

Daniel: Daring to be Different. Daniel 1

“Australia is turning into a global leader in cultural arrogance thinking it can usurp God’s role in human affairs without consequence.” [Paul Kelly, Weekend Australian May 29-30 p. 15]

Steve McAlpine Being the Bad Guys The GoodBook Company, 2020

Daniel’s circumstances and ours vv. 1-7

The apparent vanquishing of God vv. 1-2

The seduction of privileged opportunity vv. 3-5

The imposition of a new identity – shaped by an idolatrous culture vv. 6-7

Old Name	Meaning	New name	Meaning
Daniel	God is my judge	Belteshazzar	Lady [Belet, wife of the god Bel] protect the king
Hananiah	Yah has been gracious	Shadrach	I am very fearful
Mishael	Who is what God is	Meshach	I am of little account
Azariah	Yah has helped	Abednego	Servant of Nabu [a play on the name of the Babylonian god Nabu]

Daniel’s response – a determination to keep a faithful identity vv. 8-17

The issue of difference vv. 8-10

The reasonableness of faith vv. 11-16

John Dickson <https://undeceptions.com/podcast/mental-health>

Rebecca McLaughlin’s ‘Confronting Christianity’ Crossway 2019, ch. 1

The source of Daniel’s determination

Knew the covenant 9:7-14

Habits of piety 6:10

The source of Daniel’s success

v. 2, v. 9, v. 17

Daniel’s outcome vv. 18-20

The encouragement of Daniel