

DANIEL BISHOP ——— *Lead Pastor*

WILLING TO RISK IT ALL

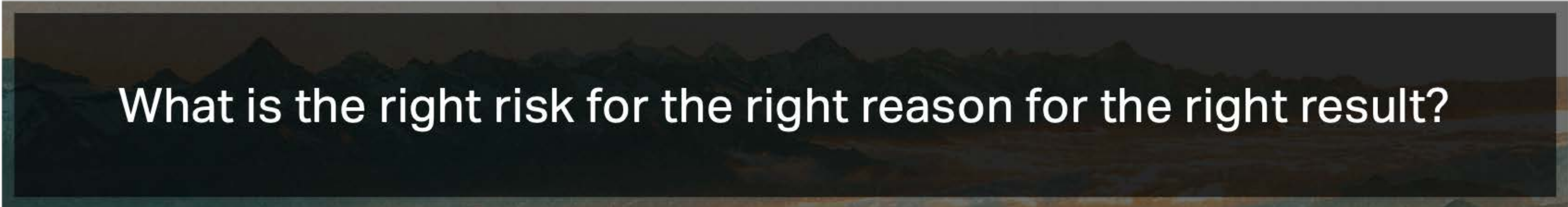
Daniel 1



1

Every **choice** in life comes with **risk**.

Your odds of dying in a fatal plane crash are one in 11 million.
Your chances of dying in a car crash are one in 5,000.



What is the right risk for the right reason for the right result?

JOHN PIPER, *DON'T WASTE YOUR LIFE*

[Risk is] "an action that exposes you to the possibility of loss or injury."

JOHN PIPER, *DON'T WASTE YOUR LIFE*

"If you take a risk you can lose money, you can lose face,
you can lose your health even your life.

JOHN PIPER, *DON'T WASTE YOUR LIFE*

And what's worse, if you take a risk,
you may endanger other people and not just yourselves."

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

² And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand,
with some of the vessels of the house of God.

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

And he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god,
and placed the vessels in the treasury of his god.

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

³ Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch,
to bring some of the people of Israel,

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

both of the royal family and of the nobility, 4 youths without blemish,
of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom,

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

endowed with knowledge, understanding learning,
and competent to stand in the king's palace,

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

⁵ The king assigned them a daily portion of the food that the king ate, and of the wine that he drank.

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king.



DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

⁶ Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael,
and Azariah of the tribe of Judah.

DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

7 And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names:
Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach,



DANIEL 1:1-7 (ESV)

Mishael he called Meshach,
and Azariah he called Abednego.

JEREMIAH 29:4-7 (ESV)

“Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:

JEREMIAH 29:4-7 (ESV)

Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons,

JEREMIAH 29:4-7 (ESV)

and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease.



JEREMIAH 29:4-7 (ESV)

But seek the welfare of the city
where I have sent you into exile,



JEREMIAH 29:4-7 (ESV)

and pray to the Lord on its behalf,
for in its welfare you will find your welfare."

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

⁸ But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food, or with the wine that he drank.

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself.

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

9 And God gave Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs,

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

¹⁰ and the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel,
"I fear my lord the king, who assigned your food and your drink;

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

for why should he see that you were in worse condition than the youths who are of your own age?

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

So you would endanger my head with the king."

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

¹¹ Then Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had assigned over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah,

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

¹² "Test your servants for ten days; let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink.

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

¹³ Then let our appearance and the appearance of the youths who eat the king's food be observed by you,

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

and deal with your servants according to what you see."



DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

¹⁴ So he listened to them in this matter,
and tested them for ten days.

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

¹⁵ At the end of ten days it was seen that they were better in appearance and fatter in flesh



DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

than all the youths who ate the king's food.

DANIEL 1:8-16 (ESV)

¹⁶ So the steward took away their food and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables.



PROVERBS 23:1-3 (ESV)

When you sit down to eat with a ruler,
observe carefully what is before you,



PROVERBS 23:1-3 (ESV)

² and put a knife to your throat
if you are given to appetite.



PROVERBS 23:1-3 (ESV)

³ Do not desire his delicacies,
for they are deceptive food.



2

Taking the **right risk** for God starts in the **heart**.



3

Daniel willingly **risked it all** for God without knowing the **outcome**.

2 SAMUEL 10:12 (ESV)

Be of good courage, and let us be courageous for our people, and for the cities of our God, and may the Lord do what seems good to him.

2 SAMUEL 10:12 (ESV)

Be of good courage, and let us be courageous for our people, and for the cities of our God, and may the Lord do what seems good to him.

LUKE 21:16-18 (ESV)

and some of you they will put to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all for my name's sake. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish.

JOHN 3:16 (ESV)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,
that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

DANIEL 1:17-21 (ESV)

¹⁷ As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions

DANIEL 1:17-21 (ESV)

and dreams. ¹⁸ At the end of the time, when the king had commanded that they should be brought in,

DANIEL 1:17-21 (ESV)

the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar.

DANIEL 1:17-21 (ESV)

¹⁹ And the king spoke with them, and among all of them none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah.



DANIEL 1:17-21 (ESV)

Therefore they stood before the king.

DANIEL 1:17-21 (ESV)

²⁰ And in every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better

DANIEL 1:17-21 (ESV)

than all the magicians and enchanters that were in all his kingdom.
21 And Daniel was there until the first year of King Cyrus.

MAIN QUESTION OF THE SERIES

What does God want you to risk for Him in faith?

APPLICATION QUESTION FOR THE NEXT 10 DAYS

What is something you could risk doing for God during **the next 10 days** that could possibly make your life **ten times better**?



4

Risking **it all** for God is better than **wasting** your **life**.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-24 (ESV)

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread,

1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-24 (ESV)

²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."