

The Book of Daniel  
"COMPROMISE AND CONFIDENCE"  
Daniel 1:1-21

Introduction

1. To compromise often means to lose one's confidence in the Lord and His timing of events. It proposes an easy mundane solution.
2. It is a patent statement that confidence in the Lord is worthy of every child of His, even when compromise might appear to bring more favourable goals.
3. The action of Daniel and his friends in our text establishes four aspects of confidence which merit our faithful attention:
  1. The TIME of confidence vv. 1-2.
    - a. In times of national distress.  
The Northern portion of the Israelite kingdom had already gone into captivity; now the southern portion was being harrassed by a foreign power.
    - b. In times of personal distress.  
Daniel and his friends were among those removed from home, land, and situation to exile in an eastern empire.
    - c. In times of moral distress.  
2 Kings 17 gives vocal concern and reason for the fearful moral condition of the Israelite nation.
  2. The TEST of confidence vv. 3-7
    - a. Comparatively--with others.  
All were not called upon to stand a test, for Daniel was selected (v. 3).
    - b. Morally--with standards.  
Foreign indulgences were made the basis for godly character testing!
    - c. Educationally--with attainments.  
Not the least of Israel's exiles were called upon, but the best.

d. Extensively--with times.  
Most amazingly, the test was to  
last three years (v. 5)!!!!

3. The TERMS of confidence vv. 8-14.

a. Internal determination.

Daniel's purpose of heart has  
stood thru the years for quality  
of life.

b. External provocation.

1) Heavenly assistance. How  
blessed is the word that "God  
made" Daniel to find favour in v. 9.

2) Earthly insistence. Daniel co-  
operated with God and held his  
ground asking for time to prove  
God.

4. The TRIUMPH of confidence vv. 15-21.

a. Demonstratively.

Both face and body were evidently  
heaven-helped.

b. Educationally.

Whereas they had known certain  
facts, God now gives them skill  
in all learning.

c. Positionally.

Daniel and his friends were brought  
before the king and they communed  
with him.

Conclusion: If we like Daniel and his friends would  
have confidence in the Lord and not suffer ourselves  
to compromise, how great would be our triumph! May  
the Lord be pleased to help us today.

NOTES