

## 3/10/24 “Faithful in a Foreign Land” (Daniel 1)

How am I to be faithful to God in a Foreign Land?

### [Daniel 1]

1. Jerusalem/Daniel: Besieged and taken captive (also 2 Kings 24)
  - a. Responsibility in Babylon: (Jer. 29:1-14)
  - b. The Lord gave... into his hand... (1:2): *ādōnāy* used instead of YHWH. Owner, Ruler, sovereign: Representative of God’s sovereignty over the situation
  - c. Two Kingdoms: City of God (Jerusalem), City of the World (Babylon)
    1. Shinar (Tower of Babel) /Babylon: (Gen. 11:1-9, Rev. 14:8. 17:5, 18:2-21)
    2. Jerusalem/Israel (Gen 12:1-3)
2. Captives Assimilation
  - a. Community (Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah) (1:6)
  - b. New King (1:4)
  - c. New Names (1:6-7)
  - d. New Education (1:4)
  - e. New Food and Wine (1:5)
3. Daniel Resolved
  - a. Leadership: Accept Responsibility (1:8-13)
  - b. Resolved he would not defile himself (1:8)
    - i. Food and Wine: Why? (Lev. 11, 17, Deut. 14..)
  - c. Courage in spite of culture (1:9-10)
  - d. Wisely requesting Fear of king vs. Trusting of the King (1:8,10)
4. Faithfulness Rewarded
  - a. Better Physically (1:15)
  - b. Better Intellectually (1:19)
  - c. Gain Leadership Roles (1:19-20, Dan. 2-6)
  - d. Pride or humility with success? (Dan. 2-6)

Community Group Questions:

1. How is God calling you to live while in this foreign land?
2. Is there an area you need to be resolved?
3. How can you be ‘sent in the world, but not of the world’? (John 17:14-19)
4. How does Christian community help you stand firm, in what ways does the lack of it hinder you?
5. What lessons can you learn from Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah?