

# The Book of Daniel

## God's Prophet and Statesman

- I. Daniel's Exile to Babylon (1:1-21)
- II. Nebuchadnezzar's *Troublesome Dream* (2:1-49)
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- V. God's *Termination* of the Babylonian Kingdom (5:1-31)

## VI. Daniel's *Trial* in the Lion's Den (6:1-28)

### A. The *Prominence* of Daniel (6:1-3)

<sup>6</sup> It seemed good to **Darius** to appoint **120 satraps** over the **kingdom**, that they would be **in charge** of the whole kingdom, <sup>2</sup> and over them **three commissioners** (of whom **Daniel** was one), that these **satraps** might be **accountable** to them, and that the **king** might not suffer **loss**.

<sup>3</sup> Then this **Daniel** began *distinguishing himself* among the **commissioners** and **satraps** because he possessed an *extraordinary spirit*, and the **king** planned to appoint him over the **entire kingdom**.

### B. The *Plot* against Daniel (6:4-9)

<sup>4</sup> Then the **commissioners** and **satraps** began trying to find a ground of accusation against Daniel in regard to **government affairs**; but they could find no ground of **accusation** or *evidence of corruption*, inasmuch as he was *faithful*, and no negligence or **corruption** was *to be found in him*.

<sup>5</sup> Then these men said, "We will not find any ground of **accusation against** this **Daniel** unless we find *it against him* with regard to the law of his God."

<sup>6</sup> Then these **commissioners** and **satraps** came by **agreement** to the **king** and spoke to him as follows: "**King Darius**, live forever!

<sup>7</sup> **All** the **commissioners** of the kingdom, the **prefects** and the **satraps**, the **high officials** and the **governors** have *consulted together* that the **king** should establish a **statute** and enforce an **injunction** that anyone who makes a **petition** to **any god** or **man** besides you, **O king**, for **thirty days**, shall be **cast** into the **lions' den**.

<sup>8</sup> Now, **O king**, **establish** the **injunction** and **sign** the document so that it may **not** be changed, according to the law of the **Medes** and **Persians**, which may not be revoked." <sup>9</sup> Therefore **King Darius** signed the **document**, that is, the **injunction**.

### C. The *Piety* of Daniel (6:10-11)

<sup>10</sup> Now when **Daniel knew** that the **document** was signed, he entered his **house** (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward **Jerusalem**); and **he continued** kneeling on his knees **three times** a day, **praying** and **giving thanks** before **his God**, as he had been doing **previously**.

<sup>11</sup> Then these **men** came by **agreement** and found **Daniel** making **petition** and **supplication** before **his God**.

### D. The *Prosecution* of Daniel (6:12-17)

<sup>12</sup> Then they approached and **spoke** before the **king** about the **king's injunction**, "Did you not sign an **injunction** that **any man** who makes a **petition** to **any god** or **man besides you**, **O king**, for **thirty days**, is to be **cast** into the **lions' den**?" The **king** replied,

"The statement is **true**, according to the **law** of the **Medes** and **Persians**, which may **not** be **revoked**."

<sup>13</sup> Then they answered and spoke before the **king**, "**Daniel**, who is one of the **exiles** from **Judah**, pays **no attention** to **you**, **O king**, or to the **injunction** which **you signed**, but **keeps** making his **petition three times** a day."

<sup>14</sup> Then, as soon as the **king** heard this statement, he was **deeply distressed** and set *his* mind on **delivering Daniel**; and even until **sunset** he kept exerting himself to **rescue him**.

<sup>15</sup> Then these **men** came by **agreement** to the **king** and said to the **king**, "Recognize, **O king**, that it is a **law** of the **Medes** and **Persians** that **no injunction** or **statute** which the **king** establishes may be **changed**."

<sup>16</sup> Then the **king** gave **orders**, and **Daniel** was brought in and **cast** into the **lions' den**.  
The **king** spoke and said to **Daniel**, "**Your God** whom you **constantly serve** will **Himself deliver you**."

<sup>7</sup> A **stone** was brought and laid over the **mouth** of the **den**; and the **king sealed it** with his own signet **ring** and with the signet **rings** of his **nobles**, so that **nothing** would be **changed** in regard to **Daniel**.

### E. The *Preservation* of Daniel (6:18-24)

<sup>18</sup> Then the **king** went off to his palace and spent the night **fasting**, and **no entertainment** was brought before him; and **his sleep fled** from him.

<sup>19</sup> Then the **king** arose at **dawn**, at the break of day, and went in **haste** to the **lions' den**.

<sup>20</sup> When he had come near the den to **Daniel**, he cried out with a **troubled voice**. The **king** spoke and said to **Daniel**,

“Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you *constantly* serve, been able to deliver you from the lions?”

<sup>21</sup> Then Daniel spoke to the king, “O king, live forever!

