

Sermon Notes

Big Idea: Daniel found himself living in a culture not unlike ours. It was a world of rapid change, moral compromise, and pressure to conform. He found himself face to face with a series of future-defining decisions: compromise his values or stand for his convictions. His character, courage and convictions resulted in a reliable roadmap for the church today.

How do we maintain conviction in a culture of compromise?

Communion → Conviction → Character → Courage → Change

Daniel 1:1-5 (ESV)

Romans 12:2 (ESV)

A Culture of Compromise includes:

- Separation
- Indoctrination
 - Choice architecture
 - Repetition for reinforcement
- Incentivization

Daniel 1:6-7 (ESV)

The Goal: Redefine your Identity.

Daniel – “God is my Judge”

Hananiah – “Yahweh has been gracious”

Mishael – “Who is like God?”

Azariah – “Yahweh has helped me”

Belteshazzar – “Lady, Protect the King”

Shadrach – “I am fearful of God”

**Meshach – “I am despised,
contemptible, & humiliated”**

Abednego – “Servant of Nebo”

Do you know who (and Whose) you are?

Daniel 1:8a (ESV) But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself...

Discussion Questions

- 1) What impacted you the most from this week’s message? Encouraged you? Challenged you?
- 2) What helps you keep your conviction in a culture of compromise? What hurts?
- 3) What aspects of the Culture of Compromise strategy impact you and your family the most? Explain.
- 4) Read Daniel 1:8. What would it look like for you to *resolve to not defile yourself*?
- 5) Do you know who you are in Jesus? Do you know whose you are? How does this identity drive your daily activity?