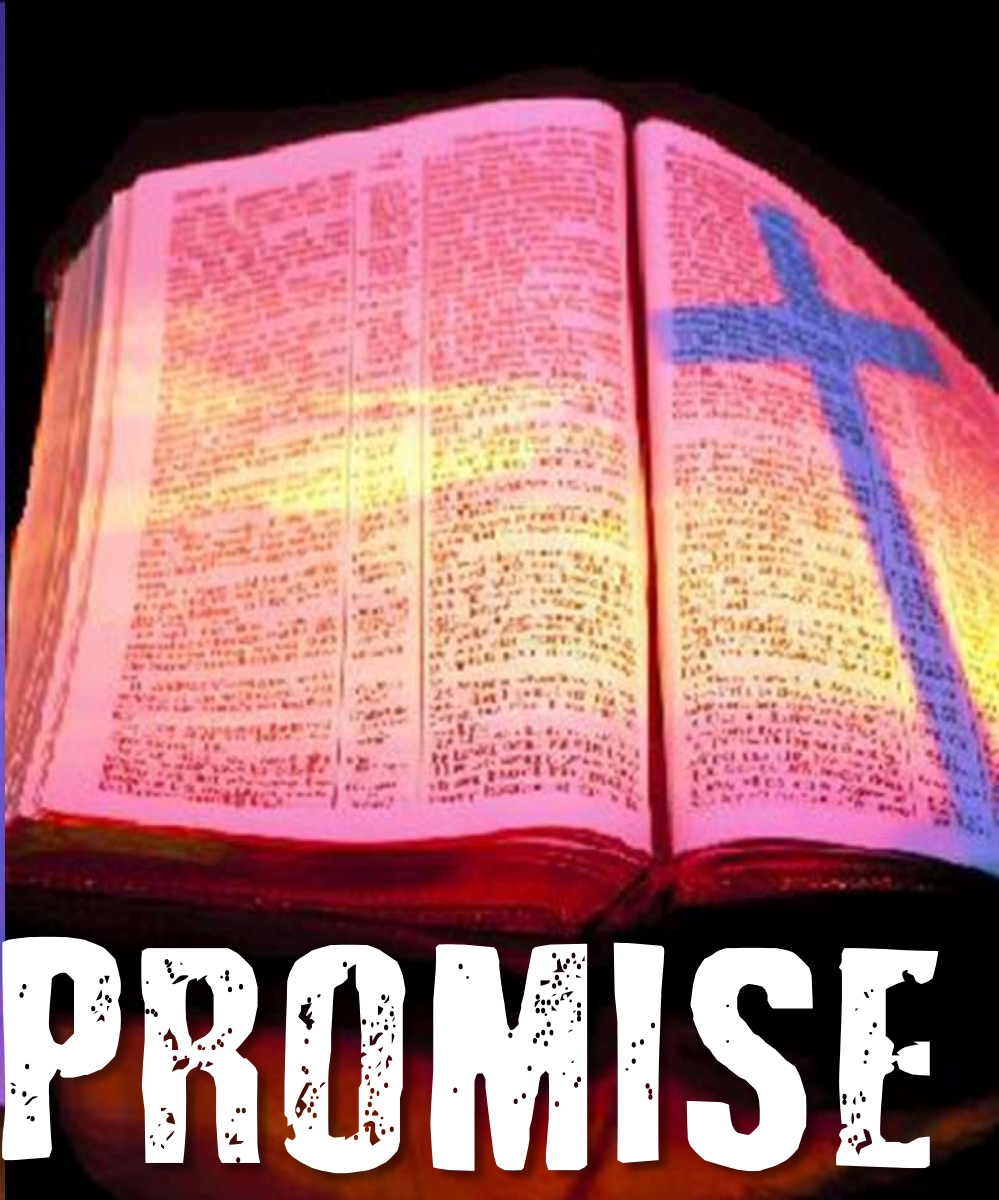




- We are living in a society where it is getting more and more difficult to live the Christian life without compromise.
- Our society tells us that what may be true for you may not be true for me and that all of us are entitled to our own truth.



NO COMPROMISE



“DANIEL”

“BACKGROUND”



- Daniel was born into a Jewish royal family.
- As he was perhaps a young teenager, the city of Jerusalem was attacked.
- Taken away to the city of Babylon to eventually serve in the court of King Nebuchadnezzar.

