



DAILY DEVOTIONS

THE ARROWS OF BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What does this passage tell us about man?



What does this passage demand of me?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?

DANIEL

DANIEL 1:1-8

Daniel was fully devoted to the Lord. He was likely around fifteen years old when Babylon conquered his nation. He had reason to fear. But that teenager refused to defile himself and pollute his relationship with God. You were made to show the world that serving Jesus is worth any cost. Like Daniel, you have a chance to know God in "Babylon" and make Him known in the world.

HOW DO YOU THINK DANIEL FELT BEING IN A NEW LAND, BEING CALLED BY A NEW NAME AND BEING REQUIRED TO EAT NEW FOODS AND LEARN A NEW CULTURE?

WHY DO YOU THINK IT WAS MORE IMPORTANT TO DANIEL TO REMAIN CLEAN IN HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD THAN TO FIT IN?

Pray: Tell the Lord where you feel pressure to fit in to the world's ways of doing things. Commit to keeping your relationship with Jesus the top priority of your life.

WHERE ARE YOU BEING TEMPTED
TO COMPROMISE AND NEED TO
TAKE A STAND?

When I finally saw the evidence in the winter of 1961, I had a long conversation about the group structure with a local teacher. He told me that about 1400 people are in the group, and that he had written eight or ten letters about the group's activities. He said that the group had been in the area for some time, and that he had been a member for some time. He said that the group had been in the area for some time, and that he had been a member for some time. He said that the group had been in the area for some time, and that he had been a member for some time.

Pray, Confess to God any compromise
to sin in your life. Receive God's
loving forgiveness and cleansing.
When those temptations arise again to
compromise, commit in prayer to take
a stand by God's grace.

While it might seem crazy for Daniel to request veggies and water to look well-fed, Daniel trusted God, and God miraculously responded. Sometimes, it seems like following Jesus is a veggies and water diet—narrow, simple, and repetitive. Yet, followers of Jesus often feel full and satisfied and while those who feast at the world's table often feel empty and sick. Jesus said those who feast on His presence, power, and plan will never be hungry or thirsty again (see John 6:35). Your heart is better fed by a taste of God's goodness than endless oceans of the world's goods.

CONSIDERING HOW GOD RESPONDED TO DANIEL'S FAITHFULNESS, WHAT DO WE LEARN ABOUT WHO GOD IS AND HOW HE WORKS?

WHY DOES A SIMPLE DEVOTION TO JESUS SATISFY MORE THAN GETTING EVERYTHING THE WORLD OFFERS?

Pray: Ask God's Holy Spirit to show you attitudes, actions, and/or relationships He wants to remove from your life. Commit in prayer to lay aside what God's removing and lay hold of God's perfect will for you.

DAY 04

DANIEL 1:17-20

THROUGH DANIEL'S SUCCESS,
WHAT DID THE PEOPLE OF
BABYLON LEARN ABOUT
DANIEL'S GOD?

WHERE DO YOU NEED GOD'S HELP
THE MOST RIGHT NOW?

We can be filled with knowledge, wisdom and understanding so we can walk worthy of the Lord, be fully pleasing to Him, and be super fruitful in everything God calls us to (see Col. 3:9-10). At the end of their three-year training program, Daniel and his friends were ten times better than their classmates. The key to their success is summed up in two words: "God gave" (v. 17). Their success was not due to big brains, but a big God. Whatever God's call demands, God's hand supplies. Daniel's success was not another proof of his gifts, but another proof of his God.

Pray: Full of faith and confidence in God, ask Him to give all you need to bring Him glory in every area of your life.

DAY 05

DANIEL 1:21

Serving until the first year of King Cyrus means Daniel likely served in the highest places of power and influence in the world's strongest empires for more than 60 years! If we follow the plot flow of the first chapter of Daniel, a 60-year career in the courts of kings seems impossible. In the end, God protected, blessed, and promoted Daniel for more than half a century of service! It doesn't matter where you come from or what seems to be stacked against you. If you serve Jesus, nothing He calls you to is impossible. You are blessed and you're indestructible until God's will for you is complete.

WHAT IN YOUR LIFE COULD HOLD
YOU BACK FROM FULFILLING GOD'S
CALLING ON YOU?

WHY MIGHT GOD USE DIFFICULT
CIRCUMSTANCES TO BRING ABOUT
BLESSING IN THE LIVES OF HIS
SERVANTS?

Pray: Spend time thanking the Lord for His amazing call on your life. Ask Him to use your life, no matter how hard things may be, to bring glory to God and good to the world.