













Daniel Chose God's Way- Daniel 1

Some people say: do what makes you happy

God says: My plan for you is even better.

Today's Point: God's plan is best.

What is integrity?

What is my goal? CHRIST-LIKENESS CHARACTER

What price am I willing to pay? COURAGE

What am I willing to substitute? **CONVICTION**

What do I want to become?

CONSUMING VISION

What do I believe?

CORE BIBLICAL VALUES



Integrity

is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching

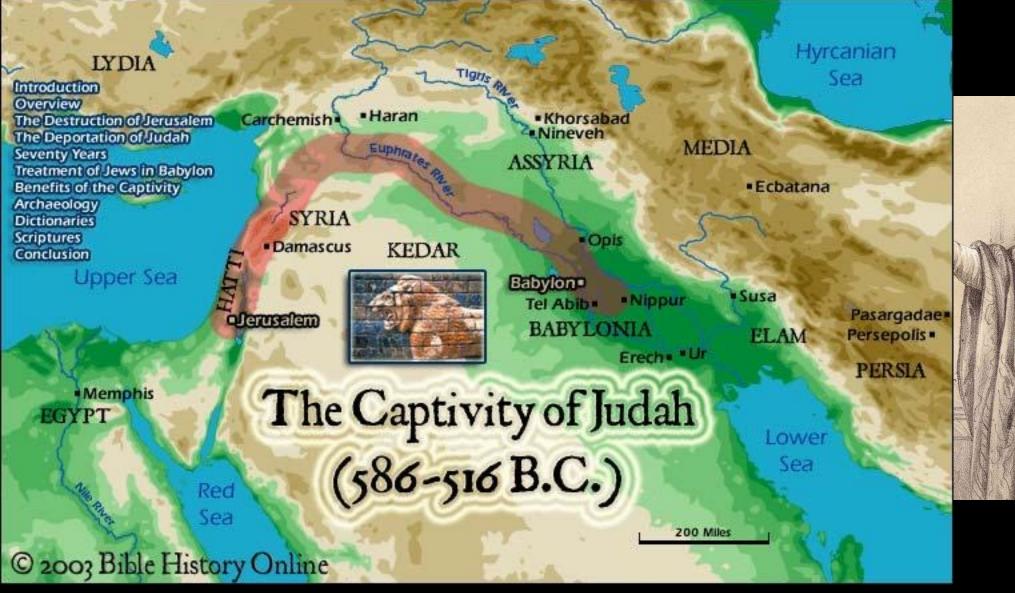


Why was
Judah, God's
people taken
into captivity?

Had God kept his word?

Daniel's Captivity in Babylon

In the third year of the reign of King Jehoiakim of Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar [a] of Babylon came to Jerusalem and laid siege to it. 2 The Lord handed King Jehoiakim of Judah over to him, along with some of the vessels from the house of God. Nebuchadnezzar carried them to the land of Babylon, b to the house of his god, and put the vessels in the treasury of his god.





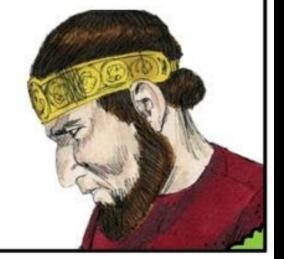
Jehoiakim's Rebellion and Death

24 During Jehoiakim's reign, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon attacked. Jehoiakim became his vassal for three years, and then he turned and rebelled against him. ² The LORD sent Chaldean, Aramean, Moabite, and Ammonite raiders against Jehoiakim. He sent them against Judah to destroy it, according to the word of the LORD he had spoken through his servants the prophets. ³ Indeed, this happened to Judah at the LORD's command to remove them from his presence. It was because of the sins of Manasseh, according to all he had done, 4 and also because of all the innocent blood he had shed. He had filled Jerusalem with innocent blood, and the LORD was not willing to forgive.

King Jehoiakim of Judah

- He was 25 when he became the king
- Pharaoh Necho of Egypt changed his name from Eliakim to Jehoiakim
- When he heard what was written on Jeremiah's scroll, he cut it and threw it into the fire
- King Nebuchadnezzar took him hostage and took him to Babylon
- King for II years in Jerusalem





- •How would act if you were in a place that nobody knew your name?
- •Nobody, not even your parents, would judge your decisions?
- •You could do anything you wanted to do, and nobody would judge you.

