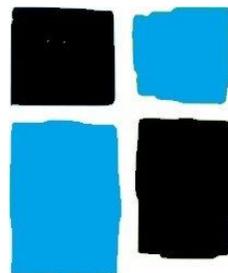


DANIEL: WINTER 2022 Life Group Lesson Devotional for Grey Stone
01.23.22 “Integrity Established” from Daniel 1:8-21

Compiled by Randall S. Floyd

(Sources: Serendipity NIV Bible; Richards Commentary, Shepherd’s Commentary; The Word-in Life Study Bible; Holman OT Commentary; Christ-Centered Exposition Commentary).



Read Daniel 1

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Daniel+1&version=NIRV>

Daniel’s book tells us not only about the important prophecies God gave him, but also about the life he lived. I hope you’ll join us this week as we continue our study of the Book of Daniel and discover God’s future plans for you while obeying God in the present. Today, we will discover that believers can live with integrity when tempted to compromise. Let’s launch into Daniel together this week! **Read Daniel 1:8-21** and the comments on **Session 01*** found in your copy of the ETB Personal Study Guide. I have written some devotional thoughts and questions on today’s passages below.

Summary 01: Intro to Daniel

This book was written by the Prophet DANIEL, whose name means “God is my Judge.” It is written in 3rd person singular, however, Jesus stated that Daniel wrote the book (Mt.24:15, Mk 13:14; Lk 22:69). Daniel grew up in the captivity of Babylon, witnessing many historical events and visions and wrote this book sometime after 536 BC. He was originally put into the service of the conquering king and eventually took a key administrative role. Daniel ministered close to 70 years and worked under four major rulers: Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar, the Median King Darius; and the Persian Ruler, Cyrus. The Babylonians had taken both Daniel and Ezekiel into captivity at about the same time. In addition to Jeremiah, these eyewitness-prophets helped the people understand the activity and the plans of the Lord, even during difficult times.

Question: Why do these Old Testament Books matter to us in the 21st century?

Summary 02: Read Daniel 1:8-16

Daniel and his fellow captives from Judah were upstanding young men. God had an exciting adventure and purpose for them. They took a courageous stand for God even though the decision could have cost them their lives. The refusal to eat the food was based on a deep religious conviction. Even though their home was far away, they did not make an excuse that God had not protected them from captivity, so they wouldn’t obey His commands. They took a brave stand.

*Question: Why do you think these young men resolved not to eat the king’s food?
What would you have done in this situation?*

Summary 03: Read Daniel 1:17-21

Believers are shown that those who are faithful to God can reap His blessings. We are not guaranteed earthly success (see Dan. 3:18; 7:25; & 8:24). Faithfulness is invariably rewarded but it may be in our eternal life in heaven.

Question: Does God always reward righteousness? How?

Conclusions: Today believers also face moral and spiritual tests and should remain faithful to God. We can follow the example of Daniel and his friends in uncertain times, knowing that God sees all we say, think, and do.

Quotable: “Each believer is either a conformer or a transformer.” Warren Weisbe

Prayer: Lord, help me to remain steadfast in my loyalty to You, Your commands, and Your ways. Amen