

## A Disciple Worth Reproducing

Lessons from the life of Daniel

### Preamble

This is why it is said: "Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." [16] making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. **Ephesians 5:14,16**

- Understand the times
- Understand the enemy

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. [9] Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings. 1 Peter 5:8-9

- And know your God

### Introduction

A. Daniel was a follower of God

B. He was living in a hostile culture, tempted to compromise

- Its okay for the boat to be in the water but the water must not get into the boat

C. He was able to bring Kingdom influence into that culture

Then King Nebuchadnezzar fell prostrate before Daniel and paid him honour and ordered that an offering and incense be presented to him. [47] The king said to Daniel, "Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery." **Daniel 2:46-47**

It is my pleasure to tell you about the miraculous signs and wonders that the Most High God has performed for me. [3] How great are his signs, how mighty his wonders! His kingdom is an eternal kingdom; his dominion endures from generation to generation.

**Daniel 4:2-3**

D. He was deeply loved by God

As soon as you began to pray, a word went out, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed. Therefore, consider the word and understand the vision: **Daniel 9:23**

- You are very precious to God
- Highly regarded and greatly beloved

1. **He was Devoted** - A Holy Consecration

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. **Daniel 1:8**

At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. **Daniel 1:15**

To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds. **Daniel 1:17**

In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.

## **Daniel 1:20**

### **2. He was a man of prayer** - Knew where his strength came from

Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. [11] Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help.

## **Daniel 6:10-11**

I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed: "Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, [5] we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. [6] We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land. **Daniel 9:4-6**

At that time I, Daniel, mourned for three weeks. [3] I ate no choice food; no meat or wine touched my lips; and I used no lotions at all until the three weeks were over. **Daniel 10:2-3**

### **3. He was Focused** - Commitment to stay the course

Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. [4] At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. **Daniel 6:3-4**

- Daniel distinguished himself -
- Exceptional qualities -
- No corruption in him -
- He was trustworthy -
- He was not negligent -

## **Conclusion**

In these critical times will you make a commitment to:

- Holy consecration
- A life of prayer
- A life of integrity

Time to pray for people