

Purposed in the Heart: Walking in Obedience from the Tabernacle to Babylon

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References: **Daniel 1**, Exodus 39:43; Exodus 40:1-38; Daniel 1:1-21; Galatians 6:7; 1 Corinthians 11:1

Doing God's Work God's Way: The Completion of the Tabernacle

All right. On Tuesday afternoons, we've been going through the Book of Exodus. Much of the latter part of the Book of Exodus is a statement in detail of the fact that what Moses told them to do, they actually did. There is great truth there. That is a role that we should be playing: when instructed by the Lord to do something, we should do it. To do God's work **God's way** is the great responsibility we all have. So much of the last chapters are repetitive in terms of their content, and they describe precisely what the people did for Moses.

在星期二下午，我们一直在学习出埃及记。出埃及记后面的那一部分，主要是详细地告诉我们，摩西吩咐他们去做的事情，他们都照着做成了。这当中蕴含着极大的真理，也是我们应当扮演的角色：当主指示我们去做某事时，我们就要去行。按着神的方式去做神的工，是我们每个人所肩负的重大责任。因此，最后这几章在内容上有许多重复之处，精确地描述了百姓为摩西所做的一切。

Last week we got down to the last verse of chapter 39. Here is a delightful summary of those verses that went before:

上周我们学到了第39章的最后一节。这里对前面的经文作了一个令人欣喜的总结：

[Exodus 39:43 NKJV] - Then Moses looked over all the work, and indeed they had done it; as the LORD had commanded, just so they had done it. And Moses blessed them.

It's interesting the emphasis: it says, "And indeed they had done it; as the LORD had commanded, just so they had done it. And Moses blessed them." That's what the Lord did! The Lord blessed them for doing what He had asked them to do. So it will be for us: the Lord will bless us as we do exactly what He asks us to do.

这里强调的重点非常有意思：“摩西看一切的工都做成了，耶和华怎样吩咐，他们就怎样做了。摩西就为他们祝福。”这就是主所做的！他们照着主所吩咐的去行，主就赐福给他们。对我们而言也是如此：只要我们切实遵行主的吩咐，主也必赐福给我们。

Setting Up the Tabernacle and the Infilling Glory

So they had made all the items for the tabernacle. Chapter 40, verses 1 and 2:

他们把会幕里所有的器具都做好了。第40章第1至2节：

[Exodus 40:1-2 NKJV] - ¹ Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: ² "On the first day of the first month you shall set up the tabernacle of the tent of meeting.

This was the anniversary of the leaving of the children of Israel out of Egypt. Actually, they didn't leave until the fourteenth day of the month; they spent the first thirteen days of the month in preparation to leave. So there's a sense in which this is the first anniversary of their departure from Egypt. Their responsibility then was that they were to set up the tabernacle of the tent of meeting on the first day of the new year. Over the next verses, we're going to read about the fact that each item was put where it was supposed to be put.

这是以色列人出埃及一周年的纪念。实际上，他们在该月十四日才真正离开，前十三天都在为离开作准备。因此从某种意义上说，这是他们出埃及一周年的日子。他们的责任就是在新年的正月初一日立起会幕的帐幕。接下来的几节经文，我们将读到每件器具都被安置在指定的位置上。

[Exodus 40:3 NKJV] - You shall put in it the ark of the Testimony, and partition off the ark with the veil.

The first item to go into the tabernacle was the item that represented the Lord Himself. Everywhere you go in the Bible, the Lord is **first**. He must be first.

进入会幕的第一件器具，正代表着主自己。在圣经的每一个角落，主永远是第一位的。祂必须居首位。

From verses 4 to 8, you have the articles of furniture of the tabernacle being set, ready to go. Verse 9 then says:

从第4节到第8节，记录了会幕中各种器具与家具的安放就绪。第9节接着说：

[Exodus 40:9 NKJV] - "And you shall take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle and all that is in it; and you shall hallow it and all its utensils, and it shall be holy.

Each of these items was dedicated to the Lord. They were to be anointed in such a way that they could be of service to the Lord. So it is for the Christian: each of us is to be for the Lord's service, but we've got to be anointed by the Holy Spirit to be used of the Lord. It's one thing to be; it's another thing to be used.