<sup>22</sup> My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths and they have not harmed me, inasmuch as I was found innocent before Him; and also toward you, O king, I have committed *no crime*.”

<sup>23</sup> Then the king was very pleased and gave orders for Daniel to be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den and no injury whatever was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

<sup>24</sup> The king then gave orders, and they brought those men who had maliciously *accused* Daniel, and they cast them, their children and their wives into the lions’ den; and they had not reached the bottom of the den before the lions overpowered them and crushed all their bones.

#### F. The *Proclamation* of the King (6:25-28)

<sup>25</sup> Then Darius the king wrote to all the peoples, nations and *men* of every language who were living in all the land:  
“May your peace abound!

<sup>26</sup> I make a decree that in all the dominion of my kingdom men are to *fear* and *tremble* before the God of Daniel;

For He is the living God and enduring forever,  
And His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed,  
And His dominion will be forever.

<sup>27</sup> “He delivers and rescues and performs signs and wonders in heaven and on earth,  
Who has *also* delivered Daniel from the *power* of the lions.”

<sup>28</sup> So this Daniel enjoyed success in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

## Chapter Summary

### “No *Nosh* for the Lions Today,”— God Reflecting on the Character of Daniel

#### A. Daniel Had an *Impeccable* Testimony

Then the commissioners and satraps began trying to find a ground of accusation against Daniel...

but they could find no ground of accusation or evidence of corruption, inasmuch as he was *faithful*, and no negligence or corruption was to be found in him. (6:4)

## B. Daniel Had an *Immovable Faith*

Now when **Daniel knew** that the document was **signed**, he entered his house...;  
and he **continued kneeling** on his knees **three times** a day,  
**praying** and **giving thanks** before **his God**,  
as he had been doing **previously**...

The **king** spoke and said to **Daniel**, “**Your God**  
whom you **constantly serve** will **Himself deliver you**.”... (6:10, 16b)

## C. Daniel Had an *Incredible God*

Then **Daniel** spoke to the **king**...**My God** sent **His angel** and  
**shut the lions’ mouths** and they have **not harmed me**.. (6:21-22)

Then **Darius** the **king wrote** to all the **peoples, nations**  
and **men of every language** who were living in all the land:..

I make a **decree** that in **all the dominion** of **my kingdom** men  
are to **fear** and **tremble** before the **God of Daniel**;

For **He** is the **living God** and enduring **forever**,  
And **His kingdom** is one which will **not be destroyed**,  
And **His dominion** will be **forever**.

He **delivers** and **rescues** and **performs signs** and **wonders**  
in **heaven** and on **earth**, who has *also* **delivered Daniel**  
from the **power of the lions**.”(6:25, 26-27)

### Personal Application

The *world* is a “**lion’s den**.”

*How* do we **avoid** getting devoured?

#### 1. By *Remaining sober* and **alert** to the **Adversary**

Be of **sober spirit**, be on the **alert**. Your **adversary**, the **devil**,  
**prowls around** like a **roaring lion**,  
**seeking someone** to **devour**. (I Peter 5:8)

#### 2. By *Resisting* in the **strength** of the **Armor of God**

Finally, **be strong in the Lord** and in the **strength** of **His might**.  
Put on the **full armor of God**, so that you will be able to **stand firm**  
against the **schemes** of the **devil**...

Therefore, take up the **full armor of God**, so that you will  
be able to **resist** in the **evil day**, and having done everything, to **stand firm**...

HAVING GIRDED YOUR *LOINS* WITH TRUTH

HAVING PUT ON THE *BREASTPLATE* OF RIGHTEOUSNESS

having shod YOUR *FEET* WITH THE PREPARATION OF  
THE GOSPEL OF PEACE;

taking up the *shield of faith*...

and take THE *HELMET* OF SALVATION

and the *sword* of the Spirit,..the word of God.

With all prayer and supplication pray at all times in the Spirit,..  
be on the *alert* with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,..  
(Ephesians 6:10-18)

### 3. By *Resting faithfully* in the power and deliverance of God

At my first **defense no one** supported me (Paul), but all **deserted** me;  
may it **not** be counted **against them**.

But the Lord stood with me and strengthened me,  
so that *through me* the proclamation might be **fully accomplished**,  
and that **all the Gentiles** might *hear*;  
and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth.

The Lord will rescue me from every **evil deed**,  
and will bring me **safely** to **His heavenly kingdom**;  
to **Him** be the **glory** forever and ever. Amen.  
(II Timothy 4:16-18)

### 4. By *Restraining* the “devouring” power of the Tongue

For the **whole Law** is *fulfilled* in one word, in the *statement*,  
“YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.”

But if you bite and devour one another,  
take care that you are not *consumed* by **one another**.  
(Galatians 5:14-15, also James 3)

## Closing Comments