of Royal Descent, he was set apart for special instruction.
2. We too can stand out above those who are in sin if we are of Royal Descent.
 - a. God is King— 1 Tim.1:17.
 - b. He is our spiritual Father— Jn.1:12; Gal.3:26,27.
 - c. We are God's children; thus, the heirs of God— Rom.8:16,17.

B. He Had No Blemishes.

1. That is, he had no physical imperfections— cf.Lev.21:16-24; 2 Sam.14:25.
2. We too can be preeminent if we are found without any spiritual blemishes.
 - a. 1 Jn.1:7; Acts 22:16; Rom.6:3-11.
 - b. We must be careful to remain blemish free— 2 Pet.3:14.

C. He Had Knowledge.

1. Because he had knowledge to some degree, he was set apart for further instruction and was found to be preeminent to all the others— Dan.1:20.
2. We too can stand out above other if we have a knowledge of God's word— Rom.10:13-17.
 - a. We must have a knowledge of God's will before we can obey it and be saved— Mk.16:15,16.
 - b. We must continue to grow in knowledge— cf.2 Pet.3:18.

- D. Daniel was preeminent because among other things he was of Royal descent, without blemish, and had a knowledge of God's will.

II. Purpose— Dan.1:8ff.

- A. Whatever the reason Daniel would not eat, he purposed in his heart not to eat; thus, he did not eat.
- B. We too need to purpose in our hearts that we will do the Lord's will at all times and at all places— cf.1 Cor.15:58.
 1. We need to purpose in our heart that no matter where we are or who is watching us we will always do what is right before God.

III. Principle.

- A. Daniel was a man who purposed in his heart to obey God and only God.
- B. Dan.1:8-16— He refused to eat of the King's dainties.
- C. Dan.5:13-ff— Daniel could interpret the writings but refused the gifts of Belshazzar.
 1. He would not compromise the truth of the interpretation even for personal gain.
- D. Dan.6:4-10— Law prohibited prayer to God for 30 days; he continued prayer life as before; thus, thrown into den of Lions.

IV. Prayer— Dan.6:10.

- A. Dan.9:1-23— Daniel's prayer for his people.
- B. Daniel was a man of prayer; constantly addressing his eternal Father.
- C. We too need to be characterized by prayer— Col.4:2; 1 Thess.5:16-18; Lk.11:1.

Conclusion:

- A. The Lord wants more Daniel's.
- B. Would you dare to be a Daniel?