

Daniel 3

“Integrity OR Idolatry???”

Introduction

Next 3 Weeks:

1) Integrity of Idolatry??? 2) Courage or Cowardice??? 3) Perseverance or Passivity???

Which statement by Hamlet was/is more Biblical???

Psalm 139:13-16 - “For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother’s womb. I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; wonderful are Your works, and my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; and in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them.”

Psalm 8:4-6 - “What is man that You take thought of him, and the son of man that You care for him? Yet You have made him a little lower than God, and You crown him with glory and majesty! You make him to rule over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet..”

Psalm 53:1-3 - “The fool has said in his heart, ‘There is no God,’ they are corrupt, and have committed abominable injustice; there is no one who does good. God has looked down from heaven upon the sons of men to see if there is anyone who understands, who seeks after God. Every one of them has turned aside; together they have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one.”

Romans 7:21 - “I find then the principle that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good.”

1 John 5:21 - “Little children, guard yourselves from idols.”

1) _____ - Continually craving (lusting after) what God has said “no” to is idolatry!

Colossians 3:5 - “Therefore consider the members of your earthly body as dead to immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed, which amounts to idolatry.”

2) _____ Worship - Worshipping God in wrong ways, with wrong ideas, is idolatry!

John 4:23-24 - “...an hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshippers. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

3) _____ - Obeying physical passions/impulses rather than God is idolatry!

Philippians 3:18-19a - “For many walk of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ, whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite...”

4) _____ - Speaking as though you are above and in judgment of God is idolatry!

Psalm 115:3 - “But our God is in the heavens; He does whatever He pleases.”

Habakkuk 2:20 - “...the Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth be silent before Him.”

Habakkuk 3:17-18 - “Though the fig tree should not blossom and there be no fruit on the vines (That’s bad news!), though the yield of the olive should fail and the fields produce no food (That’s really bad news!), though the flock should be cut off from the fold and there be no cattle in the stalls (That is catastrophic!!!), yet I will exult in the Lord, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.”

I. When Blasphemous Idolatry MEETS Biblical Integrity

A. Daniel 3:1-3 - The most _____ form of idolatry, pride or self-worship.

Proverbs 18:12 - "Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, but humility goes before honor."

Proverbs 16:18 - "Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling."

Proverbs 28:25-26 - "An arrogant man stirs up strife, but he who trusts in the Lord will prosper. He who trusts in his own heart is a fool. But he who walks wisely will be delivered."

John 3:30 - "He must increase, but I must decrease."

B. Daniel 3:4-7 - The temptation to _____ Biblical integrity.

Matthew 5:13a, 14a, 16 - "You are the salt of the earth... You are the light of the world... Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

James 4:4 - "You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God."

C. Daniel 3:8-12 - The vicious & hateful _____ of the world.

2 Timothy 3:12 - "Indeed, all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."

Matthew 10:22 - "You will be hated by all because of My name, but it is the one who has endured to the end who will be saved."

1 Peter 4:3-4 - "For the time already past is sufficient for you to have carried out the desire of the Gentiles, having pursued a course of sensuality, lusts, drunkenness, carousing, drinking parties and abominable idolatries. In all this, they are surprised that you do not run with them into the same excesses of dissipation, and they malign you..."

D. Daniel 3:13-15 - The undeniable _____ of faithfulness & integrity.

Luke 14:27-28 - "Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it?"

E. Daniel 3:16 - The strength and _____ of that integrity brings.

F. Daniel 3:17-18 - The supreme _____ to God.

G. Daniel 3:19-23 - The insanity and _____ of idolatry.

H. Daniel 3:24-27 - The sovereign, and at times miraculous, protection & _____ of God.

Matthew 10:28 - "Do not fear those who kill the body but are unable to kill the soul; but rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell."

Romans 8:35-37 - "Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written, 'For your sake we are being put to death all day long; we were considered as sheep to be slaughtered.' But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us."

I. Daniel 3:28-30 - The good and true _____.

Matthew 13:44-46 - "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in the field, which a man found and hid again; and from joy over it he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls, and upon finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."