ISAIAH 39:5-7

“Hear the word of the LORD of hosts: Behold, the days are coming when all that is in your house and all that your fathers have laid up in store to this day will be carried to Babylon; nothing will be left,” says the LORD. And some of your sons who will issue from you, whom you will beget, will be taken away, and they will become officials [that is, “eunuchs”] in the palace of the king of Babylon.”

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DANIEL
HAD VERY
STRONG
CONVICTIONS

DANIEL 1:1-8

“In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 2 The Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the vessels of the house of God; and he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and he brought the vessels into the treasury of his god. 3 Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials [lit., eunuchs], to bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles,”

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DANIEL 1:1-8

“youths in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in every branch of wisdom, endowed with understanding and discerning knowledge, and who had ability for serving in the king's court; and he ordered him to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. 5 The king appointed for them a daily ration from the king's choice food and from the wine which he drank, and appointed that they should be educated three years, at the end of which they were to enter the king's personal service.”

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DANIEL 1:1-8

“Now among them from the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.

7 Then the commander of the officials assigned new names to them; and to Daniel he assigned the name Belteshazzar, to Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael Meshach and to Azariah Abed-nego. 8 But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself. “

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“NAME CHANGE”



- Daniel was a Hebrew name meaning, “God is My Judge.” - changed to Belteshazzar, meaning, “Bel, Protect His Life,” a reference to Bel, the chief Babylonian god.
- Hananiah, meaning “The Lord Shows Grace,” changed to Shadrach, meaning, “Under the Command of Akuk” (the Sumerian moon-god).
- Mishael, meaning, “Who Is What God Is,” changed to, “Meshack,” meaning, “Who is What Aku is?”
- Azariah, meaning, “The Lord Helps,” changed to Abednego, meaning, “Servant of Nego,” another Babylonian god.

“IMAGINE HIS POSITION”



- “I have been ripped away from home, these people have done this to me, they have even changed my name.”
- “How can I believe all of these old stories about God being the Lord of heaven and earth?”
- “How can I put my trust in God when God has allowed all of these horrible things to happen?”

DANIEL 1:8

“But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself. ”

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“MADE UP HIS MIND”



- He made a decision in his heart, and that is where it starts.
- The word “defiled” refers to something that is polluted.
- Our world says, “You need to wear this! You need to eat this! You need to spend your money on this! You need to watch this! You need to go to this website!”

PSALM 119:11

“Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You.”

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“MADE UP HIS MIND”



- If we wait to make a decision until we get pressured to do something, chances are it will not end well.
- “Daniel might have been in Babylon, but Babylon was not in Daniel.”



*“We may be in the
United States, but
the United States
should not be in us.”*



DANIEL
DID THE RIGHT
THING UNDER
INTENSE PRESSURE

DANIEL 1:9-16

“Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials, 10 and the commander of the officials said to Daniel, “I am afraid of my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink; for why should he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would make me forfeit my head to the king.” 11 But Daniel said to the overseer whom the commander of the officials had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah,”

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DANIEL 1:9-16

"Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13 "Then let our appearance be observed in your presence and the appearance of the youths who are eating the king's choice food; and deal with your servants according to what you see." 14 So he listened to them in this matter and tested them for ten days."

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DANIEL 1:9-16

"15 At the end of ten days their appearance seemed better and they were fatter than all the youths who had been eating the king's choice food. 16 So the overseer continued to withhold their choice food and the wine they were to drink, and kept giving them vegetables."

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“MADE UP HIS MIND”



- Something as seemingly insignificant as food?
- Satan tempts: the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the boastful pride of life.
- The pressure to conform to this world, the pressure to slowly move God out of first place is intense.



DANIEL

TRUSTED GOD FOR
THE OUTCOME

DANIEL 1:17-21

“As for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom; Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and dreams. 18 Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar. 19 The king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's personal service.”

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DANIEL 1:17-21

20 As for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king consulted them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and conjurers who were in all his realm. 21 And Daniel continued until the first year of Cyrus the king.

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“TRUSTING GOD”



- God did not miraculously free Daniel from slavery.
- God did not miraculously transport Daniel hundreds of miles back home.
- God did not give back what the Babylonians had taken—there was no miraculous healing for Daniel and his buddies.

“TRUSTING GOD”



- God did make sure that Daniel and his three friends excelled far beyond their peers, and God put them in a position where they were able to do good for many years into the future.

