

Righteous Living in an Unrighteous World

Daniel 1:1-21

April 14, 2024

Imagine you are about 14 years old and another nation's _____ sweeps in and conquers your nation. It isn't your _____ or that of your family, but your _____ of a happy life are suddenly jerked away as you and other _____ young men are taken against your _____ and thrust into a heathen culture and city filled with _____ gods. Your spiritual upbringing is now severely challenged. Should you _____ your training and _____ to the culture, or hold firmly to the Lord and be willing to _____ any consequences? Is your _____ in Jehovah personal, or simply cultural and religious?

A. Historical Background

1. Jewish

- a. _____ against God for 490 years
- b. Faced national _____ of 70 years (1 year for each missed Sabbath year)
- c. There were still some _____ believing families.

2. Babylonian

- a. Rising _____
- b. Nebuchadnezzar
 - (1). Defeated the Egyptians in the _____ of Carchemish
 - (2). Soon to become _____
 - (3). _____ gave Israel into his hand.
- c. Worshipped _____ gods

B. The Man of the Hour – Daniel

1. Taken _____

- a. Probably about _____ years of age.
- b. Taken _____ miles away from home

2. His _____

- a. Must have come from a God-_____ home
- b. Had good training in _____ (v. 4)
- c. Obviously had a _____ relationship with Jehovah
- d. His demeanor was not _____, brash, argumentative, or _____.

3. His _____ (vv. 5-6)

- a. Testing times will come to _____ believer.
- b. Opportunity to be trained in the _____ "Royal College"
- c. 'Attaining _____ honor' and 'earthly glory' were not his goal.

4. His _____

- a. Would be _____ to Jehovah
- b. Would not _____ himself with the king's food
- c. God brought him into favor with his _____.
 - (1). He undoubtedly _____ hard.
 - (2). He worked as unto the _____ and not unto man.
 - (3). He diplomatically _____ to show a better way.

5. His _____

- a. He wasn't _____.
- b. God _____ him.
- c. He became a _____ counselor.
- d. He had a deeper and more intimate _____ with God.