**HE DID IT ON PURPOSE**

**Daniel 1:3-17**

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[**3**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-3/)**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;**

[**4**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-4/)**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.**

[**5**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-5/)**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.**

[**6**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-6/)**Now among these were of the children of Judah, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah:**

[**7**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-7/)**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.**

[**8**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-8/)**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.**

[**9**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-9/)**Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs.**

[**10**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-10/)**And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than**

**the children which *are* of your sort? then shall ye make *me* endanger my head to the king.**

[**11**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-11/)**Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,**

[**12**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-12/)**Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.**

[**13**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-13/)**Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants.**

[**14**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-14/)**So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.**

[**15**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-15/)**And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.**

[**16**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-16/)**Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.**

[**17**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-17/)**As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom: and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.**

**INTRO: (Preach the Text)**

**\*\*Daniel was determined to live for God on purpose! (V-8)**

**\*\*Are you and I really living for God on purpose?**

**\*\*There’s three things I want to for God on purpose!**

 **1. I want to Seek God’s Spirit on Purpose!**

 **2. I want to Share God’s Salvation on Purpose!**

 **3. I want to Stay God’s Servant on Purpose!**

**\*\*To accomplish this let’s look at what Daniel did on purpose and model our lives after him!**

**I. HE PLEASED GOD ON PURPOSE**

**Galatians 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.**

 **A. Despite the Forces He Lived for God**

**Daniel 1:5 [5](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-5/%22%20%5Co%20%22Daniel%201%3A5%20KJV%20verse%20detail)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.**

**\*\*Daniel was determined to live for God . . .**

 **1. Despite the Push.**

 **2. Despite the Pressure.**

**\*\*The forces of evil are pushing and pressuring us Christians more and more everyday to eat their contaminated meat and drink their wine.**

**\*\*We need to make up our mind to please God despite the forces of evil!**

 **B. Despite the Fears He Lived for God**

**Daniel 1:10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which *are* of your sort? then shall ye make *me* endanger my head to the king.**

 **1. The Prince feared the Conclusion**

**Daniel 1:10d for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which *are* of your sort?**

 **2. The Prince feared the Casualties**

**Daniel 1:10e then shall ye make *me* endanger my head to the king.**

**\*\*Daniel ignored the fears and lived for God on purpose.**

**\*\*Ignore the forces and fears and live for God on purpose!**

**II. HE PRAISED GOD ON PURPOSE**

**Daniel 2:20 Daniel answered and said, Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his:**

**\*\*In chapter 2, the king had a dream, and God told Daniel what the dream meant. Daniel praised God on purpose despite the anxiety and the atmosphere!**

 **A. When He was Around the Brethern He Praised God**

**Daniel 2:17 Then Daniel went to his house, and made the thing known to Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, his companions:**

 **1. If you can’t praise God with the Christians you’re not living for God on purpose!**

 **2. If you can’t praise God with the Church you’re not living for God on purpose!**

 **B. When He was Amongst the Bad He Praised God**

**Daniel 2:27-28** [**27**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-2-27/)**Daniel answered in the presence of the king, and said, The secret which the king hath demanded cannot the wise *men*, the astrologers, the magicians, the soothsayers, shew unto the king;**

[**28**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-2-28/) **But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these;**

 **1. God’s Wisdom was Daniel’s Secret**

 **2. God’s Words was Daniel’s Source**

**\*\*Daniel had the favor of the Lord because Daniel was not afraid to praise God on purpose even among the bad!**

**\*\*Let’s be like Daniel and praise God on purpose in our church and even in our community despite the bad and despite the bullies in this world!**

**III. HE PROVED GOD ON PURPOSE**

**Daniel 1:12, 14-15** [**12**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-12/)**Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink.**

[**14**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-14/)**So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days.** [**15**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-1-15/)**And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat.**

**\*\*Pulse – Zeroa (Zay Ray O En) It is vegetables that were eaten in a half fast. Instead of the meat and the wine, Daniel requested to eat vegetables and water, and he promised that God would prove himself to be faithful.**

 **A. God was proven to be Real**

 **1. Their Faces proved their God was Real. (V-15)**

 **2. Their Flesh proved their God was Real. (V-15)**

 **a. It was Fairer than the meat eaters.**

 **b. It was Fatter than the meat eaters.**

 **3. Their Faith proved their God was Real.**

 **a. On purpose faith got Daniel Favor. (V-9)**

 **b. On purpose faith got Daniel Food. (V-16)**

 **B. God was proven to be Responsive**

**\*\*God responded to the on purpose faith and granted . . .**

 **1. Intelligence**

**Daniel 1:17a As for these four children, God gave them knowledge and skill in all learning and wisdom:**

 **2. Insight**

**Daniel 1:17b . . . and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.**

 **C. God was proven to be Remarkable**

 **1. Concerning the Foresight, God was Remarkable.**

**Daniel 1:20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding, that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians *and* astrologers that *were* in all his realm.**

 **2. Concerning the Freedom, God was Remarkable.**

**Daniel 2:48 Then the king made Daniel a great man, and gave him many great gifts, and made him ruler over the whole province of Babylon, and chief of the governors over all the wise *men* of Babylon.**

 **3. Concerning the Furnace, God was Remarkable.**

**Daniel 3:24-25 24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astonied, and rose up in haste,*and* spake, and said unto his counsellors, Did not we cast three men bound into the midst of the fire? They answered and said unto the king, True, O king.** [**25**](http://www.kingjamesbibleonline.org/Daniel-3-25/) **He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.**

**\*\*Let’s be like Daniel, and when the opportunity arises let’s have faith that proves God on purpose that He is Real, Responsive, and Remarkable.**

**CLOSE Illustration: Many years before Abraham Lincoln was elected president, he was a store-keeper in llinois. Abe had a rifle displayed in his store that was one of the most beautiful rifles ever made. The barrel was made from the finest steel, the stock from the best walnut wood; and a world-famous gunsmith had assembled the gun. The price was extremely reasonable. Displayed next to this attractive gun was a rack of ordinary Kentucky squirrel rifles. These long-barrel rifles were made from ordinary gun steel, and plain wooden stocks. Yet, the price was higher.**

**A customer entered the store looking for a new rifle. He was impressed by the fine-looking gun, but was confused as to why it was priced much lower than the less attractive rifles. Abe explained that the good-looking rifle was for show, while the others were for shooting. The pioneer bought the Kentucky squirrel rifle.**

**A little while later, a rich farmer was decorating a room in his country mansion. He wanted to place a gun over the fireplace mantle with his big game trophies. Abe's fancy gun was exactly what he needed. The fact that it would not shoot was irrelevant. His purpose for the gun was just to impress people who came by.**

**God has given each of us a purpose, too. We can choose to purposely work for God's glory or we can choose to be decorations in the church. What purpose are you serving in your relationship with Christ?**

**\*\*My desire is to Please God, Praise God, and Prove God on Purpose! Daniel did it on purpose. What about you?**