每件器具都奉献归主，并且必须受膏，好用来事奉主。对基督徒来说也是如此：我们每个人都要为主所用，但必须被圣灵膏抹才能被主使用。成为器皿是一回事，被神使用又是另一回事。

Now when you get to verse 12, you get another theme:

到了第12节，我们看到了另一个主题：

[Exodus 40:12 NKJV] - "Then you shall bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the tabernacle of meeting and wash them with water.

The articles were to be made, and Aaron and his sons were to be prepared. They were to be anointed, and it was also necessary for them to be washed.

器具要造好，亚伦和他的儿子们也要预备好。他们不仅要受膏，还必须用水洗身。

[Exodus 40:16 NKJV] - Thus Moses did; according to all that the LORD had commanded him, so he did.

Remember now, that theme is repeated over and over and over: what the Lord commanded, he did.

请记住，这个主题不断地重复：凡耶和华所吩咐他的，他都照样行了。

[Exodus 40:17-18 NKJV] - ¹⁷ And it came to pass in the first month of the second year, on the first day of the month, that the tabernacle was raised up. ¹⁸ So Moses

raised up the tabernacle, fastened its sockets, set up its boards, put in its bars, and raised up its pillars.

They had been brought out of Egypt for a purpose. That purpose, from a selfish point of view, was that they were delivered from bondage, from slavery. From God's point of view, they were brought out of Egypt in order to be His people—they were brought to be with Him. On the first day of the second year, they were able to be with Him and He with them in the context of the tabernacle.

他们被带出埃及是有目的的。从人的角度看，他们脱离了奴役的捆绑；从神的角度看，神将他们领出埃及是为了让他们成为祂的子民——让他们与祂同在。到了第二年正月初一日，在会幕的设立中，他们得以与神同在，神也与他们同在。

Moses put the outside of the tabernacle up.

摩西立起了会幕的外围结构。

[Exodus 40:21 NKJV] - And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, hung up the veil of the covering, and partitioned off the ark of the Testimony, as the LORD had commanded Moses.

All the articles were prepared, anointed, and ready. They set up the outside of the tabernacle, put up the pillars, put up the veils, made the whole structure, and then brought everything into its right position.

所有的器具都已预备妥当、受膏并随时可用。他们搭建了会幕的外框，立起柱子，挂上幔子，使整体完备，然后把所有器具安置在正位上。

[Exodus 40:30-33 NKJV] - ³⁰ He set the laver between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar, and put water there for washing; ³¹ and Moses, Aaron, and his sons would wash their hands and their feet with water from it. ³² Whenever they went into the tabernacle of meeting, and when they came near the altar, they washed, as the LORD had commanded Moses. ³³ And he raised up the court all around the tabernacle and the altar, and hung up the screen of the court gate. So Moses finished the work.

Everything was done and ready to go, and then the laver was to be used to wash the people because they were going to do the service of God. They had to be washed at every stage of what they did. Washing and re-washing was part of the service of God.

一切都就绪后，洗濯盆被用来供人洗净，因为他们要从事神圣的事奉。在每一次事奉中，他们都必须洁净自己。清洗、再清洗，这是事奉神不可或缺的一部分。

There is a simple principle for us there. As we go through the Christian life—and life in general—we will find the temptation to do what is wrong, and we often do what is wrong in our mind or in our action, or we come in contact with something that is wrong. Verse 31 says Moses, Aaron, and his sons washed their hands and feet with water from the laver. How often do you wash your hands? Especially when you're working in the kitchen during the day, how often do you wash your hands? The answer is many times! That's good. I would rather eat a meal prepared by somebody who washed their hands many times than eat a meal prepared by somebody who didn't bother to wash their hands. So it is with the Christian: keep on saying, "Lord, help me. Lord, forgive me. Lord, guide me." Keep on washing your hands in the presence of the Lord as you go through each day.

