

Bible/College Class Notes - Lesson 168 Revision

Considering the vital importance of Christian character

This week we reminded ourselves about the **character** of Daniel, his friends, his enemies, Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar, and Nehemiah, his enemies and that of the Lord Jesus Christ.

“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”
John 3v16.

Bible Readings for this week:

(Choose a regular time each day to read the Bible and pray whether it be when you first wake up or just before you go to sleep)

Day	Bible Reading	Tick When Read
Sunday	Daniel 1 (Daniel, and others, taken as slaves to Babylon)	
Monday	Daniel 2v1-2, 13, 16-23, 31-49 (Daniel interprets)	
Tuesday	Daniel 5 (Belshazzar is judged by God - found wanting)	
Wednesday	Daniel 6 (Daniel preserved by God in the lion's den)	
Thursday	Nehemiah 1, Ch4v1-6 (God gives Nehemiah faith to work)	
Friday	Nehemiah 8v1-3, Ch9 v1-3, 6-13, 31-38 (Repeated Sin)	
Saturday	John 3v1-21 ('Ye must be born again', by The Holy Spirit)	

Important Lesson for us today: What is Sanctification? Sanctification is the life-long process of a Christian believer growing more like the Lord Jesus Christ. We can only grow in sanctified Christian character if we know the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and we daily seek to obey Him as Lord. It is only when our sins are forgiven that we want to take Him as our supreme example of holiness, obedience, sincerity, humility, love, mercy, forgiveness, etc. being set apart from the evil world of sin around us. Read Galatians 5v22,23 – The Fruit of The Spirit.

Hymn 393 What is our character like? Is this your hymn and prayer?

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| 1. I am trusting Thee Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee,
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free. | 2. I am trusting Thee for pardon:
At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy
Trusting now. |
| 3. I am trusting Thee to guide me,
Thou alone shalt lead, Lord Jesus;
Every day and hour supplying
All my need. | 5. I am trusting Thee,
Never let me fall;
I am trusting Thee for ever,
And for all. |

EDT Bible/College Class Take Home Sheet

This sheet is given to remind you of the lesson and to encourage you to read your Bible.

Christian Character. *Note the following: -*

- **Daniel's loyalty to God and great courage**, even when his life was in danger. From a young age he showed sincere faith, integrity and prayer; he refused to be lured into a sinful life in Babylon. He stood firm for his God, even though his life was threatened. For over 70 years his Christian character was trusted by the rulers of Babylon/Persia - Nebuchadnezzar, Darius, and Cyrus.
- **Daniel's friends** – Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego remained calm, trusting God to save them, even though they were thrown into the fiery furnace. The Lord miraculously preserved them, reminding us that He is able to save all who call upon Him in repentance and faith.
- **Nehemiah was humble** and sought God's forgiveness for his, and the peoples', sin. He showed concern for the glory and honour of the Name of the one true God, risking his life and working hard to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem. He re-established worship in the Temple, and challenged the fickle people, (who kept falling into their old sins of idolatry), that they repent and return to the Lord.

Only in Christ can we emulate the character of Daniel, his friends, and Nehemiah.

- **The Lord Jesus Christ is our great example** – He demonstrated humility, love, mercy and grace in coming to earth from Heaven to die for lost sinners on Calvary. **Hallelujah, what a Saviour!**

Un-Christian Character. *Note the following: -*

- **Nebuchadnezzar was a proud man** setting himself up as the one to be worshipped, too proud to worship God. God humbled him.
- **Belshazzar was also proud and defiant against God.** He saw the **'Finger of God's Judgement'** writing on the wall – ***"You are weighed in My balance of justice and are found wanting"***.
- **Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem** were all wickedly set against God and Nehemiah by opposing the restoration of the walls and gates of Jerusalem. But their scheming and lying was no match for Nehemiah who obeyed and trusted God to protect and guide him.

Christian Character is to be Christ-like, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law." . Galatians 5v22,23.