



i. was subjugated

**Daniel 1:3-4** 

....bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility – young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace.

What does it mean for us that Daniel got placed behind enemy lines?



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Where does it feel hard, even impossible, to serve God?



i. was subjugated

- God put him there
- God is his judge

**Daniel 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. 2 And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the articles from the temple of God



#### - He engaged the culture

ii. was subversive

Jeremiah 29:4-7

This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says .. 'Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce. ... Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.'



#### - He engaged the culture

ii. was subversive

Daniel 1:5, 17

They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service

. . .

To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.



Where might God be asking you to engage a little more?



ii. was subversive

- He engaged the culture
- He challenged the culture

Jeremiah 29:6

... Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.'



ii. was subversive

- He engaged the culture
- He challenged the culture

Daniel 1:8

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself in this way.



Where do you need to make a stand and challenge the culture?



ii. was subversive

- He engaged the culture
- He challenged the culture

John 17:15-16

My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of it.



iii. was successful

Daniel 1:20

In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.



iii. was successful

Daniel 1:21 And Daniel remained there until the first year of King Cyrus.