这其中包含着一个简单的原则。在我们的基督徒生命和日常生活中，常会遇到行恶的诱惑，我们往往会在心思或行为上有过犯，或是沾染不洁。第31节提到，摩西、亚伦和亚伦的儿子们在这盆里洗手洗脚。你平时多久洗一次手？尤其在厨房做饭时，你洗手的频率如何？答案是很多次！这样很好。我宁愿吃一个经常洗手的人做的饭，也不愿吃一个不屑洗手的人做的饭。基督徒的生活也是如此：要不断呼求“主啊，帮助我；主啊，赦免我；主啊，引导我。”在每一天的生活中，不断在主的同在里洗净你的手。

Verse 33 concludes: "So Moses finished the work." I guess that would be a pretty happy time, wouldn't it? How long had they been preparing that work? Since the beginning of the third month—they had really worked on it for nine or ten months. I think they were happy when the work was finished. I think they were awestruck when they saw what it was like, all standing up as it should be. During the months that preceded that, they probably said, "This is a lot of hard work." What if it was your job to prepare the candlestick? You take your hammer, and you hammer eight hours a day, five days a week, month after month after month. You'd get pretty tired of hammering! If I were Moses, I think I'd be awfully happy at the end of verse 33: "So Moses finished the work."

第33节最后说：“这样，摩西就完了工。”我想那一定是一段非常喜乐的时刻，不是吗？他们为这项工作预备了多久？从第三个月初开始，他们实际做了九到十个月的准备。当工做完时，他们必定欣喜万分；看到所有的物件按当有的样式巍然挺立，他们必定满怀敬畏。在之前的漫长岁月里，他们或许常觉得：“这真是一项艰巨的工作。”设想如果你的工作是制作金灯台，你拿着锤子，一天敲打八小时，一周五天，月复一月，你肯定会敲得十分疲惫！因此，若我是摩西，看到第33节末尾说“摩西就完了工”，心中必定满溢欢喜。

I believe that the Israelites were very coordinated and efficient. On this first day of the month, they managed to erect the tabernacle. In the afternoon, they looked at it and said, "It's done! Absolutely wonderful! It's done!"

我相信以色列人的配搭非常默契高效。在新年的第一天，他们立起了会幕。到了下午，他们看着会幕说：“成了！真是太奇妙了！一切都做成了！”

[Exodus 40:34-35 NKJV] - ³⁴ Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. ³⁵ And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

Where had the cloud been? It was the cloud that led them to Mount Sinai; it was the cloud that protected them every day. The cloud was either on the mountain or near them in one place or another. But that afternoon—I presume it would have been at the time of the evening sacrifice—the cloud came down on the tabernacle and covered it. If you were standing looking at the tabernacle, the whole thing would have disappeared from your sight as the cloud came down and covered it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.

这云彩原先在哪里呢？正是引领他们前往西奈山、每天护佑他们的那一朵云彩。它有时在山顶，有时在他们身旁。但那天下午——我推想正值晚祭时分——云彩降临在会幕之上并遮盖了它。如果你当时站在那里注视会幕，当云彩降下遮盖时，整个会幕都会从你的视线中隐去，而耶和华的荣耀充满了帐幕。

Moses couldn't go in, but Moses saw this amazing sight: the cloud had come down, and the glory was in there! What do you think Moses said? He probably said, "Thank You, Lord. This is wonderful." What did the people say? All around the tabernacle, from near and far, they could all see that the cloud had covered the tabernacle, and they rejoiced in what was happening.

摩西虽不能进去，但他看见了这不可思议的景象：云彩降临，荣耀充满其中！你认为摩西会说什么？他大概会说：“感谢主，这太奇妙了。”百姓又会说什么？环绕着会幕的全体百姓，无论远近，都能看见云彩遮盖了会幕，他们便为眼前的一切欢欣雀跃。

It's not just that they had finished the work, but that the Lord accepted the work. It's one thing to do a job; it's another thing to find that the boss accepts the job you do. Sometimes you do a big project, you hand it to the boss, and the boss says, "Oh, I'm busy," and sets it aside. Here, the Lord came down in the cloud and said to Moses, to Oholiab and Bezalel, and to all who worked on the tabernacle: "I have accepted the work that you have done."

这不仅表明他们完成了工作，更表明主悦纳了他们的工作。完成一项工作是一回事，得到主管的认可又是另一回事。有时你完成了一个大项目交上去，主管却说“我很忙”而置之不理。但在这里，主在云彩中降临，对摩西、亚何利亚伯、比撒列以及所有建造会幕的人说：“我悦纳你们所做的工。”

Eileen Bone was over a hundred years old when she went home to heaven last week. What do you think God said to Eileen when she went home? You think He said, "Well done, Eileen, you did a good job"? That's what I'm hoping He's going to say to me; that's what you're hoping He's going to say to you. Remember, Moses did all that was commanded, and he finished the work. That's what God wants of you and me.

