

**BOOK OF DANIEL**  
**SOME THINGS DANIEL CONTINUED IN**  
**DANIEL 1:21**

**INTRODUCTION**

Some twenty-five centuries ago, Daniel was a young man who loved God and served God faithfully in the midst of what were some wicked times in his own nation of Judah. And even as Judah was taken into captivity by King Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonians we find Daniel with his mind and his heart following strong after God!

Now Daniel **could have despaired!** But he didn't! Daniel **could have given in to the wickedness** that was going on around him! But he didn't! Daniel **could have given up on serving the LORD!** But he didn't!

The Bible says here in **Daniel 1:21** that Daniel continued even unto the first year of king Cyrus. What is the significance of that?

Nebuchadnezzar came and went. (Babylon)

Belshazzar came and went. (Babylon)

Darius came and went. (Mede)

Cyrus (Persian) came and Daniel was still there!

Daniel CONTINUED! What were the important things that Daniel continued in? He continued in the same things that WE must continue in despite the circumstances of life we may find ourselves in:

**I. GODLY PURITY! (Daniel 1:8)**

We saw last week how that heathen nations not only ate unclean beasts, which were forbidden by Jewish law, but even the clean animals that were eaten were first offered as victims to their gods, and part of the wine was poured out as an oblation on their altars.

But, Daniel was resolved to not defile himself with their ways! Very possibly Daniel remembered the words of the Psalmist David: *Psalm 24:3-5— "Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation."*

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That was the kind of life that Daniel lived!

When Jesus, the Messiah came, He said in the Sermon on the Mount: *Matthew 5:8— "Blessed are the **pure in heart** for they shall see God."*

We also know that much later the Apostle Paul would warn Timothy against defilement as a young man!

*2 Timothy 2:22— "Flee also youthful lusts: but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, **with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.**"*

**II. GODLY PROVING! (or GODLY PRACTICE!)  
(i.e. Faith And Dependence On God!)  
(Daniel 1:12, 17, 19-20; 2:17-23, 26-28; 6:4-5, 23)**

Many times the circumstances of life come as a proving ground of our faith. **(Daniel 1:12, 17, 19-20)**

Are we going to trust God or are we going to abandon our Faith. Daniel chose to trust God!

**Daniel 2:17-23, 26-28**

Daniel's way was not the way of the magicians, the astrologers, the sorcerers, the soothsayers, or the Chaldeans!

His way was the way of God! He told Nebuchadnezzar in 2:28, "*But there is a God in heaven!*" Amen!

**Daniel 6:4-5, 23**

When those in Darius' reign tried to find fault with Daniel they could not find anything, so they had to manufacture something!

That's the way we ought to be too! It ought to be such that folks can find no fault with us except as it relates to our worship and our walk with God!

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Christians should be law abiding citizens unless a law violates our worship and walk with God!

**III. GODLY PRAISE! (Daniel 2:19-23, 27-28; 6:20-22)**

**IV. GODLY PRESENCE! (i.e. Testimony!)  
(Daniel 1:17; 4:8-9; 5:10-12; 6:3-5)**

During Beleshazzar's reign, we see here that even this heathen queen, by knowing Daniel's history with King Nebuchadnezzar, could tell that there was something different about him! He had a godly presence! He had a testimony that God was with him!

Daniel was preferred because an excellent spirit was in him!

*Galatians 5:22-23—“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23 Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.”*

**V. GODLY PRAYER! (Daniel 6:10-11; 9:3ff)**

Daniel was not a “secret service” believer! He was open about his walk with God and dependence upon God!

**VI. GODLY PROSPERITY! (Daniel 6:28)**

*Joshua 1:8—“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”*

*Psalms 1:1-3—“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. 2 But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. 3 And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”*

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**VII. GODLY PROCLAIMING (or PROPHECYING!)  
(Daniel 2:27-45; 4:19-27; 5:17-28; also Daniel 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)**

Though we are not prophets in the sense that Daniel was, yet we are to be involved in proclaiming the Word of God as it has been delivered to us!

**Conclusion**

Daniel “**continued**” even in the midst of the wickedness of others in his nation...even in the midst of being taken captive...even in the midst of heathen leaders...even in the midst of some difficult circumstances and trials!

Daniel continued! And the LORD would have us to continue in our lives in these same things we've seen in Daniel's life!

What are the contributing factors to being able to “*continue*.” Lord willing, we will take a look at “**Contributing Factors To Continuing**” next week!

We'll look at it from the perspective of Daniel's life and the things that helped him be able to continue!