

## I. INTRO

- A. What's in a name?
- B. When someone calls your name you respond
  - Names create a picture or image
- C. Some are wearing names that you feel you deserve

## II. THERE IS AN AGENDA TO CHANGE YOUR IDENTITY

- A. The story of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

**Daniel 1:1-2 (NIV)** In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.<sup>2</sup> And the Lord delivered Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, along with some of the articles from the temple of God. These he carried off to the temple of his god in Babylonia and put in the treasure house of his god.

**Daniel 1:3 (NIV)** <sup>3</sup> Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility—

**Daniel 1:4-5 (NIV)** <sup>4</sup> young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians.<sup>5</sup> The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

- B. The Babylonian's agenda was for these to eventually serve the king
  - And it all started with new Babylonian names
  - Names are a sign of ownership

**Daniel 1:6-7 (NLT)** <sup>6</sup> Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah.<sup>7</sup> The chief of staff renamed them with these Babylonian names: Daniel was called Belshazzar. Hananiah was called Shadrach. Mishael was called Meshach. Azariah was called Abednego.

- C. In order to indoctrinate them into slavery they were renamed
  - Daniel = God is my judge to Belshazzar = Lady protect the king
  - Hananiah = Yahweh has been gracious – Shadrach = I am fearful of God
  - Meshach = Who is what God is? To Meshach = I'm despised, contemptible and humiliated
  - Azariah = Yahweh has helped to Abednego = servant of Nebo

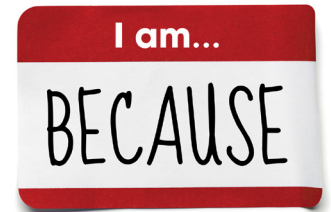


CHRISTIAN CENTER

## Because

Part 1  
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### A New Name



**Daniel 1:8 (NIV)** <sup>8</sup> But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way.

D. There is an agenda to define who you are based on your name

#### IV. HE KNOWS MY NAME

A. You respond to your name

B. The good news is that you have a new name

**John 10:3-5 (TLB)** <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice and come to him; and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> He walks ahead of them; and they follow him, for they recognize his voice. <sup>5</sup> They won't follow a stranger but will run from him, for they don't recognize his voice."

- Give God the chance to put the right label on you

**Isaiah 43:1 (NIV)** But now, this is what the Lord says—he who created you, Jacob, he who formed you, Israel: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.

C. You have to know who you are

- The world no longer has ownership

**Hebrews 13:5-6 (VOICE)** <sup>5</sup> Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have because He has said, "I will never leave you; I will always be by your side." <sup>6</sup> Because of this promise, we may boldly say, The Lord is my help—I won't be afraid of anything. How can anyone harm me?