上周，艾琳·鲍恩（Eileen Bone）姊妹归入天家，享年一百多岁。当她回到天家时，你认为神会对她说些什么？你是否觉得神会说：“好，艾琳，你做得好”？这正是我盼望祂对我说的话，也是你们盼望祂对你们说的话。要记住，摩西照着一切所吩咐的去行，且完成了工程。这正是神对你我的期许。

[Exodus 40:37-38 NKJV] - ³⁷ But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up. ³⁸ For the cloud of the LORD was above the tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

This is thrilling: a big cloud was there when the tabernacle was completed, and it stayed there. You can imagine Moses going to bed at night, and the cloud turns into a pillar of fire; then he wakes up in the morning, looks up, and the cloud is still there. When the cloud moved, the people moved. That's very important. A lot of people are happy to have the cloud there, but when the cloud moves, they say, "I don't want to move; I'm getting very comfortable here." The cloud moves, and we must follow the Lord. Mostly it's easier for us to stay put than to follow. We've got to follow the Lord—not on our own initiative, but when He teaches us from His Word, we must obey it!

这是何等令人振奋：当会幕竣工时，大云彩停驻在那里，始终与他们同在。你可以想象，摩西夜间入睡时，云彩化作火柱；早晨醒来举目仰望，云彩依旧在那里。云彩何时移动，百姓就何时起行。这至关重要。许多人喜欢云彩停留，但当云彩移动时，他们却说：“我不想动，我在这里很安逸。”云彩移动了，我们就必须跟随主。对我们而言，固守原地往往比跟随前行容易得多。我们必须跟随主——不是凭着自己的私意，而是当祂藉着祂的话语教导我们时，我们必须顺服！

Moving Forward: Entering the Book of Daniel

The cloud keeps moving: the truth will keep on being elaborated and will lead on to greater and greater things. Make sure you follow the truth of God where it goes.

云彩继续前行：真理将不断展开，引领我们走向更深更广的境地。请务必紧紧跟随神的真理前行。

The Book of Leviticus is a bit of a difficult book because it contains specific instructions to the children of Israel regarding their service as priests, Levites, and sacrificing people. It's almost two thousand years since there have been sacrifices; those sacrifices were all pictures, but today we follow the great sacrifice of the Lord Jesus! We don't have to offer those sacrifices anymore. So the question came to me: where should we be reading next? Under normal circumstances, we might carry on to Leviticus, Numbers, or Deuteronomy, but those books would be somewhat hard for us to follow in this setting. So I asked the Lord, "Lord, would there be some other book we might read that could be of great interest and value to us?" After praying about it, I thought we should turn to the Book of Daniel.

利未记是一卷相对难懂的书，因为它包含了给以色列人关于祭司、利未人职分及献祭条例的具体指示。距今已有近两千年不再有旧约的献祭了；那些祭物都是预表，而今天我们跟随的是主耶稣那至大的救赎祭！我们不再需要献上牛羊。因此我思索：接下来我们该读哪卷书？按常规我们可能会继续读利未记、民数记或申命记，但在此刻的情境下理解起来略有难度。于是我求问主：“主啊，是否有另一卷书，既能引起大家的兴趣，又对我们极具价值？”祷告之后，我认为我们应当转向《但以理书》。

Daniel is an exciting book: the stories are downright thrilling, and they hold great value for us both personally and from a prophetic point of view. Daniel follows Ezekiel in the Old Testament. If you want to find Daniel, flip through your Old Testament, find Ezekiel, and go to the next book.

但以理书是一卷非常扣人心弦的书：其中的故事生动精彩，无论从个人生命经历还是从预言的角度看，都极具价值。在旧约中，但以理书紧随以西结书之后。若想找到但以理书，翻开旧约找到以西结书，紧接着的一卷就是了。

Taken Captive to Babylon

[Daniel 1:1-2 NKJV] - ¹ In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. ² And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god.

