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From: **Roman White** <[romanwhite0329@gmail.com](mailto:romanwhite0329@gmail.com)>

Date: Sun, May 3, 2020, 9:34 AM

Subject: Dealing with conflicting authorities.

To: Chris Myers Personal <[chrism@skyviewbaptist.com](mailto:chrism@skyviewbaptist.com)>

**Text:** *Dan 1:8 But Daniel purposed ( set or decided) in his heart ( privately ) that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.*

**Trans:** conclusions from examples in the Bible of conflict with lawful authorities.

**Point:**

**1. We are expected to follow our authorities.** *Rom 13*

**2. When authorities conflict we are expected to attempt to negotiate through the conflict.** *Dan 1*

**3. When we can not negotiate through the conflict we are expected to follow the higher authority.**

**A. Gods law is the highest authority.**

**4. As we follow the higher authority we are to commit ourselves to God for the outcome.** *Dan 3:16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, answered and said to the king, O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. Dan 3:17 If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. Dan 3:18 But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.*

**5. Daniel simply continued doing what he had always done.** *Dan 6:10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.*

- You figure out how to please God while attempting to work within the lifestyle that has been given you

- You Confront A direct attack on your service for God by continuing to live by the rules that you have always lived by.

**Intro: There is more than one option. Ill. "Give me a raise or i quit" vs what would it take for me to get a raise?**

**Daniel 1. The lifestyle he was submitted to did not conform to the lifestyle God wanted him to live.**

- **Daniel search for a way to obey his authorities and still live the lifestyle that God wanted him to live**

- *Dan 1:8 But Daniel purposed ( set or decided) in his heart ( privately ) that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.*

- He first tried to go through proper channels to comply to what God wanted without disobeying authorities.

- He did not threaten his authorities ( purposed IN HIS HEART) he simply decided where he was going to draw the line and follow his higher authority.
- **he listened to his authorities objective and searched for a way to meet those objectives without violating God's commands.** *Dan 1: 9 Now God had brought Daniel into favour and tender love with the prince of the eunuchs. 10 And the prince of the eunuchs said unto Daniel, I fear my lord the king, who hath appointed your meat and your drink: for why should he see your faces worse liking than the children which are of your sort? then shall ye make me endanger my head to the king.*
- **When that failed Daniel got creative in order to attempt to get his authorities to match.** - *11 Then said Daniel to Melzar, whom the prince of the eunuchs had set over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, 12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink. 13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants*
- **Daniel finally proved to His authorities that allowing Him to obey Gods laws of diet was better for them and for him.** *Dan 1:12 Prove thy servants, I beseech thee, ten days; and let them give us pulse to eat, and water to drink. 13 Then let our countenances be looked upon before thee, and the countenance of the children that eat of the portion of the king's meat: and as thou seest, deal with thy servants. 14 So he consented to them in this matter, and proved them ten days. 15 And at the end of ten days their countenances appeared fairer and fatter in flesh than all the children which did eat the portion of the king's meat. 16 Thus Melzar took away the portion of their meat, and the wine that they should drink; and gave them pulse.*

## **Chapter 6 was a direct specific attack to harm Daniel through his religious beliefs.**

One was a lifestyle of the people and the other was a direct attack on his relationship with God.

- 1. They were looking to attack Daniel.** *Dan 6:4 Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.*
- 2. They decided to use the rules of the Bible to destroy Daniel.** *Dan 6:5 Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God.*
- 3. They created a law with the intent to stop Daniel from being able to serve God.** *Dan 6:7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. Dan 6:8 Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. Dan 6:9 Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.*
- 4. Daniel simply continued serving God and committed himself to God for the outcome.** *Dan 6:10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.*

**God gave us proper authorities and expects us to follow their authority.** *Rom 13:1 Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Rom 13:2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. Rom 13:3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Wilt thou then not be afraid of the power? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: Rom 13:4 For he is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Rom 13:5 Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake.*

*Rom 12:18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.*

**This is not about your personal suffering:** *1Pe 2:19 For this is thankworthy, if a man for conscience toward God endure grief, suffering wrongfully. 1Pe 2:20 For what glory is it, if, when ye be buffeted for your faults, ye shall take it patiently? but if, when ye do well, and suffer for it, ye take it patiently, this is acceptable with God.*

**Paul applied the law of the land in dealing with authorities.** **Act 22:25** And as they bound him with thongs, Paul said unto the centurion that stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman, and uncondemned? *Act 22:26 When the centurion heard that, he went and told the chief captain, saying, Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman. Act 22:27 Then the chief captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, art thou a Roman? He said, Yea. Act 22:28 And the chief captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this freedom. And Paul said, But I was free born. Act 22:29 Then straightway they departed from him which should have examined him: and the chief captain also was afraid, after he knew that he was a Roman, and because he had bound him.*

**Paul demanded his rights under the law.** *Act 16:36 And the keeper of the prison told this saying to Paul, The magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace. Act 16:37 But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? nay verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out. Act 16:38 And the serjeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans. Act 16:39 And they came and besought them, and brought them out, and desired them to depart out of the city.*

**- Paul did not stay in that city and fight an ongoing battle.**

**Paul showed respect the higher law.** *Act 23:2 And the high priest Ananias commanded them that stood by him to smite him on the mouth. Act 23:3 Then said Paul unto him, God shall smite thee, thou whited wall: for sittest thou to judge me after the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law? Act 23:4 And they that stood by said, Revilest thou God's high priest? Act 23:5 Then said Paul, I wist not, brethren, that he was the high priest: for it is written, Thou shalt not speak evil of the ruler of thy people.*