



[Guardrails]

Once and For All

Def of Guardrail:

A guardrail is a system designed to keep vehicles from straying into dangerous or off limit areas.

Def of Behavioral Guardrail:

A personal standard of behavior
that becomes a matter of conscience

Refusing to build guardrails doesn't eliminate the tension of needing to say "no".

All it does is erode your resolve

Refusing to build guardrails doesn't
resolve anything.

It just brings the battle line
closer to disaster.

The more you feed an appetite
the more it grows and demands
more for the same level of pleasure

Daniel 1:3,4

³ Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, the chief of his officials, to bring in some of the sons of Israel, including some of the royal family and of the nobles,

Daniel 1:3, 4

⁴ youths in whom was no defect, who were good-looking, showing intelligence in every *branch of* wisdom, endowed with understanding, and discerning knowledge, and who had ability for serving in the king's court; and *he ordered him* to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.

Daniel 1:5, 6, 7

⁵ And the king appointed for them a daily ration from the king's choice food and from the wine which he drank, and *appointed* that they should be educated three years, at the end of which they were to enter the king's personal service.

Daniel 1:5, 6, 7

⁶ Now among them from the sons of Judah were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. ⁷ Then the commander of the officials assigned new names to them; and to Daniel he assigned *the name* Belteshazzar, to Hananiah Shadrach, to Mishael Meshach, and to Azariah Abed-nego.

Dan 1:8

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.

Dan 1:9

⁹ Now God granted Daniel favor
and compassion in the sight of the
commander of the officials,

Dan 1:10-13

¹⁰ and the commander of the officials said to Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has appointed your food and your drink; for why should he see your faces looking more haggard than the youths who are your own age? Then you would make me forfeit my head to the king."

Dan 1:10-13

¹¹ But Daniel said to the overseer
whom the commander of the officials
had appointed over Daniel,
Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah,

Dan 1:10-13

¹² "Please test your servants for ten days, and let us be given some vegetables to eat and water to drink.

¹³ "Then let our appearance be observed in your presence, and the appearance of the youths who are eating the king's choice food; and deal with your servants according to what you see."

Dan 1:14-16

¹⁴ So he listened to them in this matter and tested them for ten days.

Dan 1:14-16

¹⁵ And at the end of ten days their appearance seemed better and they were fatter than all the youths who had been eating the king's choice food.

¹⁶ So the overseer continued to withhold their choice food and the wine they were to drink, and kept giving them vegetables.

Dan 1:17-20

¹⁷ And as for these four youths,
God gave them knowledge and
intelligence in every *branch of* literature
and wisdom; Daniel even understood
all *kinds of* visions and dreams

Dan 1:17-20

¹⁸ Then at the end of the days which the king had specified for presenting them, the commander of the officials presented them before Nebuchadnezzar.

Dan 1:17-20

¹⁹ And the king talked with them, and out of them all not one was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king's personal service.

²⁰ And as for every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king consulted them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians *and* conjurers who *were* in all his realm.