

DANIEL IN THE DINING ROOM



Sovereignty: Nothing in the universe is outside of God's authority and control.

Examples of man's choice and God's sovereignty working together to accomplish God's plan:

1. PHYSICAL FITNESS EXAM. Vs. 9-16

“Now god granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials, and the commander of the officials, said to Daniel, “I am afraid of my lord the king, who has appointed our food and your drink; for why should he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would make me forfeit my head to the king.” Vs. 9-10

“But Daniel said to the overseer whom the commander of the officials had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, ‘Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then let our appearance be observed in your presence, and the appearance of the youths who are eating the king’s choice food; and deal with your servants according to what you see.’” vs. 11-13

“So he listened to them in this matter and tested them for ten days. And at the end of the ten days their appearance seemed better and they were fatter than all the youths who had been eating the king's choice food. So the overseer continued to withhold their choice food and the wine they were to drink, and kept giving them vegetables.” vs. 14-16

“But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself...” vs. 8

**“Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials.”
vs. 9**

2. MENTAL FITNESS EXAM. Vs. 17-21

“And as for these four youths, God gave them knowledge and intelligence in every branch of literature and wisdom; Daniel even understood all kinds of visions and dreams.” Vs. 16-17

“Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar. And the king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king’s personal service.” vs. 18-19



“And as for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king consulted them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and conjurers who were in all his realm. And Daniel continued until the first year of Cyrus the king.” vs. 20-21

“Many of those who sleep in the dust of the ground will awake, these to everlasting life, but the others to disgrace and everlasting contempt. Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven...”
Dan. 12:2-3

“For the eyes of the Lord move to and fro throughout the earth that He may strongly support those whose heart is completely His. You have acted foolishly in this. Indeed, from now on you will surely have wars.” 2 Chron. 16:9

APPLICATION FOR ME:

A. The Lord's plan often uses common people.

“For consider your calling...not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong...that no man should boast before God.”

1 Cor. 1:26-29

“Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus.” Acts 4:13

B. His plan uses those who are uncommonly set apart.

“Therefore, if a man cleanses himself from these things, he will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work. Now flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace, with those who call on the Lord with a pure heart.” 2 Tim. 2:21-22

C. His plan extends way beyond our years.

“But the Lord was with Joseph... 39:21

“...the Lord was with him...” 39:23

**“Now, therefore, it was not you who sent me here,
but God...” 45:8**

**“And as for you, you meant evil against me, but God
meant it for good...” 50:20**

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