When Daniel Took A Stand

Greg Kline · Daniel 1:1–20

INTRODUCTION

- We know that this world is temporary. We know that we are in a struggle.
- As Christians, as followers of God, we need to constantly be ones who stand firm no matter what's going on around us. And we take action to actually help the world around us.
- The easiest thing to do is to see darkness and to complain, to sit and do nothing. But God says his soldiers in the spiritual war are to get up, to stand up, to take action.

1 Daniel Resolved He Would Not Defile Himself

Daniel 1:1–5; Daniel 1:8–16; Daniel 1:17

- But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food or with the wine that he drank.
- He resolved, he made this decision from the forefront, from the beginning, he would not defile himself.
- One of the first steps that Daniel understood to achieving that level of faithfulness that's pleasing to God is to set not just a plan, but a specific plan.
- We have to know truly and live out the implications of God always being right and his way always being best.
- Sometimes it doesn't always work out this way, but what we have to understand is whether we see it or not, whose way is always best? God's way is.
- God's ways are best, and God is to be followed always.

2 We Have to Be Willing to Be the Only One

Philippians 2:12–16; 1 Peter 5:8–10

- When I am the only one, or I feel like I am the only one, am I willing then to stand up?
- When you see nothing but darkness, you shine. You don't stop.
- The second way to understand a crooked and twisted generation is to say, this is an opportunity for God.
- Resist him. Stand firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world.
- We have to know that we are not alone.
- We will never be alone because our God will not let us be.

3 Stand Up and Stand Strong for What Is Right

Hebrews 11:32–40; Matthew 26

- Note what standing firm and standing up does. It comes with great victory and great cost.
- Standing firm and taking action is an easy catchphrase. It's a very difficult life practice.

- We have to stand up and stand strong for what is right, no matter the cost, because our God is worth it.
- He died while we were enemies, while we were sinners, while we were ungodly and helpless.
- Jesus went through with God's plan because he understood that God's plan is all that matters.

4 We Have to Make a Plan and Take Action

Daniel 11:32; Daniel 1:8

- I ask you this morning, what is your action plan?
- If we don't have a plan, we won't take action.
- Like Daniel, we have to first immerse ourselves in God's will.
- We've got to open the book. We've got to study the word. We have to be people of the word.
- Second part of that plan is not just to make a plan or to know the word, but then to take action on it.
- Who do you go arm in arm with to challenge you to say, how are you doing on your goal?

THE CHALLENGE

Consider this morning you have an opportunity this day to please God. To say, what would God want from my day today? What does God want from my life? Make that your plan.

MY NOTES