Is this good or bad? It's pretty bad! What if you saw a headline saying the Prime Minister of Canada and the President of the United States were at war, or foreign forces decided to flip over the North Pole and conquer Vancouver? We would say, "I don't like that."

这是好事还是坏事？显然十分糟糕！设想如果你看到新闻头条写着加拿大总理与美国总统开战，或是外国军队越过北极攻占了温哥华，我们肯定会说：“这太可怕了。”

Verse 2 says the Lord gave Jehoiakim into his hand with some of the articles of the house of God. It wasn't just that the country was attacked; the things of God were attacked, stolen, and placed in the treasure house of a false god. The things of God had been separated unto God. Remember: do not steal from God.

第2节说，主将约雅敬和神殿中的一部分器皿交在巴比伦王手中。不仅国家遭到了侵略，连属神的圣物也遭到掠夺，被带走并放在假神的庙宇库房中。属神之物本是分别为圣归给神的。切记：不可偷窃属神之物。

[Daniel 1:3-4 NKJV] - ³ Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles, ⁴ young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans.

Nebuchadnezzar took some of the articles of the house of God—the best, the most valuable, the most beautiful, and the most unique. Now he tells Ashpenaz to bring some of the people, and they only chose the best of the best: royal descendants and nobles, young men with no blemish, good-looking, gifted in wisdom, possessing knowledge, quick to understand, and capable of serving in the palace.

尼布甲尼撒掳走了神殿中的部分器皿——那些最好的、最珍贵的、最华美的和最独特的器皿。如今他吩咐亚施毗拿去挑选一些以色列人，他们挑选的全是菁英中的菁英：王室后裔和贵族子弟，年少没有瑕疵、相貌俊美、通晓智慧、知识具备、明白事理，且能在王宫侍立的人。

When you were in school and these qualifications were listed, do you think they would have chosen you? If I had been in the classroom, the teacher would have said, "There are lots of boys here; I'm certainly not going to start with Harold!" They chose the best of the best. If you were the best, would you be happy to be taken captive nine hundred miles to Babylon, or would you rather stay home?

当你还在学校读书时，若列出这些严苛的条件，你认为他们会选中你吗？如果我在那个教室里，老师一定会说：“这里有许多年轻人，但我绝不会从哈罗德（Harold）选起！”他们挑选的是最顶尖的人才。设想如果你是这样的翘楚，你愿意被掳到九百英里之外的巴比伦，还是宁愿留在家裡？

They were chosen to learn the language and literature of the Chaldeans. When I went to university, I would have been disappointed if I had been forced to take a foreign language, and I was happy when they released that requirement. If I were in their shoes, I would have said, "I don't want to learn that Chaldean nonsense." Do you think Daniel and his friends were disappointed? I think they were brokenhearted. When Nebuchadnezzar came in, he slaughtered many. He likely slaughtered Daniel's parents and siblings. Daniel may have thought, "It would be easier to be killed." Instead, they put them in chains and marched them nine hundred miles through the agony of the Middle Eastern sun to Babylon.

他们被选去学习迦勒底的语言和学问。当年我上大学时，如果被迫修读外语，我会感到很沮丧；当学校免除外语要求时，我如释重负。若换作是我，我可能会说：“我根本不想学迦勒底那些荒诞的学问。”你认为但以理和他的同伴们仅仅是失望吗？我认为他们心碎欲绝。尼布甲尼撒攻入城时残酷杀戮，很可能杀害了但以理的父母与手足。但以理甚至可能会想：“死反倒容易些。”然而，他们却被戴上锁链，在烈日炙烤下跋涉九百英里，被押解到巴比伦。

On the way, he could have said, "Why me? I had all the potential of life before me, and now all my hope is washed away. I'm nothing but a slave to this wicked king." He could have said, "It isn't fair." How old was he? We're not told, but God often takes young men around the age of seventeen—the age people go to university, or the age David was when he killed Goliath. He was a disappointed, brokenhearted teenage boy.

在被掳的途中，他完全可以说：“为什么是我？我的一生原本充满光明前途，如今所有的指望都破灭了。在这个残暴的君王手下，我不过是个卑微的奴隶。”他完全可以说：“这不公平！”他当时年纪多大？圣经没有明确记载，但神常在一个人大约十七岁时使用他——这正是许多人上大学的年纪，也是大卫击杀歌利亚的年纪。他当时只是一个满心伤痛、心碎的少年人。

Standing Firm: A Purpose in the Heart

[Daniel 1:5 NKJV] - And the king appointed for them a daily provision of the king's delicacies and of the wine which he drank, and three years of training for them, so that at the end of that time they might serve before the king.