DANIEL 1:21

*“And Daniel continued
until the first year of Cyrus
the king.”*

NO
COMPROMISE





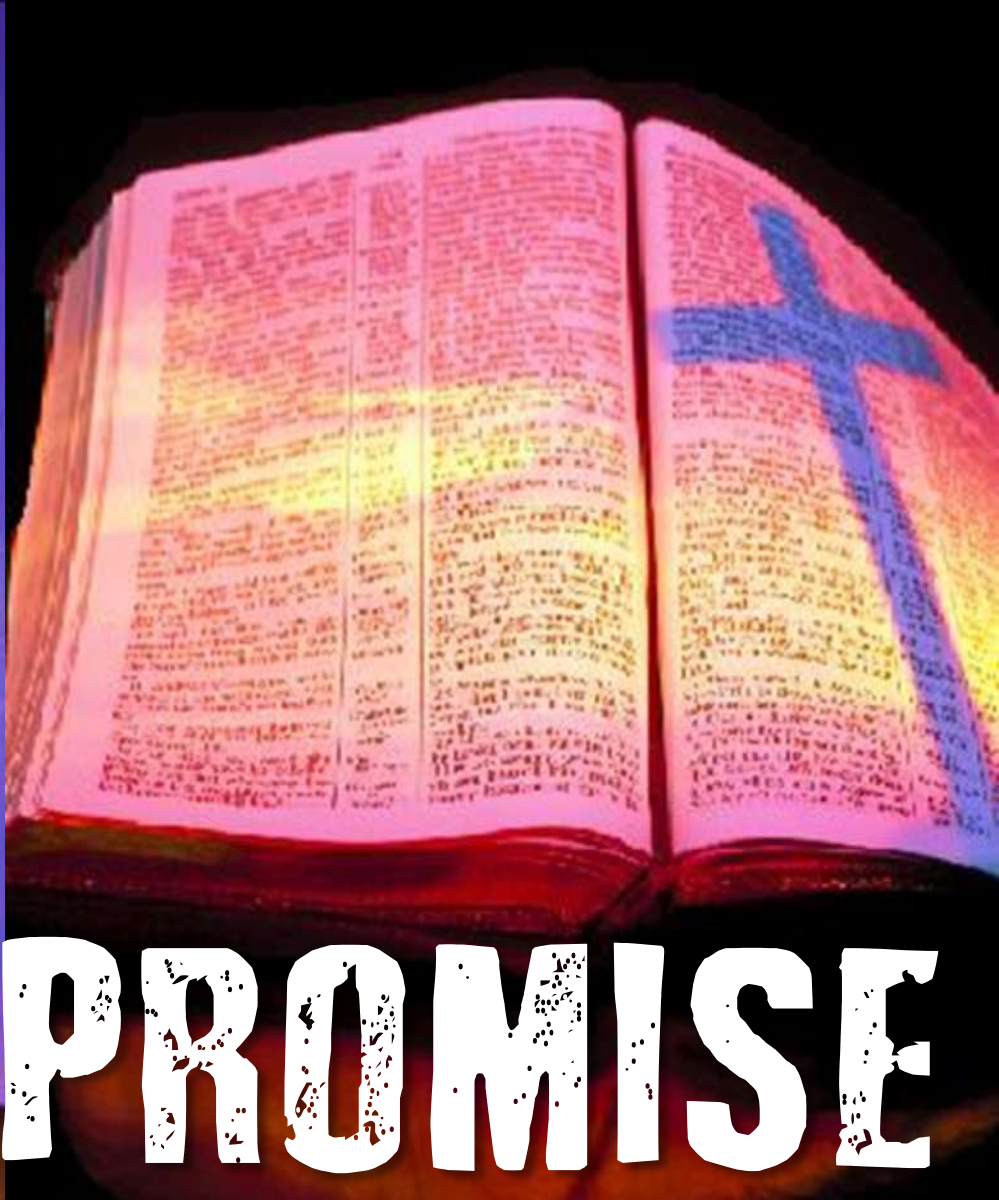
CONCLUSION



- Take a firm stand to always do what is right, no compromise, no matter what—
 - *regardless of the cost, regardless of the consequences, and regardless of how insignificant the decision may seem at the time.*
- *“Either we are going to be owned by the Lord or we are going to be owned by this world.”*



NO COMPROMISE



NO COMPROMISE

