

## BODY BUILDING IN THE CHURCH

When Daniel was taken to Babylon as one of the captives, his spiritual liberties were also taken. Daniel realized he needed to change his lifestyle. The leaders around him had incredible power and they were slowly changing his usual prayerful lifestyle that would ultimately bring about “spiritual descent”. Daniel was determined to stay on the pathway of “spiritual ascent”.

**Dan 1:8** But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with a portion of the king' meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.

### KEY PHRASES:

1. Daniel purposed with all his heart.
2. He might not defile himself. (Stay on track)

Church leaders worldwide are increasingly concerned with their member's busy lifestyle which ultimately restricts spiritual growth. Daniel was determined to have all the faith ingredients necessary to serve God in the heathen environment of Babylon.

God has given us the Word of God; therein we can read what the “heroes of Faith” did to complete their personal God given commission.

Daniel had such a proven faith in his God that he decided on a course of action that would guarantee separation from those that could hinder his spiritual progress.

Many times the disciples made decisions that increased their anointing.

**1 Thess 1:5** For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake. **6**And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost: **7**So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia. **8**For from you sounded out the word of the Lord not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but also in every place your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing. **9**For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

Paul's preaching had such power that those that became Christians went on to become missionaries.

NOTE: v.6. “ye became followers of us”;

v.7. “ye were ensamples” or examples.

v.8. “from you sounded out the word”

v.10 “ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God”

We must recognize the sound of the anointing! That sound has the power of the Holy Spirit.

**1Cor 4:20** For the kingdom of God is not in word, but in power.

**Isa 61:1** But ye shall be named the Priests of the LORD: **men shall call you the Ministers of our God:** ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves.

Standing before King Agrippa Paul testifies of the great changes that God made in his life and the specific calling that God placed upon him.

**Act 26:16** "But rise, and stand upon thy feet: for **I have appeared unto thee for this purpose, to make thee a minister** and a witness both of these things which thou hast seen, and of those things in the which I will appear unto thee; "17"Delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles, unto whom now I send thee, " 18"To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. "

God’s purpose for mankind is not only that many may receive forgiveness of sins and receive their spiritual inheritance, but that they go on to become His ministers.

**Eph 3:7** Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me **by the effectual working of his power.**

**1 Thes 1:5** For **our gospel came not unto you** in word only, but also **in power, and in the Holy Ghost,**

6And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord,

7So that ye were ensamples to all that believe in Macedonia and Achaia.

8your faith to God-ward is spread abroad; so that we need not to speak any thing.

9For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;

Paul was a “BODY BUILDER” in the body of Christ. Paul could lift the weights and show how it was done.

The idol worshipers were now preaching with effectiveness.

The true Five-Fold ascension ministers are all “Body Builders”.

Eph 4:11 And **he gave some**, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers;

Eph 4:12 **For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry**, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

At some stage I am obligated to help someone ascend into a higher anointing. It is apart of the work of the ministry. I can't do the lifting for them; I can only show the way to do it.