"Daniel, do you want to go to that university?" Daniel says, "No, of course not." "Daniel, do you want to learn the culture of the Chaldeans?" He says, "No, it's all wrong." But here's the offer: you get to eat the finest of the king's delicacies and drink the king's wine. A lot of people would jump at that! There was a time in my life when my company said to me, "Harold, you can buy all the booze you want, drink whatever liquor you want, and we'll pay

for it." I said, "Frankly, that's not enticing; I won't drink a drop." Nebuchadnezzar's food was second to none, but Daniel said to himself, "It might be second to none to you, Nebuchadnezzar, but the food I want is the food God ordained for His people. I want to eat according to Moses' menu, not Nebuchadnezzar's menu."

“但以理，你想去上那所大学吗？”但以理会说：“不，我一点也不想。”“但以理，你想学习迦勒底人的文化吗？”他说：“不，那些全都是错的。”然而巴比伦提供了极具诱惑的条件：你可以享用王所用的上等珍馐，饮用王所饮的美酒。很多人会对此求之不得！在我人生的某段时期，公司曾对我说：“哈罗德，你可以随意买你想喝的酒，公司全额报销。”我回答说：“坦白讲，这对我毫无吸引力，我一滴都不会喝。”尼布甲尼撒的膳食固然是天下无双，但但以理心里想：“尼布甲尼撒，对你来说这或许是至高享受，但我所要的，是神为祂百姓所定的食物。我要按着摩西的食谱吃，而不是按着尼布甲尼撒的菜单吃。”

What difference does that make? He's in Babylon; he's at Babylon University; he's Nebuchadnezzar's captive. Yet he says, "I don't want their food, and I don't want their wine."

这有什么区别呢？他身在巴比伦，就读于巴比伦的王室学院，是尼布甲尼撒的俘虏。但他却坚定地说：“我不吃他们的食物，也不饮他们的酒。”

[Daniel 1:6-7 NKJV] - ⁶ Now from among those of the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. ⁷ To them the chief of the eunuchs gave names: he gave Daniel the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abed-Nego.

They were basically saying, "Daniel, forget your old life; I'm even going to give you a new name after my god." What does the name Daniel mean? It means **God is my judge**. He had a good name, and he said, "I'm going to live by that name. God is my judge: He knows all the bad things that have happened to me and my family, and He will judge." Did God prove to be a faithful judge for him? Yes! Has anything bad ever happened to you? If you let God be your judge, He will prove to be a faithful judge.

巴比伦人实际上是在说：“但以理，忘掉你过去的生活吧，我甚至要用我神明的名字给你起个新名字。”“但以理”这个名字是什么意思？意思是**神是我的审判者**。这是一个美好的名字，他说：“我要活出这个名字的意义。神是我的审判者：祂深知发生在我及家人身上的一切苦难，祂必行公义的审判。”神向他证明了自己是信实的审判者吗？是的！你是否也遭遇过不幸？若你让神作你的审判者，祂必向你显明祂的信实。

They gave Daniel the name Belteshazzar, meaning "May Bel protect his life." Bel was Nebuchadnezzar's god. Did Bel protect Daniel's life? No! But the living God proved to be

faithful. Hananiah (the Lord is gracious), Mishael (who is like God?), and Azariah (God helps) were given names honoring false gods: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. What did these young men say? They said, "We are not going to serve your gods."

他们给但以理起名叫“伯提沙撒”，意思是“愿彼勒保佑他的性命”。彼勒是尼布甲尼撒的假神。彼勒保佑了但以理的生命吗？根本没有！然而永生神却显明了祂的信实。哈拿尼雅（意为“耶和华是有恩惠的”）、米沙利（意为“谁能像神？”）和亚撒利雅（意为“神是帮助者”），也都被换上了尊崇异教假神的名字：沙得拉、米煞、亚伯尼歌。但这几个年轻人怎么说？他们说：“我们绝不事奉你们的神明。”

Where do you start if you are not going to serve false gods? It starts with what you eat—what you eat spiritually and what you eat physically.

