**"EVERY TIME THEY CONQUERED A COUNTRY, THEY WOULD CARRY** OUT THE IDOLS THAT COUNTRY WORSHIPPED. HE HAD A TEMPLE FOR HIS GOD WHOSE NAME WAS MARDUK. "god collector" god museum" Nebuchadnezzar , & AMEN! [WHEN GOD SAYS "NO" YOU SAY DANIEL 1:1-8 **Don't Compromise Your Character.** August 21st, 2022 / AV 24, 5782

(TEV)

<sup>1</sup> In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah came Nebuchadnezza r king of Babylon unto Jerusalem, and besieged it.

<sup>1</sup> In the third year that Jehoiakim was king of Judah, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylonia attacked Jerusalem and surrounded the city.

#### Daniel 1:2 (KJV)

### Daniel 1:2 (TEV)

<sup>2</sup> And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with part of the vessels of the house of God: which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the vessels into the treasure house of his god.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord let him capture King Jehoiakim and seize some of the Temple treasures. He took some prisoners back with him to the temple of his gods in Babylon, and put the captured treasures in the temple storerooms.

### (TEV)

- <sup>3</sup> And the king spake unto Ashpenaz the master of his eunuchs, that he should bring *certain* of the children of Israel, and of the king's seed, and of the princes;
- Ashpenaz, his chief official, to select from among the Israelite exiles some young men of the royal family and of the noble families.

(KJV) (TEV)

<sup>4</sup> Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.

<sup>4</sup> They had to be handsome, intelligent, well-trained, quick to learn, and free from physical defects, so that they would be qualified to serve in the royal court. Ashpenaz was to teach them to read and write the Babylonian language.

(KJV) (TEV)

5 And the king appointed them a daily provision of the king's meat, and of the wine which he drank: so nourishing them three years, that at the end thereof they might stand before the king.

orders that every day they were to be given the same food and wine as the members of the royal court. After three years of this training they were to appear before the king.



(TEV)

6 Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: 6 Among those chosen were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, all of whom were from the tribe of Judah.



(TEV)

<sup>7</sup> Unto whom the prince of the eunuchs gave names: for he gave unto **Daniel** the name of **Belteshazzar**; and to **Hananiah**, of Shadrach; and to Mishael, of Meshach; and to Azariah, of Abednego.

<sup>7</sup> The chief official gave them new names: Belteshazzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.



- The names that these boys have reveal that their parents feared the Lord. They are singled out because they are going to take a stand for the Lord.
- 1. Daniel = His name means "God is my Judge." It is interesting to note that this is the way he lived his life. He knew the Lord was judging or watching over him. Daniel was given a pagan name.
- **Belteshazzar** = This means "The god Bel favors; the prince of Bel." Bel's proper name was **Marduk**, the sun god. **Bel** is possibly believed to be Cush, the father of Nimrod. Bel means "the confounder."
- 2. Hannaniah = His name means "Beloved of the Lord or the Lord is gracious." He too, is given a new name.
- **Shadrach** = This means "Illuminated by the sun god or the servant of Sin," the **moon god**. Others render it "The command of **Aku**."
- 3. Mishael = This means "Who is as God or he who comes from God." His name is changed.
- **Meshach** = This means "He who belongs to the goddess Sheshach or who is like Venus." **Venus** was considered the mother of God. In earlier history, she was known as Semaramis, the mother and wife of Nimrod. Meshach has connections with being an earth god.
- **4. Azariah** = His name means "**The Lord is my help.**" It was changed to Abednego.
- **Abednego** = This means "Servant of Nego or Nebo." It also means "servant of shining fire." Nebo was the son of Bel. He was the Babylonian god of writing and vegetation. He was also known as Nabu.



(KJV) (TEV)

8 But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that **he might** not defile himself.

8 Daniel made up his mind not to let himself become ritually unclean by eating the food and drinking the wine of the royal court, so he asked Ashpenaz to help him,

### "HOW DOES GOD TELL US "NO"?

# HOW DOES GOD LEAD US TO LEARN WHEN, WHERE AND HOW TO SAY "NO"?

HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHAT IS RIGHT AND WRONG IN ANY GIVEN SITUATION AND HOW DO MAKE SURE YOU DO THE RIGHT THING AND NOT DO THE WRONG THING?

GO THROUGH THIS CHECKLIST [NO, & AMEN!]

ASK THREE QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU DO.

## 1. Does This Defoul My Integrity?



GO THROUGH THIS CHECKLIST [NO, & AMEN!]

ASK THREE QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU DO.

# 2. Does This Disagree with My <a href="Idea of Morals">Idea of Morals</a>?



GO THROUGH THIS CHECKLIST [NO, & AMEN!]

ASK THREE QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU DO.

# 3. Does This Disobey God's <a href="Instructions">Instructions</a>?



- 1. Does This Defoul My Integrity?
- 2. Does This Disagree with My <a href="Idea of Morals">Idea of Morals</a>?
- 3. Does This Disobey God's Instructions?



So how does one become decisive?
What will help you and I to be decisive and make up our minds?

- 1. Preparation Helps you Become Decisive
- 2. Persistence Will Help you to be Decisive
- 3. Principles of Virtue Help you Become Decisive

## Virtuous Principles and Convictions Enable People to be Decisive

- A. Decisive in Shunning Sexual Temptations
- **B.** Decisive in Suffering For What is Right
- C. Decisive in Standing For the Lord
- **D.** Decisive in Shunning Satanic Temptation

So how does one become decisive?
What will help you and I to be decisive and make up our minds?

- 4. Having a Purpose Helps you to Be Decisive Having a purpose helped several Bible characters to decisively live for God.
- A. Having a Purpose Helps you to SERVE THE LORD—
- B. Having a Purpose Helps you to STAND FOR THE LORD
- C. Having a Purpose Helps to Prevent you From Being SIDETRACKED
- D. Having a Purpose Helps you to Be STEADFAST
- E. Having a Purpose Helps you to STRAIGHTEN OUT your Life

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