

DARE TO BE A DANIEL?

Introduction:

- A. Romans 15:4; EK 14:14, 20; 28:3; MT 24:15
- B. Let us notice some things about Daniel's character and life-style to be of help to us.
Daniel Was a Man of....

DISCUSSION

- I. PREEMINENCE – DA 1:3, 4, 6.
 - A. He Was of Royal Descent.
 - 1. Because he was of Royal Descent, he was set apart for special instruction.
 - 2. We too can stand out above those who are in sin if we are of Royal Descent.
 - a. God is King– 1 TI 1:17.
 - b. He is our spiritual Father– JN 1:12; GA 3:26, 27.
 - c. We are God's children; thus, the heirs of God– RO 8:16, 17.
 - B. He Had No Blemishes.
 - 1. That is, he had no physical imperfections– cf. LE 21:16-24; 2 SA 14:25.
 - 2. We too can be preeminent if we are found without any spiritual blemishes.
 - a. 1 JN 1:7; Acts 22:16; RO 6:3-11.
 - b. We must be careful to remain blemish free– 2 PE 3:14.
 - C. He Had Knowledge.
 - 1. Because he had knowledge to some degree, he was set apart for further instruction and was found to be preeminent to all the others– DA 1:20.
 - 2. We too can stand out above others if we have knowledge of God's word– RO 10:13-17.
 - a. We must have knowledge of God's will before we can obey it and be saved– MK 16:15, 16.
 - b. We must continue to grow in knowledge– cf. 2 PE 3:18.
 - D. Daniel was preeminent because among other things he was of Royal descent, without blemish, and had knowledge of God's will.
- II. PURPOSE – DA 1:8ff.
 - A. Whatever the reason Daniel would not eat, he purposed in his heart not to eat; thus, he did not eat.
 - B. We too need to purpose in our hearts that we will do the Lord's will at all times and at all places–cf. 1 CO 15:58. We need to purpose in our heart that no matter where we are or who is watching us we will always do what is right before God.
- III. PRINCIPLE.
 - A. Daniel was a man who purposed in his heart to obey God and only God.
 - B. DA 1:8-16– He refused to eat of the King's dainties.
 - C. DA 5:13-ff– Daniel could interpret the writings but refused the gifts of Belshazzar. He would not compromise the truth of the interpretation even for personal gain.
 - D. DA 6:4-10– Law prohibited prayer to God for 30 days; he continued prayer life as before; thus, thrown into den of Lions.
- IV. PRAYER – DA 6:10.
 - A. DA 9:1-23– Daniel's prayer for his people.
 - B. Daniel was a man of prayer; constantly addressing his eternal Father.
 - C. We too need to be characterized by prayer– CO 4:2; 1 TH 5:16-18; LK 11:1.

CONCLUSION

- A. The Lord wants more Daniel's.
- B. Would you dare to be a Daniel?