如果你决意人事奉假神，应当从何处着手？就从你的饮食开始——无论是属灵上的领受，还是肉体上的饮食。

[Daniel 1:8-9 NKJV] - ⁸ But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.
⁹ Now God had brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs.

Daniel had an outstanding physique, brilliant intelligence, and great potential. The king thought these rich foods would keep them sharp and strong. But verse 8 says Daniel **purposed in his heart** that he would not defile himself. He said no to the king's delicacies and wine.

但以理不仅体魄健壮、智慧过人，且前途无量。巴比伦王以为这些美味珍馐能使他们更加聪慧强壮。但第8节说，但以理**立志**不以王的膳和王所饮的酒玷污自己。他对王的美味和烈酒断然说了“不”。

That was a dangerous request. Verse 9 tells us God brought Daniel into the favor and goodwill of the chief of the eunuchs. Throughout Daniel's life, God gave him favor with leaders and opened doors where normally he should have had none.

这是一个冒着生命危险的请求。第9节告诉我们，神使但以理在太监长眼前蒙恩惠、受怜爱。在但以理的一生中，神不断使他在各级领袖面前蒙恩，在绝无可能之处为他开辟出路。

[Daniel 1:10 NKJV] - And the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, "I fear my lord the king, who has appointed your food and drink. For why should he see your faces

looking worse than the young men who are your age? Then you would endanger my head before the king."

What happens if Daniel looks malnourished? Nebuchadnezzar would execute Ashpenaz. Nebuchadnezzar was an absolute monarch: whom he wished, he slew; whom he wished, he kept alive. If you crossed him, you were dead before dinner!

如果但以理面黄肌瘦、营养不良，会有什么后果？尼布甲尼撒会立刻处死亚施毗拿。尼布甲尼撒是一个专制残暴的君王：他要杀谁就杀谁，要留谁就留谁。若违逆他的旨意，饭前脑袋就会搬家！

[Daniel 1:11-13 NKJV] - ¹¹ So Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, ¹² "Please test your servants for ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink. ¹³ Then let our appearance be examined before you, and the appearance of the young men who eat the portion of the king's delicacies; and as you see fit, so deal with your servants."

Daniel proposed a simple test: ten days of vegetables and water. If you had two restaurants side by side—one offering luxury meats and fine wine for ten dollars, and the other offering only vegetables and water for ten dollars—where would the long line be? Yet Daniel chose the path of obedience.

但以理提出了一个简单的试验：吃素菜、喝白水十天。如果街上有两家相邻的餐馆——一家只需十块钱就能享用无限量的山珍海味与美酒，另一家花十块钱却只有素菜白水——哪一家会大排长龙？然而，但以理毅然选择了顺服神的道路。

[Daniel 1:15-16 NKJV] - ¹⁵ And at the end of ten days their features appeared better and fatter in flesh than all the young men who ate the portion of the king's delicacies. ¹⁶ Thus the steward took away their portion of delicacies and the wine that they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.

How did that happen? If you ate only broccoli for ten days, would you look better than everyone else? No! The only reason this happened is because **God rewarded them**.

这怎么可能发生呢？若你一连十天只吃西兰花，你的气色会比其他人更好吗？当然不会！唯一的原因，就是**神亲自赏赐了他们**。

God's Exaltation of Faithful Servants

[Daniel 1:17 NKJV] - As for these four young men, God gave them knowledge and skill in all literature and wisdom; and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

What happened to their families? They had been killed. Their earthly prospects in Jerusalem had been stripped away. God took away much, but He gave them **more**. Remember this: if God allows much to be taken from you, it is because He wants to give you far more of Himself and His wisdom.

他们的家人遭遇了什么？他们已被杀害。他们在耶路撒冷属世的前程被彻底剥夺。神拿去了许多，但神赐给他们的**更多**。请记住这一点：神若允许你失去许多，是因为祂要在自己里面赐给你更多、更丰盛的智慧。

[Daniel 1:18-19 NKJV] - ¹⁸ Now at the end of the days, when the king had said that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. ¹⁹ Then the king interviewed them, and among them all none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah; therefore they served before the king.

