

*Behold, I will certainly bring calamity on this people – The fruit of their thoughts, because they have not heeded My words nor My law, but rejected it.*

**- Jeremiah 6:19**

*Thus says the LORD: Behold, I will make you a terror to yourself and to all your friends; and they shall fall by the sword of their enemies, and your eyes shall see it. I will give all Judah into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall carry them captive to Babylon and slay them with the sword. Moreover, I will deliver all the wealth of this city, all its produce, and all its precious things; all the treasure of the kings of Judah I will give into the hand of their enemies, who will plunder them, seize them, and carry them to Babylon.*

**- Jeremiah 20:4-5**

*Daniel blessed the God of heaven. Daniel answered and said: “Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings ...”*

**- Daniel 2:19-22**

God is always in control of \_\_\_\_\_ is in control

Next Sunday - Counter Culture Part 2  
**SERVING WITH EXCELLENCE**

### THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST

*The good news is that the just and gracious Creator of the universe has looked upon hopelessly sinful men and women and has sent His Son, Jesus Christ, God in the flesh, to bear His wrath against sin on the cross and to show His power over sin in the resurrection, so that everyone who turns from their sin and themselves, and trusts in Jesus as Savior and Lord, will be reconciled to God forever.*

If you would like more information about following Christ, go to the NEXT STEPS kiosk or Bookstore kiosk to get a free Bible and resources to help you grow. You can learn more about water baptism and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

*Ministry Fair after each service in the HUB*



### Part 1 Spiritual Resilience

Grace Assembly of God      Pastor Wayne Murray

April 10, 2016

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How to Get The Most Out Of This Series . . . .

*Attend all Sundays of the series*

*Invite someone to join you or to watch online*

*Read the book of Daniel (12 chapters) at least once during this series*

What are followers of Christ to do in the current culture?

Do we stand **AGAINST** culture? Or is that **CONTENTIOUS**?

Do we stand **DOWN** from our culture? Or is that **COMPROMISE**?

Do we stand **ASIDE** from culture? Or is that **COWARDICE**?

Do we stand **UP** in our culture? That takes **COURAGE & CONVICTION**

### BIG IDEA

Daniel didn't just survive tough times, he thrived and grew and had a major impact on people and nations and history. Daniel's **SPIRITUAL RESILIENCE** is a model for each of us as we face uncertain times in our culture.

*What does it take to be spiritually resilient in our culture?*

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*Spiritually resilient people resolve to honor  
God no matter the price*

*In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure-house of his god.*

**- Daniel 1:1-2**

*Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility... He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.*

**- Daniel 1:3-5**

*Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah,*

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***Spiritually resilient people overcome cultural challenges by responding in the opposite spirit of the culture.***

*Mishael and Azariah. The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.*

**Daniel 1:6-7**

**What is the Spirit of Babylon?**

*Therefore hear this now, you who are lovers of pleasures,  
Who dwell securely, Who say in your heart ...*

***'I am, and there is no one else besides me...'***

**Isaiah 47:8, 10**

**Why were Daniel and his friends chosen?**

*... 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*

**Daniel 1:4**

*...the king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table.*

**- Daniel 1:5**

*Daniel **resolved** not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way...  
... So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.*

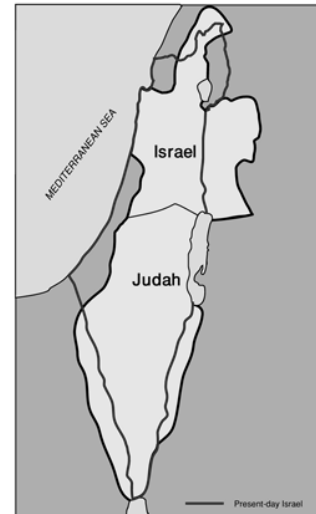
**Daniel 1:8, 16**

*We have been assigned to this world. It has been assigned to us.  
Will we influence it or will it influence us?*

**- Beth Moore**

**R** \_\_\_\_\_

***Spiritually resilient people are committed to living in spiritual community.***



The history of the tribes of Israel. The northern tribes (Israel) are scattered throughout Assyria and are never heard from again. The southern tribes (Judah) are allowed to stay in a community in Babylon. They return to Jerusalem 70 years later.

*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*

**Hebrews 10:25**

*In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king*

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***Spiritually resilient people REMEMBER their life, and even their suffering, has meaning and purpose in the eyes of God.***

*of Judah,*

*Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the articles from the temple of God.*

**- Daniel 1:1-2**