**CHRISTIAN UNION**

**THE POLYTECHNIC IBADAN**

**BIBLE STUDY OUTLINE**

**23RD JULY, 2024.**

**THEME: KINGDOM REBUILDERS: REVIVED, RENEWED AND TRANSFORMED TO REBUILD. ZECHARIAH 8:9-23, ISAIAH 61:4, HAGGAI 1:3-8, ACTS 15:16**

**TOPIC: THE SPIRIT OF EXCELLENCE**

**TEXT: DANIEL 5:12, DANIEL 6:3**

**MEMORY VERSE: Daniel 6:3 Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.**

**INTRODUCTION**

In today's Bible study we will be focusing much more on a man called Daniel in the bible. Daniel was in exile in Babylon but still stood out because he has an excellent spirit. We would never forget to mention his three friends also by the name Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. (Daniel 1:6-7). In exile (persecution, tribulation, suffering, hardship etc) but yet exhibiting the spirit of excellence. (Daniel 1:17) They didn't allow their environment to choose who they will be or what they should be.

**STUDY**

Daniel and his friends had ten times more wisdom and understanding than the others. Daniel interpreted dreams and had an excellent spirit. The king promoted him ruler over the whole province of Babylon. Daniel raised up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. They would not bow to the golden image and were thrown into the fiery furnace. Daniel would not stop praying to the one true God and was thrown into the lion’s den. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were delivered from the fire in the furnace. Daniel was delivered from the lions. God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths.

Daniel was successful and excel in Babylon because God was with him and he also was ready to stand with God all the days of his life.

Through the hardship around them, many people just like them would have compromised and follow the ways of the Babylon but they stayed with (know) their God and they did exploit indeed (Daniel 11:32)

THINGS THAT DANIEL & HIS FRIENDS DID THAT SHOWS THAT THEY KNEW GOD AND WE CAN ALSO EMULATE AS STUDENTS:

1. They refused to defile themselves with the portion of the king's meat (Daniel 1:5-8)

2. They were men of prayer (Daniel 2:16-20)

3. They didn't bow down to any craving image except serving their God (Daniel 3:12)

4. They understand the counsel of God per time (Daniel 5:12-14)

5. They were not ready to compromise their faith for anything (Daniel 6:10)

**CONCLUSION**

Just like Daniel and his friends, we are in a perversed society, where holiness and serving God is counted foolishness. Although God gave Daniel and his friends the spirit of excellence but yet there are some things they did intentionally to stay in God because they know their source of wisdom and excellence is God. (James 1:5) As believers we have the spirit of excellence but we have to be intentional like Daniel to exhibit this spirit.