They rose to the very top of their class because God gave them supernatural wisdom and understanding.

他们名列前茅、出类拔萃，因为神赐给了他们超凡的智慧与聪明。

[Daniel 1:20 NKJV] - And in all matters of wisdom and understanding about which the king examined them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers who were in all his realm.

When was the last time you heard of students being ten times smarter than their professors? Does God do miracles for students in university? Yes! God cares about young people and students, and He will help humble, ordinary people who seek to honor Him.

你上一次听说学生比教授聪明十倍是什么时候？神会在大学里为学生行神迹吗？是的！神极其看顾年轻人和求学的学子，祂必施恩帮助那些存心谦卑、一心荣耀祂的普通人。

[Daniel 1:21 NKJV] - Thus Daniel continued until the first year of King Cyrus.

Daniel outlasted the Babylonian Empire and continued into the Persian Empire under King Cyrus. What a totally different life than what seemed destined for a captive boy! If Daniel had stayed in Jerusalem, he might have been a cabinet minister or a king in Judah. Instead, God made him second-in-command over **two successive world empires**: Babylon and Persia. Who else in world history was ever the prime minister of two entirely different world superpowers?

但以理的年日跨越了整个巴比伦帝国，一直延续到波斯帝国居鲁士王元年。相较于一个被掳少年的悲惨命运，这是何等截然不同的人生！若但以理留在耶路撒冷，或许只是犹大国的一名内阁大臣或君王；然而神却使他先后成为**两大世界超级帝国**——巴比伦与波斯的宰相！在人类历史上，有谁曾先后担任过两个完全不同的世界大帝国的二号首脑？

How did he get there? Because as a young man, he said, "I will not defile myself with the king's meat or the king's wine." How did Daniel survive the lions' den decades later? Because as a teenage student, he stood up against compromise in the small things. He said, "Lord, I will obey You in the simple things," and God protected him in the great trials of life.

他如何达到这个高度的？因为在年轻时他就立定心志：“我不以王的膳和王的酒玷污自己。”数十年后，但以理何以能从烈火般的狮子坑中安然生还？因为早在少年求学时期，他就在微小的事上决不妥协。他说：“主啊，在这些看似微小的事上我要顺服祢。”因此，在人生的重大危难中，神亲自护佑了他。

Sowing and Reaping: Lessons for Our Walk

[Galatians 6:7 NKJV] - Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

Here is a young man who, in great distress, sowed a life of obedience to the Lord. The result was that he reaped the abundant blessing of God. Whatever a person sows, they will reap.

这位年轻人在极度的困境中，播下了顺服主的种子。其结果就是收获了神丰盛无尽的赐福。人种的是什么，收的也是什么。

Be like Daniel, and be like Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. What was their attitude? They were humble enough to follow Daniel's godly leadership. Who are you following in life? If you know someone who faithfully follows God, follow them! As the Apostle Paul wrote:

要效法但以理，也要效法哈拿尼雅、米沙利和亚撒利雅。他们的态度如何？他们谦卑地跟随了但以理属神的带领。在生活中你在跟随谁？若你身旁有忠心跟随神的人，就当与他们同行！正如使徒保罗所写：

[1 Corinthians 11:1 NKJV] - Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.

The blessing of the Lord is upon those who associate with the wise and walk in the ways of God.

凡与智慧人同行、行走在神道路上的人，主的恩惠与赐福必常与他们同在。

Lord, we want to thank You for the wonderful truths of Your Word. We thank You that in spite of the great difficulties of life, You are still the faithful, gracious, and merciful God. We thank You for the blessings You brought upon Daniel and his three friends. Lord, help us to stand up for truth in our day, regardless of the apparent cost. We give You thanks and ask Your rich blessing upon each one, in the precious name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

主啊，我们为祢话语中奇妙的真理向祢献上感恩。我们感谢祢，尽管人生充满艰难险阻，祢依然是那位信实、恩典与怜悯的神。我们感谢祢赐给但以理和他三个同伴的丰厚福分。主啊，求祢帮助我们在当今的时代中勇敢为真理站立，无论需要付出何等代价。我们向祢献上感恩，祈求祢丰盛的恩惠临到在座的每一个人。奉主耶稣基督的圣名祈求。阿们。