

COURAGE IN AN AGE OF COMPROMISE

Introduction to Daniel

We can have courage in an age of compromise by...

- Remembering that this is not our true **HOME**.
- Resolving to live for only one **JUDGE**.
- Realizing that in spite of appearances, God is in **CONTROL**.
- Relying on God in **HUMILITY**.

FURTHER UP, FURTHER IN

1. As you reflect back on the Christmas season, what events and situations made you feel as though you were being asked to compromise your values or beliefs?
2. Read 1 Peter 2:11-12. What does it mean that sinful passions “wage war against your soul?” How does this passage indicate the world will respond to us?
3. Read Daniel 3:17-18. What does it mean to have a “but if not” attitude? If you were going to put “but if not” in a phrase in relation to your life, how would you do so?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 5:10-15. How should Christ’s judgment motivate us?
5. What is an area of your life where you need a reminder of God’s sovereignty?
6. Why is humility so important to having courage in an age of compromise?
7. Have you started reading Daniel as part of your personal time with God? How has that been going?

OUTLINE OF DANIEL

INTRO 1 EXILE TO A LAND OF COMPROMISE (Hebrew)

STORIES 2-7 STORIES OF COURAGE: FAITHFULNESS IN BABYLON (Aramaic)

- 2 Prophecy of four kingdoms, then God’s kingdom
- 3 God’s power to deliver his servants (from the fiery furnace)
- 4 God’s humbling of a proud ruler (Nebuchadnezzar)
- 5 God’s humbling of a proud ruler (Belshazzar)
- 6 God’s power to deliver his servants (from the lion’s den)
- 7 Prophecy of four kingdoms, then God’s kingdom

VISIONS 8-12 VISIONS OF COURAGE: THE FUTURE & END OF EXILE (Hebrew)

- 8 Vision of the Ram and the Goat
- 9 Daniel’s Prayer and the Extended Exile
- 10-12 The Final Revelation and the End of Exile

“I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now. . . . Come further up, come further in!” — C.S. Lewis, The Last Battle