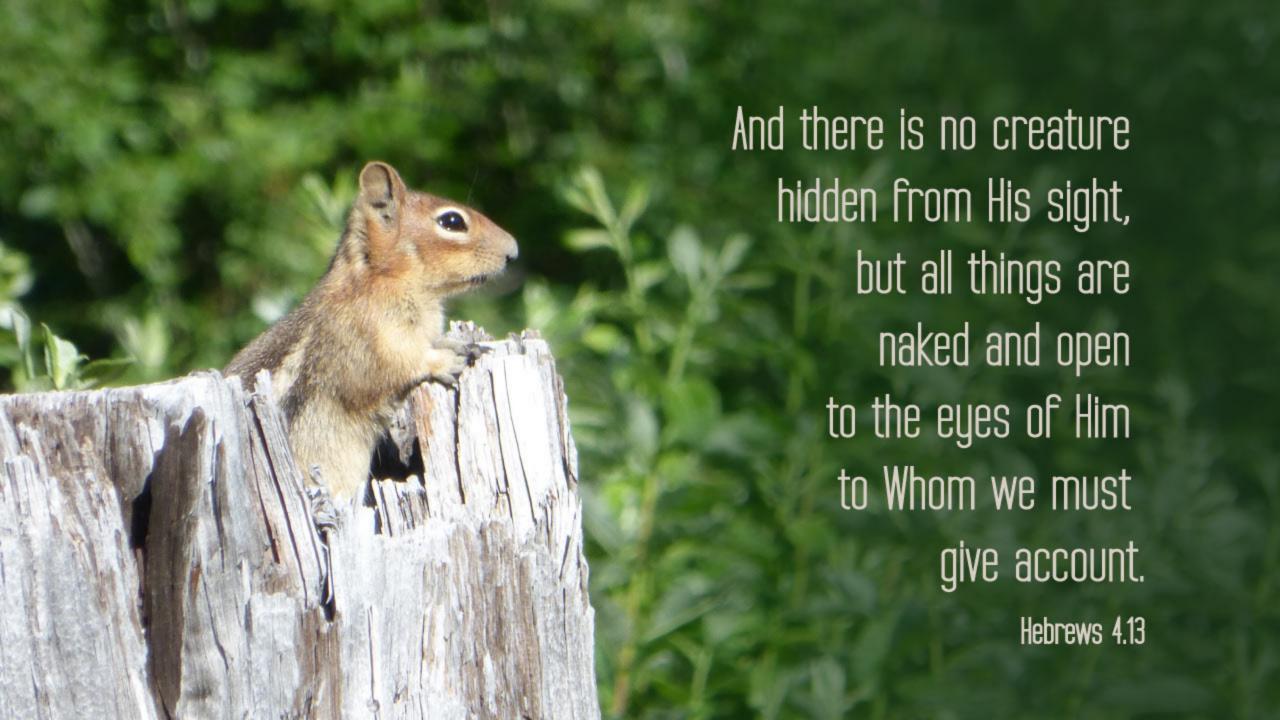




The opinion: I'm going to do what makes me happy, because that is going to give me the most pleasure. No one can judge me. It's my life.

For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

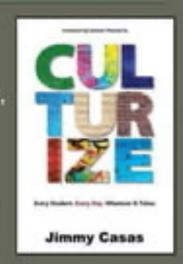
2 Corinthians 5:10



1. Satan will try to culturalize your beliefs and obscure any identity of opposing foundation

Are you cultarized?

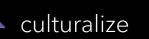
Culturalize: To cultivate a community of learners by behaving in a kind, caring honest, and compassionate manner in order to challenge and inspire each member of the school community to become more than they ever thought possible.



Casas, Jimmy. 2017. Cultuize: Every student. Every day. Whatever it takes. Dave Burgess Consulting Inc. Where is the standard? What is going to guide the person on what to think and how to live?

