

## **Daniel Purposed in His Heart – 03272005**

- Joshua Daniel

Let us turn to Daniel 1<sup>st</sup> chapter 8<sup>th</sup> verse: But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, not with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

On one occasion I was enquiring about the possibility of contacting a preacher and I made certain enquiries of one of my friends and he said yes they do have evangelists whom they send out. Recently one of their principal evangelist became an alcoholic. I said how come? Oh the man was travelling quite a bit, in the business class it is free drinks in many flights. People just kept to drinking. Oh I am afraid of certain flights because they get rowdy, they get loud. I always carry my ear plugs, I like my quiet and I like to study or read or rest. You know this business of what will you have to drink? What will you have to drink? Alcohol is being promoted on the one hand and on the other hand the government is finding it impossible to tackle the fruit of alcohol, the outcome, the repercussions, the deaths, the drunk and driving. Oh my, the brawls, the fights, you know people shoot under alcohol without knowing what they did. They will shoot a wife, they will shoot anybody comes in their way. So this is a bunch of hypocrisy. On the one hand, they want the money that comes in from the brewers and on the other hand they find themselves without money to fund the hospitals and that is called government which is perfectly absurd. You instigate murder and you put people out of their minds or provide means or make it easier for people to get hold of it. One of the first things that a sensible government would want to do is to say there shall be no drinking places within 10 or 15 miles of a motorway. That's it and no truck driver or anyone is to be found in the event of an accident with a can of beer in his cabin. All insurance benefits will be cutoff if a can of beer is found. So you get drunk and you kill somebody and you claim the insurance, what do you mean? I don't see legislators having any common sense. You can easily balance the budget but they are sinking the nations into deeper and deeper debt and I doubt it if they will ever get out of those holes. Never. Only services like hospitals, places like that will suffer. Now Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself. You see they are talking about addressing in Christian churches. This is really no laughing matter but it seems the height of stupidity that what are known as good churches have to address problems like social drinking. What do you mean? Don't you see what Daniel purposed in his heart to do? Look not on the cup when it is red. Don't

you see in in the scriptures? Be not drunk with wine but be filled with the Holy Ghost? Alright, today social drinking has come into supposed church people so after some more time you will find some of our parsons and pastors sprawling drunk in the gutter before their churches, right? And we must have a special team to attend to that eventuality. Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself. That was it. Now there are other things which we defile ourselves today. Wasting time is a form of defilement. Because when a man should be bringing forth or let us say in terms of money, people understand money more than anything else. If a man who has a potential to earn a salary of 200,000 and he goes along very merrily and happily with just 2000 what will his wife say, what will his parents say? What will others say? What will his friends say? Hey you are a waster! With just a little more effort you would be bringing in 200,000 and what were you doing? Alright, spiritual life and growth is greatly enhanced or gravely hindered by discipline of the lack of it. You see discipline, now in spiritual life people think just by attending a fine conference or jumping up and down on a Sunday morning they are going to make great progress. Nothing of the sort. Was there anybody to enforce discipline Daniel in that foreign land? No. was there some kind of supervisor or some kind of advisor? No. he had the spirit of god to teach him. You know the lord Jesus Christ told us, he shall lead you into all truth and he will show you things to come. If the Holy Spirit is directing us, you know the scripture which tells us if we are not lead of the god's spirit we are none of his. So if the spirit of god is not instructing you and teaching you to be disciplined, well, the chances are that you are none of his. That's what the scripture says. God's children submit themselves to the life which the Holy Spirit instructs them to live. That is normal and if you look at the life of Daniel in the country of Babylon with all its temptations and in the high position to which he was elevated he just maintained his walk with god. Today of course we have to make a living, we have to work hard. The work ethic, everybody is having to work so hard to just keep their heads above the waters. And they have to be so innovative and all their jobs they are outsourcing to cheaper countries. The companies to survive or outsourcing all their jobs. So the crisis of fewer and fewer jobs is there all the time. Hard work has to be put in if the country is to be viable. You know people today feel oh why should we work so hard? Now this is the curse of Adam, don't forget. We certainly don't have to be like slaves but that's what we are today. You know because of the luxuries that we crave. We can't live simple lives. We must have that, we must have that but you know that's how we are. Things have got to look finer, costlier paint, costlier this, costlier that and so the curse of Adam continues. Someone was

telling me how gifts were showered upon her but where things covered a little the same fellow said give me back all the gifts I gave you? What if you eaten up the pudding? Look at the way, look at the way people are living today. Just in defiance of god's word. No discipline, no purity. With the result that there is chaos, decease and all kinds of problems and difficulties. Friends, I see people gathering and then all of a sudden everything disappears. No, god doesn't do that. God blesses honest labor. Here is Daniel in the midst of all his official duties and everything in this kingdom to where he was elevated to his high position. Maintaining his walk with God. He purposed in his heart that's it, it was settled. You know we often sing that chorus I have decided to follow Jesus, no turning back. No, that's normal. That's not some Everest to reach, no it's simply normal but Daniel purposed in his heart.