





BEGINNING SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH 10:30AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

TO REGISTER EMAIL: GTNCLASS@COP.CHURCH



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR OUR TEAMS:

PARKING • MEDIA • HOSPITALITY



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THE CATHEDRAL

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WEEK ONE: DANIEL 1:1-17



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INTRODUCTION

Babylon was a powerful ancient city in 7th century B.C. The Bible is full of prophecies regarding both its rise and fall. In this series we will explore many of the parallels between ancient Babylon and our modern-day life and seek to learn from the experiences of God's people living in a hostile world.

WHY BABYLON A.D.?

We live in a modern-day Babylon!

We live in a modern-day Babylon! Why? Primarily because of the constant, relentless, subversive pressure to **bow down**. All around us every day, dark forces are at work seeking to elevate the idols of darkness and tempt us to turn our backs on the **TRUTH**. We are not called to live lost and unaware of our surroundings. But by God's wisdom and grace, we can not only survive but thrive in Babylon.

NONE FOR ME PLEASE

Daniel discerned the objects of defilement in his new surroundings. Rather than succumbing to them even though he was unknown, outnumbered and of low status, he "made up his mind" and looked for a way to do what was pleasing before the Lord.

When Daniel established his resolve, God opened the door of <u>favor</u> and compassion in a hostile environment. The words Daniel spoke reveal his bold <u>confidence</u> in following the ways of the Lord and believing in the outcome even in the face of adversity, tremendous pressure and physical threats.

BETTER THAN BEST

The wisdom of the Lord proved <u>superior</u> to the best Babylon had to offer. A crumb from the King of kings is far better than a feast from the king of Babylon. If you are willing to **MAKE UP YOUR MIND,** God will <u>fortify</u> your resolve, grant you favor (even with your enemies), and provide the muchneeded wisdom (in word and deed) to navigate through any hostile territory. But God cannot strengthen a decision that hasn't been made. God is still speaking in the chaos of today's Babylon. Listen, receive, obey and witness the sovereign power of God over lesser powers of darkness.

"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord." –Joshua 24:15

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