

A dark, atmospheric street view of a city, likely New York City, with tall buildings lining the street. A bus is visible in the foreground, and the text "ENGAGING CULTURE" is overlaid in white with a yellow horizontal bar behind it.

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Daniel 1:1-4 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it.

² And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the articles of the house of God, which he carried into the land of Shinar to the house of his god; and he brought the articles into the treasure house of his god.

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³ Then the king instructed Ashpenaz, the master of his eunuchs, to bring some of the children of Israel and some of the king's descendants and some of the nobles,
⁴ young men in whom there was no blemish, but good-looking, gifted in all wisdom, possessing knowledge and quick to understand, who had ability to serve in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the language and literature of the Chaldeans.

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Three Categories of Handling Culture

- Receive it: Transportation, modern conveniences,
- Redeem it: Some Media and Arts
- Reject it: What God has Condemned



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Where is Truth Found?



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John 18:33-38 ³³ Then Pilate entered the Praetorium again, called Jesus, and said to Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?"

³⁴ Jesus answered him, "Are you speaking for yourself about this, or did others tell you this concerning Me?"

³⁵ Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered You to me. What have You done?"

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³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews; but now My kingdom is not from here."

³⁷ Pilate therefore said to Him, "Are You a king then?" Jesus answered, "You say rightly that I am a king. For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

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³⁸ Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"
And when he had said this, he went out again to the Jews, and said to them, "I find no fault in Him at all."

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John 8:30-32 ³⁰ As he was saying these things, many believed in him.

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, "If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples,

³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Freedom *from*

vs.

Freedom *of*

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John 14:6 I am the way, the truth and the life; no man comes to the Father but by me.

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I am grateful for Shinto, for Buddhism and for Confucianism. I owe much to these faiths. Yet these three faiths utterly failed to minister to my heart's deepest needs.

I was a pilgrim journeying upon a long road that had no turning. I was weary, I was footsore. I wandered through a dark and dismal world where tragedies were thick.

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Buddhism teaches great compassion ... but since the beginning of time, who has declared 'this is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many unto the remission of sins'?"

Toyohiko Kagawa