

Daniel - Conviction in an Age of Compromise

“The Training of Champions”

Daniel 1:1-5

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Introduction:

- A. Although he was self-trained during his early years, like all champions, _____
_____ was trained by someone who saw his potential and worked to prepare him for competition.
- B. God did the same thing with a young man from OT times named _____.
- C. The book of Daniel is a book of _____.
- D. The Bible is a book about _____.
- E. The message of Daniel is that God is _____ and is in _____ in spite of present conditions.

I. The Story

- A. When Daniel was born about _____ BC, Josiah was king of the southern half of the divided kingdom.
- B. The northern half had been conquered in _____ BC by the Assyrians.
- C. Daniel was a member of the _____ family.
- D. Daniel was about _____ years old when King Josiah was _____.
- E. The nation of Babylon sprang into prominence overnight and Nebuchadnezzar attacked _____ and laid siege to it.
- F. After the city was captured, _____ was among those who were taken _____.
- G. _____ and his _____ friends were chosen to be trained and put in service of Babylon.
- H. In the end, the king wanted them to look like _____ on the outside, but be _____ on the inside.
- I. As prisoners of _____, Daniel and his friends had some _____ to make while being indoctrinated.
- J. When they tried to feed them the _____ food, Daniel decided not to _____ himself in that way.
- K. God rewarded them with good _____ and them to _____ everything that was taught to them better than any of the other trainees

II. Application

- A. Daniel and his friends faced two of the greatest tests that can be faced.
 - 1. They had to _____ God when their _____ fell apart.
 - 2. They had to keep from _____ in the face of cultural pressure.
- B. The cultural pressure created three kinds of crisis:
 - 1. An _____ crisis - what is the truth?
 - 2. An _____ crisis - who am I?
 - 3. A _____ crisis - how should I live?
- C. From Daniel 1, we learn two spiritual principles:
 - 1. _____ conviction can overcome _____ pressure to compromise.
 - 2. God-honoring _____ yield God-given _____.

Answer Key: Intro.A. Jim, Thorpe. B. Daniel. C. paradoxes. D. God. E. all-powerful, control. I.A. 620. I.B. 728. I.C. royal. I.D. 12, killed. I.E. Jerusalem. I.F. Daniel, hostage. I.G. Daniel, three. I.H. Jews, Babylonians. I.I. war, decisions. I.J. king's, defile. I.K. health, learn. II.A.1. trust, worlds. II.A.2. compromising. II.B.1. authority. II.B.2. identity. II.B.3. moral. II.C.1. inner, outer. II.C.2. convictions, rewards.