

# SINGLE SERMON

## *“Culture Proof: How to be Holy in a Hostile World”*

(Daniel 1:8; Romans 12:2; John 17:14–17; Exodus 1:8–14)

*“But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king’s food, or with the wine that he drank.” (Daniel 1:8)*

### ❖ **Resist the Pressure of the Place** *(Daniel 1:8)*

*“But Daniel **resolved that he would not defile himself** with the king’s food, or with the wine that he drank.” (Daniel 1:8)*

- The Environment of Enslavement
  - Egypt tells you to make bricks without straw.
  - Babylon tells you to eat the king’s meat.
  - This world tells you to trade your birthright for a bowl of stew.

*“Be not conformed to this world...” (Romans 12:2)*

- The Power of a Pre-Decided Heart

Daniel *“purposed in his heart.”*

## ❖ **Retain the Purity of the Person** (*John 17:15–16*)

*"I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one... they are not of the world..." (John 17:15–16)*

- Sanctified While Stationed
- The Crisis of Compromise

## ❖ **Reflect the Power of the Presence** (*Exodus 1:12*)

*"But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and the more they spread abroad..." (Exodus 1:12)*

- Glory in Captivity
- Authority in the Midst of Affliction

## ❖ **Remain Positioned for Purpose** (*Jeremiah 29:4–7*)

*"Build houses and live in them...seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile..." (Jeremiah 29:4-7)*

- Sent into the System
- Serving While Standing

- Joseph served Pharaoh, but he didn't bow.
- Daniel became prime minister while keeping his prayer life.
- Nehemiah built a wall under pressure but never came down from that wall.
- Jesus walked through Galilee while staying holy.