

Success Without Compromise

For so many today, the ends justify the means. In other words, if something is a worthy goal, it doesn't matter what you have to do to achieve it. White lies are told. Stepping on or over others is seen as a valid approach. In the case of our study today, compromise of one's principles is needed to get ahead.

That is a false assumption! To show that this claim is false, one merely needs to look to the example of Daniel. In 606 B.C. Daniel and his friends were carried away into Babylonian Captivity. These young men were probably no more than 14-17 years of age. Yet, they stand as powerful examples of how to live in surroundings with which you are not familiar and that can be seen as hostile.

Daniel rose to a place of prominence in the Babylonian Empire due to his character. He refused to compromise regarding drinking the king's wine and eating his food (which had probably been offered to idols). By the time we get to chapter six he was installed as a governor, and stood head and shoulders above the others (prompting them to try and bring him down).

We must note that he was elevated to the position in the kingdom ***because of his sterling character***. He bribed no one. He did not compromise on a single tenet of his faith. He did not "go along to get along." Rather, he stands as a powerful example of being successful without compromise.

Examples are powerful forms of teaching. However, they are not powerful if we fail to emulate them. May we be those who manifest the integrity, dedication and determination of godly men like Daniel. We can succeed. We can attain trusted positions in the situations in which we find ourselves. Let us dare to be like Daniel!

A.M. Sermon – Daniel: Success Without Compromise

1. He was a man of determination (Dan. 1:8-9; Gen. 39:1-4, 21-23; Matt. 6:33).
2. He was a man of discipline (Dan. 5:13-17; 6:10; Psa. 15:1-5).
3. He was dedicated to a moral standard (Dan. 6:1-4; 1 Tim. 4:12; Titus 2:6-8).
4. He was a man devoted to prayer (Dan. 6:10; 1 Thes. 5:16-18; Col. 4:2).

P.M. Sermon – The Illegal Trial of Jesus (3)