

Season 3 Study 4: Daniel's Legacy

THE BIG YEAR

A Journey through God's Word

What have you found most challenging in your readings this week?

1. On Sunday Duncan mentioned four characteristics of Daniel – his conviction, courage, consistency and his Christ-likeness. Which of these aspects is most difficult for you right now as an 'exile'?
2. In what ways is our modern situation as God's people in the midst of a wicked generation similar to Daniel's time? In what ways is it different?

****The New Testament was written some 6 centuries after Daniel and his friends were in Babylon, but imagine for a moment that they had access to these writings. Read the following passages as if they were written to those exiles:***

READ 1 PETER 1:13-19

3. What does it really mean to be 'holy' (vs15-16)? What comes to mind when you hear that word? What does holiness look like in 21st Century Durban?
4. In vs 17 we're told to conduct ourselves with 'fear'! Whom shall we fear? Why is this a good thing?
5. Where should our faith and hope be placed, according to vs 21? What exactly are we hoping for? What were Daniel and his generation hoping for?

READ 1 PETER 2:9-18

6. Who is vs 9 aimed at? What is the mission God has given this group of people?
7. What is Peter referring to in vs 11 as 'passions of the flesh', and how exactly do they 'wage war against our souls'? How did Daniel and the three friends deal with this temptation in Babylon?
8. What impact does honourable conduct have on the Gentiles or unbelievers, according to vs 12?
9. Daniel served and honored the kings of his day without compromising his faith. How do we 'honor the emperor' in today's context (vs 13 & 17)?

READ 1 PETER 2:19-23

10. Peter is careful to explain the value of suffering while in exile. Why is it a 'blessing', according to vs 20-21?
11. How was Daniel particularly Christ-like in his own sufferings (see Daniel 6)?
12. What example did Jesus set for us through His own suffering? If you have ever suffered because of your faith, do you find this example easy to follow?

The other men tried to find something wrong with the way Daniel did his work for the king. But they could not accuse him of anything wrong, because he was honest and faithful and did everything he was supposed to do. (Daniel 6:4)