A. Chooses young men to indoctrinate and immerse in the Chaldean culture

³ The king ordered Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the Israelites from the royal family and from the nobility— 4 young men without any physical defect, good-looking, suitable for instruction in all wisdom, knowledgeable, perceptive, and capable of serving in the king's palace. He was to teach them the Chaldean language and literature. ⁵ The king assigned them



B. Convert them to the gods/religion of Babylon

language and literature. ⁵ The king assigned them daily provisions from the royal food and from the wine that he drank. They were to be trained for three years, and at the end of that time they were to attend the king. ^[d] ⁶ Among them, from the

If they ate the food, they would be showing allegiance to the foreign gods

The nine most well-known Babylonian deities are Ishtar, Nabu, Apshu, Shamash, Ea, Tiamat, Nergal, Marduk, and Adad,

Marduk was the patron god of Babylon who presided over justice, compassion, healing, regeneration, magic, and fairness, although he is also sometimes referenced as a storm god and agricultural deity. His temple, the famous ziggurat described by Herodotus, is considered the model for the biblical Tower of Babel.



C. Change their names/identity to honor pagan gods.

to attend the king. ^[d] ⁶ Among them, from the Judahites, were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. ⁷ The chief eunuch gave them names; he gave the name Belteshazzar to Daniel, Shadrach to Hananiah, Meshach to Mishael, and Abednego to Azariah.

Daniel- God is my judge

Hananiah- God is gracious

Mishael- Who is like God?

Azariah- helped by God

Belteshazzar- protect the life of the King

Shadrach- commander of Aku, associated with god of the moon

Meshach- guest of a king, obscure

Abednego- servant of Nabu, pagan god

2. Daniel resolves to honor God in a pagan land.

⁸ Daniel determined that he would not defile himself with the king's food ^r or with the wine he drank. So he asked permission from the chief official not to defile himself. ^{s 9} God had granted Daniel favor and compassion from the chief official, ^{t 10} yet he said to Daniel, "My lord the king assigned your food and drink. I'm afraid of what would happen if he saw your faces looking thinner than those of the other young men your age. You would endanger my life ^u with the king."

A. Daniel honors God with his desire for holiness

"Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes." - Ephesians 1:4 (NLT)

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Here is the contrast

Daniel wants to honor God

10 yet he said to Daniel, "My lord the king assigned your food and drink. I'm afraid of what would happen if he saw your faces looking thinner than those of the other young men your age. You would endanger my life with the king."

Guard only worries about himself

B. Daniel loves God with his mind-holistically

12 "Please test your servants for 10 days. Let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13 Then examine our appearance and the appearance of the young men who are eating the king's food, and deal with your servants based on what you see." 14 He agreed with them about this and tested them for 10 days.

Love the Lord your God with all your **heart**, **soul**, and **mind**.

Matthew 22:37 TLB

C. Daniel shows his allegiance by obeying God's standard

13 Then examine our appearance and the appearance of the young men who are eating the king's food, and deal with your servants based on what you see." 14 He agreed with them about this and tested them for 10 days.

3. God blesses His faithful children

15 At the end of 10 days they looked better and healthier than all the young men who were eating the king's food. 16 So the guard continued to remove their food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables.

A. God blessed them with discernment.

17 God gave these four young men knowledge and understanding in every kind of literature and wisdom. Daniel also understood visions and dreams of every kind. 18 At the end of the time that the king had said to present them, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar.

B. God blessed them with courage and a wider level of influence.

18 At the end of the time that the king had said to present them, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. 19 The king interviewed them, and among all of them, no one was found equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. So they began to serve in the king's court.



B. God blessed them with courage and a wider level of influence.

So they began to attend the king. ²⁰ In every matter of wisdom and understanding that the king consulted them about, he found them ten times^[g] better than all the magicians and mediums in his entire kingdom.



C. God preserves the faithful to the end. (85-90 yrs)

²¹ Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.

In this chapter believers are shown that those who are faithful to God will reap divine blessings, a truth that should be an encouragement to Christians today.

HE WHO BEGAN A GOOD WORK IN YOU WILL BRING IT TO COMPLETION AT THE DAY OF JESUS CHRIST.

philippians one:six



1 John 2:17

The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

