

Sermon Series – “Embracing Identity”

Part 4 – “Overcoming Identity Theft”

Speaker: *Pastor Delthony L. Gordon* **Church:** *Beavercreek SDA – 7/22/2023*

Scripture Reading: *Daniel 1:8&9*

The Bible bears an “_____” story that is told in every Sabbath School class from the Cradle Roll to Adult lesson. It is the story of the Babylonian _____ of Judah by Nebuchadnezzar that had been foretold by the prophet _____ in response to Hezekiah’s selfish display of wealth _____ of talking about the goodness of God who healed him of his _____. This story, and the life of the Jews in the courts of Babylon, bear _____ lessons that are applicable to solving the _____ crisis that is engulfing the world today and in particular Christian homes. How is the devil making _____ in the family circle and taking _____ children captive to spiritual Babylon? Even after an apparent loss of who they are, can the _____ of God be restored in them and secured even while in Babylon? Is there hope of a regain what the enemy has stolen? Let us open the pages of Scripture as we pray.

Identity Crisis – Cause & Correction

1. What _____ on the part of Hezekiah led to Judah’s invasion? *2 Kgs 20:14-17*
2. How did the Babylonians try to _____ the Hebrew youth? *Daniel 1:1-7*
 - a. Taught them Babylonian _____.
 - b. _____ them to Babylonian food.
 - c. Gave them new _____.
3. What else was done to the boys to mar them and make them _____? *Isa. 39:7*
4. How did they resist this indoctrination to paganism and _____? *Daniel 1:8*
5. What must we do today to prevent identity _____? *Multiple Verses*
6. What hope exists for _____ to regain lost identity? *Jer. 31:1-17; Rev. 18:4*

As the Lord co-operated with Daniel and his fellows, so He will co-operate with all who strive to do **His will**. And **by the impartation of His Spirit He will strengthen every true purpose, every noble resolution**. Those who walk in the path of obedience will encounter many hindrances. Strong, subtle influences may bind them to the world; **but the Lord is able to break every agency that works for the defeat of His chosen ones; in His strength they may overcome every temptation, conquer every difficulty..**

Prophets and Kings, p. 487

May the image of God be indelibly etched in your heart by his Holy Spirit!