Living for God in an Ungodly World

Titus 2:11-14

James wrote, "Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world" (James 1:27). Peter instructs us to make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with Him (2 Peter 3:14).

When I think of "Living for God in an Ungodly World" – I think of the Book of Daniel, (Daniel 1:1-8). In 605 B.C., Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, conquered Judah and with the conquest took into captivity a group of bright young future leaders of Judah. Among these captives were four young men, Hananiah, Mishael, Azariah and Daniel. Nebuchadnezzar had great plans for these young men. His intent was to literally brainwash or reeducate these young men thereby transforming them into agents of the Babylonian Empire. He would then be able to send them back to their homeland of Judah to govern Judah as loyal subjects of Babylon. In order to accomplish the brainwashing of the Hebrew youth, Nebuchadnezzar aimed at four areas of retraining:

He tried to change what they said - their Language - Daniel 1:4

He tried to change what they read - their Literature - Daniel 1:4

He tried to change what they did - their Lifestyle - Daniel 1:5

He tried to change what they stood for - their Loyalty -Daniel 1:7

* What does it mean to be godly? It means to have a love for the things of God and to walk in the ways of God. What do we see as our motivation for godliness? (Titus 2:11-14 and 2 Peter 3:10-12)

How do we live a godly life in an ungodly world? (1Timothy 4:7-8)

- 1. We need the right perspective:
- 2. We need the right approach:
- 3. We need the right promises:

Our anchor is Jesus Christ. He is our only salvation from sin—the anchor of our souls (see <u>Hebrews 6:19</u>) that holds firm, especially when the storms of life threaten and when the enemy's temptations blow hard against us.