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WEEK SEVEN THE EXTRAORDINARY SPIRIT

DANIEL 6



FAITHFUL & DISTINGUISHED

Daniel served under four world leaders in Babylon and continued to remain faithful to the Lord. He survived the overthrow of Babylon by the Persians and Medes and was given a high-ranking position of leadership within the new government.

Most invading kings would not have retained the services of an official who was loyal to the previous administration. But the Word tells us in Daniel 6:3:

"Daniel began distinguishing himself among the commissioners and satraps because he possessed an extraordinary spirit..."

Daniel remained <u>faithful</u> despite the many changes taking place around him. The Lord was his <u>rock</u> and foundation in the midst of unstable and uncertain times (Ps. 18:1-3, 62:1-2).

I CAN DO BOTH

In the stability and security of the Lord, Daniel <u>submitted</u> himself to serve faithfully BOTH the Lord and the governmental leaders over him, understanding that one kingdom (Babylon) was subservient to another Kingdom (Heaven). (Jm. 4:6-7). In fact, Daniel and the others did both so successfully that **the kings they served under promoted and blessed them.** (Dan. 1:19-20, 2:46-49, 3:28-30, 5:29, 6:1-3, 25-28. Why?

Operating with an extraordinary spirit, Daniel demonstrated his wisdom and worth to each one of them. But his wisdom and worth could not be separated from his worship and devotion to the Lord. Once again, all the pagan kings that Daniel served under, witnessed his wisdom AND his worship (Dan. 6:16, 20).

BECOMING EXTRAORDINARY

As believers in modern-day Babylon we must not be pressured to **hide** or be ashamed of what we believe and who we are in Christ (Rom. 1:16). The Hebrew boys in the book of Daniel give us clear examples of the power of these Godly **convictions** and faithfulness in the face of ungodly beliefs, idolatry and even the threat of death. They served God faithfully and did their jobs extraordinarily.

Every believer can have an extraordinary spirit if they go beyond the ordinary weekly walk of church attendance and embrace the **daily** walk of intimacy with the Lord. An extraordinary spirit is different from your gifting, anointing and calling. It's not given or granted. It's **developed** through the day-to-day commitment to prayer, studying the Word and practicing Godhonoring habits and behavior.

Your worship, wisdom and worth cannot be separated! Despite the devastating negatives that surrounds you (work, family, school, society, etc.), make up your mind to be the positive demonstration of God's love and power by walking in intimacy with the Lord which produces an extraordinary spirit.

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