

September 2, 2026
Tempted to Compromise
Danile 1:1-21

1. When is compromise good and when is it bad?

2. Read Daniel 1:1-4. Why were Daniel and his friends brought to Babylon and selected to enter the king's service?

3. Read Daniel 1:4-7. What tactics were used not only to train these young men but also to help them blend into Babylonian culture?

4. In what ways are we pressured to conform to our surrounding culture? (at work, school, among family and friends, with money, etc.)

5. Daniel and his companions accepted the education offered, the possibility of attaining top positions the pagan kingdom and new names (Daniel 1:4-7). Why do you think they agreed to these things but refused the king's food (Daniel 1:8)?

6. Why might it have been easy for Daniel and his friends to rationalize this seemingly trivial compromise?

7. In what ways are we tempted to compromise our lifestyle and beliefs today?

8. Read Daniel 1:8-14. What creative arrangement did Daniel make with the chief official and the Babylonian guard? How was his proposal an expression of his trust in God?

9. In situations similar to Daniel's, Christians often go to one or two extremes. Some won't even attempt to cooperate with what they consider to be a pagan system. Others cooperate to the point of losing their distinctiveness. Why are both extremes counterproductive to our desire to be faithful witnesses?
10. In what situations might you be asked to compromise your convictions and beliefs without realize it?
11. Read Daniel 1:15-20. In what way did God honor the trust and obedience of the four young men?
12. What might have happened to Daniel and his future ministry if he had compromised here?
13. What can you learn from Daniel tonight.