

A person is sitting on a rocky cliff, looking out over a vast sea of clouds. The sun is setting in the distance, creating a warm, golden glow. The person is silhouetted against the bright sky. The clouds are thick and white, filling the lower two-thirds of the image. The sky is a mix of orange, yellow, and blue.

# COURAGE!

When Conviction Clashes  
with Expectation

**Daniel 1... FOOD forbidden by God**

“resolved not defile himself,” i.e. not  
a matter of custom or culture.

# STRATEGY

- **Request**
- **Second** request (“I’m serious here!”)

# COURAGE

- **Proposal** of a test
- Absolute **trust** in God

**SUCCESS!**

Commitment to God AND service  
to King remained intact!

God BLESSED his courage to sacrifice  
**career** rather than surrender **character**!

**Daniel 3...** worship of image/idol

No redefinition, shift, wiggle, or compromise  
possible here!

# STRATEGY

- Ignore the expectation, see what happens... accept the consequences



# COURAGE

- Willingness to die
- Absolute trust in God

**SUCCESS!**

Miraculous preservation of life  
and increase of influence!

This courage was not heroism  
or theatrics. It was simply an expression  
of their spiritual **conviction!**

Their courage did not fail because  
it was based on everything  
they **believed** and **valued**!

Courage is not simply ANOTHER  
VIRTUE but is the expression of any  
virtue when it reaches its testing point.

C. S. Lewis