

God's Grace In Exile

Daniel 1 ESV

1. THE LORD GAVE HIS PEOPLE

Daniel 1:2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God.

Sometimes God's favorites go into exile.

Jeremiah 24:3–7 And the LORD said to me, "What do you see, Jeremiah?" I said, "Figs, the good figs very good, and the bad figs very bad, so bad that they cannot be eaten." Then the word of the LORD came to me: "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Like these good figs, so I will regard as good the exiles from Judah, whom I have sent away from this place to the land of the Chaldeans. I will set my eyes on them for good, and I will bring them back to this land. I will build them up, and not tear them down; I will plant them, and not pluck them up. I will give them a heart to know that I am the LORD, and they shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart."

2. GOD GAVE HIS PEOPLE TO HELP.

Daniel 1:8a But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself.

Be in the world, but not of the world.

John 17:14–16 I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. I do not ask that you take them out of the world, but that you keep them from the evil one. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

3. GOD GAVE DANIEL WHILE IN EXILE.

Daniel 1:9 And **God gave** Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs...

God made sure Daniel passed the 10 day health test.

Daniel 1:15 NIV At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food.

4. GOD GAVE DANIEL _____ TO THRIVE.

Daniel 1:17 As for these four youths, **God gave** them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

Daniel 1:20 In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom.

THRIVING IN EXILE

1. WE ARE ALL AND GOD IS WITH US.

Hebrews 11:13 These (faithful ones) all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth.

2. LET US NOT _____ TO THE WORLD.

Rom. 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

3. PRAY FOR IN EXILE.

1 Corinthians 12:7 To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

4. TRUST IN JESUS FOR

Hebrews 4:14–16 NIV Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has ascended into heaven, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are—yet he did not sin. Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.