



Frontline Marketplace Christians

By Julie Matula

We are living in distressful and exciting times. As marketplace leaders we need to know the “times and seasons” and be able to apply kingdom principles to the economic system. The God-given ability to know what others **cannot** know will cause us to stand out in the world’s system.

Nothing can be more relevant today than the book of Daniel. Daniel’s response to his unwilling circumstances can help us understand and activate strategies that will work today. These principles are timeless and effective.

First of all, Daniel had a biblical worldview and believed that God is actively involved in everyday situations and events. Daniel perceived everything happening around him from God’s perspective. Because of this Daniel obtained totally different results than his counterparts, the magicians of his time.

It is interesting that a report recently released by Barna Research stated that only 9% of Christians have a biblical worldview. This may explain why we are getting the results we are experiencing today. We need to expect God’s involvement and blessing today in every area of society, government, education, religion, family, media, arts and entertainment and especially business. This is the only way we will get different results.

Next Daniel lived an uncompromising lifestyle of obedience regardless of the outcome. Daniel believed that there was something worth dying for because he had an eternal perspective of life. He understood he was living for a kingdom much more important than his present personal needs and desires. We will never be successful unless we can separate ourselves from the compromise, corruption and ungodly practices of greed and choose a lifestyle of integrity and righteousness as Daniel did. Daniel lived up to his name acknowledging “God is my judge”.

Daniel operated in the wisdom and power of God. This wisdom put Daniel in a place of favor because he had answers to the difficult problems troubling the king. Daniel was a problem solver. The King recognized this wisdom and understanding came from Daniel’s God:

‘The king said to Daniel, ‘Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery.’” Daniel 2:47

This same wisdom is available to believers in the marketplace today to give solutions, answers, and strategies to complicated business problems. Wisdom will be the sought-after quality for the days of confusion we are living in. Today’s marketplace Christians are on the frontline of a changing economic system. This will provide amazing opportunities for them to operate in Godly wisdom and understanding. These marketplace Christians will clearly hear His voice and know what to do and when.

These present-day Daniels will be recognized, given favor, and promoted to high places:

“Then the king placed Daniel in a high position and lavished many gifts on him. He made him ruler over the entire province of Babylon and placed him in charge of all its wise men.” Daniel 2:48

This position of authority gave Daniel an open door to transform the surrounding culture and therefore release God’s blessing and provision in people’s lives.

How does this all come about? This can only be the result of time spent in communion and fellowship with God. Time alone with God is the basic essential to the life of a believer. Daniel was known to pray three times a day. He knew that prayer was not an option, rather a necessity if we are to live in God’s wisdom, favor, blessing and authority.

Our success in life and the marketplace depends on our vital consistent relationship with Him. Every resource we need and get comes from spending time in prayer.

As marketplace believers let’s position ourselves with humility, integrity, faithfulness, wisdom and absolute obedience on the frontlines to play a significant role in the days ahead so that God can be recognized as “The Most High God.”