

WHAT ARE YOU TOLERATING?

LIVING FOR GOD IN A CULTURE THAT DOESN'T - THE BOOK OF DANIEL - Part #2

Pastor Kevin Cummings – August 17, 2025

Daniel 3:1-30

I. We must live by inner _____, not outside pressure. (v. 1-15)

- A. This will go against _____.
• Life is not about conforming to the laws of men, but about obeying to the laws of God. (Exodus 20:4)
- B. This will bring _____.
1. When we face opposition, we find out who our real enemies are and who our real friends are.
2. When we face opposition, we must not be surprised but must put on the armor of God. (James 1:2-4; Eph. 6:10-18)
- C. This will bring _____. (I Peter 2:12; 4:12)
1. When you rationalize, you tell rational lies.
2. The main question we must all answer is: "Is it true?" (Romans 13:1-7; Acts 5:29)

II. We must live according to the _____ not the world. (v. 16-18)

- It does not matter what the majority thinks; what matters is what God thinks and what God thinks has been revealed in His Word.
- A. This will require _____. (v. 16; Acts 4:13, 29)
• Courage comes from the conviction that God is in control.
- B. This will require _____. (v. 17)
1. They had an unshakeable confidence in God's ability. (II Corinthians 9:8; Hebrews 2:18; 7:25; I Timothy 1:12; Jude 24)
2. Far too often we follow our gut instead of God.
- C. This will require _____. (v. 18)

1. The issue is not God's ability; it's His sovereign will.
2. Our faith isn't based on what we think God is going to do or on what we hope He will do; our faith is based on who God is. (Job 13:15; Esther 4:16; Phil.1:21)

III. We must live according to the _____ not the protection of men. (v. 19-30)

- A. He will never _____ us. (v. 19-25; Josh. 1:5-9; Mt. 28:20)
"When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze. For I am the LORD your God..." Isaiah 43:2-3a
- B. He will _____ us. (v. 26-28)
"But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead. He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us again. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us." II Corinthians 1:9-10
1. Sometimes God delivers us from our troubles.
 2. Sometimes God delivers us in our troubles.
- C. He will _____ our obedience. (v. 29-30)
"The Lord declares: Those who honor me I will honor." I Samuel 2:30
1. Obedience always brings glory to God.
 2. Obedience always brings blessings from God. (Deuteronomy 11:26-28)

ACTION POINTS:

- 1.) Living for God in today's culture starts with having a _____ with God.
- 2.) Everyone lives with pressure; few live with _____ while holding onto God's promises.
- 3.) What are you _____ that God doesn't?
- 4.) What does it mean _____ to live for God in today's culture?

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- A. This will go against popular opinion.
 - Life is not about conforming to the laws of men, but about obeying to the laws of God. (Exodus 20:4)
- B. This will bring opposition.
 - 1. When we face opposition, we find out who our real enemies are and who our real friends are.
 - 2. When we face opposition, we must not be surprised but must put on the armor of God. (James 1:2-4; Eph. 6:10-18)
- C. This will bring temptation. (I Peter 2:12; 4:12)
 - 1. When you rationalize, you tell rational lies.
 - 2. The main question we must all answer is: "Is it true?" (Romans 13:1-7; Acts 5:29)

II. We must live according to the Word not the world. (v. 16-18)

- It does not matter what the majority thinks; what matters is what God thinks and what God thinks has been revealed in His Word.
- A. This will require courage. (v. 16; Acts 4:13, 29)
 - Courage comes from the conviction that God is in control.
- B. This will require confidence. (v. 17)
 - 1. They had an unshakeable confidence in God's ability. (II Corinthians 9:8; Hebrews 2:18; 7:25; I Timothy 1:12; Jude 24)
 - 2. Far too often we follow our gut instead of God.
- C. This will require commitment. (v. 18)

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III. We must live according to the promises of God not the protection of men. (v. 19-30)

- A. He will never leave us. (v. 19-25; Joshua 1:5-9; Matthew 28:20)

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ACTION POINTS:

- 1.) Living for God in today's culture starts with having a relationship with God.
- 2.) Everyone lives with pressure; few live with principle and perspective while holding onto God's promises.
- 3.) What are you tolerating that God doesn't?
- 4.) What does it mean practically for you to live for God in today's culture?

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What does it mean practically for you to live for God in today's culture?