

# *DANIEL: Obedience in the Face of Opposition*

*Studies in the Book of Daniel, Chapter 1:1-21*

*Fall-Winter 2018-2019, Pastor Paul R. Martin*

## *Being Faithful and Obedient*

&

*Creative Ways of Being True to God*

### **I. The Historical Setting of Daniel**

- A. The siege of Jerusalem (1)
- B. The sovereignty of God in the affairs of nations (2a)
- C. What often appears to be the work of Satan is actually the judgment of God (2b)
- D. Forced assimilation and retraining of leaders from subject people groups (3-5)
  - 1. Chosen from leading and royal families
  - 2. Chosen because of exceptional potential
- E. The exceptional youths from Judah (Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, Asariah) (6-7)

### **II. The Courage of Obedience in the Face of Opposition**

- A. Daniel's determination—he determines not to defile himself (8a)
- B. Daniel's method and God's favor—he seeks permission and God honors his humility (8b-9)
- C. Daniel has a plan—"Let's do a test." (10-14)
- D. God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble; there is blessing in obedience

### **III. God's Providential Care for the Faithful**

- A. The Outcome of the Test—Daniel and his friends are healthy and strong in appearance (15-16)
- B. God's blessings in knowledge and wisdom (17)
- C. An interview with the King—they prove to be the most wise men in the kingdom (18-20)
- D. Daniel continues in leadership until the reign of Cyrus (21)  
This is the summary of Daniel's life in Babylon. He continued to honor the Lord and serve Him above all others and he lived a long life of service to His people and to the kingdom, bringing honor and glory to God through his wisdom and prophecy

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