

“Integrity In Living”
Daniel 6:1-16 * October 8, 2006

I. What is ‘integrity’?

It’s firm adherence to a moral code; it’s **incorruptibility**;
it’s the quality of state of being undivided; it’s completeness or
honesty.

II. What does Daniel show us about a person of integrity?

A. He shows us that a person of integrity **distinguishes**
himself or herself by their character.

1. What does it mean to “distinguish” yourself?

To set yourself apart; to stand out from the crowd

B. He shows us that a person of integrity is known by their
excellence.

1. What reason do Christians have for pursuing
excellence?

**We are to work with all our hearts in service to the
Lord, in gratitude for all that he has done for us.**

2. In what things should I “work with all my heart”?
**All things – from making my bed to the most
important of tasks.**

3. What amazed Oscar Hammerstein about the Statue
of Liberty?

**That the French Sculptor had employed as much
attention to detail in the parts of the sculpture that
would not be visible to the average person.**

C. He shows us that a person of integrity is **incorruptible**.

1. Meaning what?

**You cannot be bought or bribed into disowning your
values and convictions.**

2. What would you be willing to do for \$10 million?

**Two-thirds of Americans polled agreed they would do at least one,
if not several, of the following:**

Would abandon their entire family (25%)

Would abandon their church (25%)

Would become prostitutes for a week or more (23%)

Would give up their American citizenships (16%)

Would leave their spouses (16%)

**Would withhold testimony and let a murderer go free
(10%)**

Would kill a stranger (7%)

Would put their children up for adoption (3%)

D. He shows us that a person of integrity is trustworthy and
faithful.

1. When do we find out if a person is trustworthy?

**When we leave them alone. “Integrity is what a
person is in the dark” ~ D.L. Moody**

2. Why did Roosevelt fire his hired hand?

**He tried to steal cattle for Roosevelt. Roosevelt said
to him, “If you will steal for me, then you will steal
from me” and he fired him.**

III. What Are Threats To Having Integrity?

A. The threat of the **crowd**.

1. What 2 things are thought about people like Daniel?

**People are angry at them (for making them look
bad) but are also secretly jealous of them (for
doing what deepdown they wish they could do.)**

B. The threat of the **law**.

1. Are there things today which are “legal” but still
not “right”?

Abortion, sexual rights, pornography, etc.

2. *Why did the Good Samaritan help the robbery victim?*

Not in obedience to any law, but in obedience to his heart of integrity.

C. *The threat of denial.*

1. *Who is in big denial here in the story? Why?*

The king. He goes along with the idea that he should be treated as god for a month.

2. *Where does true integrity begin according to Jesus?*

It begins in our heart.

3. *What is the true condition of my heart?*

“The heart is deceitful above all things” (Jer.17:9)

4. *What does it mean that my heart is “divided”?*

Part of my heart wants to serve God, but another part wants to serve myself. Part of my heart wants to have integrity and purity, another part wants to sin my head off.

5. *What do I need to do to have an undivided heart?*

I need honesty (about my heart’s true condition) openness (to allowing God to change me.)

What is God speaking to me this morning?