



Elgin Evangelical Free Church - September 17, 2023

I. Undefined has an AUTHOR – 1:1-2

“In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. The Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the vessels of the house of God;”

A. God orders the events of our life.

B. The powers that surround us function only as the tools of His purpose.

C. He is not afraid to do what you cannot conceive of as good.

II. Undefined encounters AGENDA – 1:3-7

“Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials, to bring in some of the sons of Israel . . . assigned new names to them; and to Daniel he assigned the name Belteshazzar, to Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael Meshach and to Azariah Abed-nego.” 1:3a, 7b

A. The world is all about “advantage”

B. The world is all about “aesthetics”

C. The world is all about “alteration”

III. Undefined faces CRISIS – 1:8-13

“But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king’s choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself.” 1:8

A. When you REFUSE to disregard your God

B. When you RISK opposition

C. When you RELY on God’s intervention

IV. Undefined is CONFIRMED – 1:14-21

“So the overseer continued to withhold their choice food and the wine they were to drink, and kept giving them vegetables.

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.” 1:16-17

A. God provides and passes

B. God promotes

UNDEFILED vs. OVERWHELMED—Daniel 1

Life Group Study Notes

What are some of the overwhelming waves that are presently making it hard for you to stand for Christ in this present culture?

The foundational calling of believers is to remain “undefiled” in this present world. What do you think this means? How is this echoed in the command to Christ that we should be “holy?”

God is the AUTHOR of all human history and all of the powers of this world are simply His tools to advance His story (Daniel 1:2) Why is this truth vital to staying undefiled in this world?

You cannot remain undefiled if you are unaware of the AGENDA of this world. What is the agenda that the world, the flesh and the Devil, have for us?

What is the significance of the changing of the names of Daniel and his friends? How does this connect to the concept of worship?

If you chose to remain undefiled in this world it will bring you to a point of crisis. Describe the three steps that make up a crisis (Refusal, Risk, Rely).

It is hard to leave the results of our obedience in God’s hands? Especially when the risks are real? Why is this step essential to the life of faith? How does this lead to God’s confirmation of our life?

Daniel and his friends are put into the ultimate final exam. How has God prepared them for this? How has their choice to stay undefiled led to this moment?

God is the ultimate promoter of His people. How does the promotion of God differ from the promotion of this world?

Close your time and pray for the determination to live undefiled in this world and to seek God's help to rely upon Him.