

Daniel 1:8-9

⁸ But Daniel made up his mind that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought *permission* from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself. ⁹ Now God granted Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the commander of the officials.

Too many people today recognize tolerance and compromise as the perfect antidote to any conflict or disagreement. Yet, in order to receive the blessing and favor of God, one must not deter from God's word. Daniel chose as a young man, to honor God over King Nebuchadnezzar. Such a decision was not only dangerous, but it ultimately could have cost him his young life. Daniel recognized that in obeying the king, he would be defiling himself before God. I wonder how many Christians would make the same decision, if they were placed in a similar situation today. Honoring God before man should be our first concern. Everywhere in America, Christians are having to choose whether they will obey man, or God. Today, people are losing their jobs, some are being incarcerated, still others are being fiercely persecuted, and all for their faith. The question is, who will you honor as first in your life, will you choose God, or man?

The danger with compromise is where do you stop? Once the line of compromise is crossed, mankind only continues to press the boundaries more and more each day. I just learned of a Roman Catholic Bishop in the Netherlands, who has decided to start using the name, "Allah", instead of "God". *On Townhall.com, Kathleen Parker wrote that Father Tiny Muskens said, "That God doesn't care what we call Him, so why not go ahead and appease the Muslims". Father Tiny went on to say, "Allah is a very beautiful word for God," Muskens said on Dutch television a few days ago. "Shouldn't we all say that from now on we will name God Allah?"(Parker, 2007)* I was quietly stunned when I read the commentary that shared this hellish story. I think that the Catholic Church would be in an uproar over this blatant disrespect of seeking to name the Living God after a demon or ruler of darkness. The only way Jehovah and Allah could be the same God, is if He was bi-polar. Our God has many names, but "Allah" has never been, nor will ever be one of them. It seems that today, the world has gone insane. Everywhere you turn, Christians are told that their message is unwanted; that the name of our Savior, "Jesus Christ" is offensive to the rest of the global community. But then the Muslims can do no wrong! They can annihilate one another, circumcise their daughters, declare war against America, Israel, and Great Britain; and the world sees nothing wrong with their message. Now, a rogue priest comes out and shares that he believes that the Christians and Jews should pray, call on the name of, and sing to Allah. Christian children are being told not to bring Bibles to school, not to wear t-shirts that proclaim their faith, or to hold prayer meetings at school. But then, Muslim children are not only offered every one of the privileges that Christian children are refused, but special prayer rooms are offered to the Muslim children as well. Do you not think that if Christians started bringing the Koran instead of the Bible, and praying to Allah instead of Jesus Christ, that the media, the ACLU, and the Muslim Jihadists would declare a victory over the Christian faith? The only hope they have for such a victory, is if you and I do nothing, quit standing up for our faith, and our God!!

Parker, K. (2007) Oh, Allah, Won't you buy me a Mercedes Benz? Electronically retrieved August 17, 2007 from <http://www.townhall.com/content/f725277a-f941-4e34-8b3b-2734197288bf>