

The Daniel Dilemma
Grace and Truth
May 20, 2018

Introduction - How to live through the tension of Godly lives in an ungodly culture...

I. Culture has an agenda - Daniel 1:1-6

1. To change our **IDENTITY** - Daniel 1:7;

- Example: Daniel - God is my **JUDGE** to
Belteshazzar - Lady, protect the king;
Hananiah - Yahweh is **GRACIOUS** to
Shadrach - I am fearful of God;
Mishael - Who is what **GOD** is to
Meshach - I am despised, contemptible and humiliated
Azariah - Yahweh has **HELPED** to
Abednego - servant of Nebo

2. Compromise our standards - Daniel 1:8

- When culture shifts, we must **KNOW** who we are
- When culture shifts, we must **REAFFIRM** our convictions

3. Create a confrontation - Daniel 1:9-10, 11-14

- When culture shifts, we must **RESPOND** the right way

II. The **BALANCE** of grace and truth

- Truth is God's standard and without it we lose our way
- John 17:17
- Grace is God's favor and without it we can seem judgmental
and mean - Ephesians 2:8-9

- Daniel and Jesus - John 1:14
- Without truth, we are **CORRUPT**
- Without grace, we are **CONDEMNED**
- Without truth, we become **WORLDLY**
- Without grace, we become **JUDGMENTAL**
- Truth without grace is **MEAN**
- Grace without truth is **MEANINGLESS**
- Grace with truth is **MEDICINE**
- Grace invites us to be **FREE**
- Truth **SETS** us free
- John 8:1-11

Conclusion - May we hold high God's truth **AND** freely give God's grace.