

## **God's Quiet Triumphs** **Daniel 1:3-21**

### **Daniel's commitment to "walk in wisdom toward outsiders"**

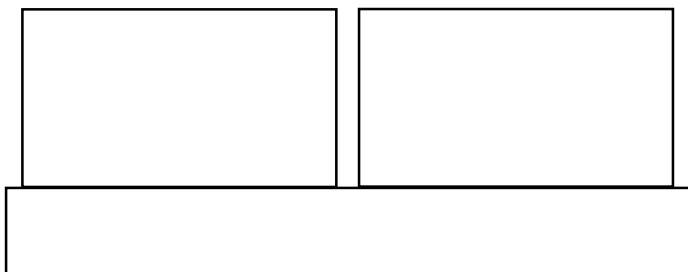
Colossians 4:5 *Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time.*

Daniel 1:8-15

"Daniel was not one of those people who believe that 'firmness of principle always involves acting stubborn and pig-headed'." (Davis, 2013, p.33)

"He is the incarnation of a wise man—a man who knows how to navigate life. He knows the right action for the right situation; he knows the right word to affect a godly result." (Longman, 1999, p.54)

"(1) [Daniel] could have planned an escape from Babylon and run away; or, (2) he could have acted defiantly and simply told the authorities he would not obey their rules. Verse 8, however, tells us that he 'sought permission ... that he might not defile himself.'... We learn from this that obeying God is only one side of the coin, for we are also responsible as to how we obey God before others. Daniel's obedience toward God was balanced by a *respect for authority*. While we live in this world, we will often be in situations where we are placed under the authority of non-believers. God still expects us to honor them; and we honor God by honoring the lines of authority that he has permitted to exist (cf. Rom 13:1-7; 1 Tim 2:1-2; 1 Pet 2:13-15)... Daniel had clearly made up his mind that he would be obedient to the Lord, but he went about it in a courteous way. That is especially important to do when relating to those whom God has put in authority over us. Remember: God honors an approach in which, while committed to God's will, we still honor authority."(Tanner, 2020, pp.146, 148)



1 Peter 2:17 *Honor everyone. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honor the emperor.*

### **God's Quiet Triumphs**

“Daniel’s main function is to reveal God to us, the readers.... His sovereignty is not described abstractly in this book, but in the midst of the historical process, in the nitty-gritty of life.” (Longman, 1999, p.20)

## **Conclusion**

Daniel 1:21