



Darnley Mill
Church

Daniel 6:1-28

Praying Actively Despite Hostility

SUMMARY

The book of Daniel gives a historical account of the faithful Jews who lived in captivity in Babylon around 605-535 B.C. and shows how God is in control of heaven and earth, directing the forces of nature, the destiny of kingdoms, and the care of his people.

Daniel chapter 6

At this time, Daniel was over Eighty years old and was one of the new king Darius's administrators. Daniel was working with those that did not believe in his God, but he worked more effectively and capably than all the rest. Daniel stood alone. Although he knew it was against the law, he continued to pray three times a day as he always did. He had a disciplined prayer life.

Life Application Study Bible, New International Version. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 2011. Print. See commentary on Daniel 6:1-3, 10

Memory Verse:

Daniel 6:27

He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.

A RECAP OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL

Daniel 1 - The king of Babylon, King Nebuchadnezzar, besieged Jerusalem, and God's people were exiled to Babylon, and among them was Daniel.

Daniel 1 - Daniel and his friends choose to honor God and God gave them favor with the Babylonians.

Daniel 2 – Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the statue made of different metals, showing that it is the God of heaven that reveals mysteries, and that God's kingdom will last forever.

Daniel 3 – Nebuchadnezzar builds an image of gold and orders that all worship it or be thrown into a fiery furnace. Daniel's friends defy the king and are thrown in, but God saved them from the fire.

Daniel 4 – Daniel interprets King Nebuchadnezzar's dream, and in his pride, he falls from his high place to roam about like an animal.

Daniel 5 – Belshazzar is the new king in Babylon and God speaks to him by writing on the wall. The king is terrified, and Daniel interprets the message.

1. Lessons from the life of Daniel – through his Qualities vs 1-5, 10-11

- Daniel was a man of integrity, trustworthy, not corrupt, not negligent like his colleagues. He worked to please God, not men, for God sees us truly.
- Daniel was disciplined in his prayer life, even when it was difficult. This was a faithful habit, walking in intimacy with God.
- Daniel was courageous in how he honored God. The lions were a death sentence to be sure. **Are you walking boldly in faith, or are you hiding?**
- Honor god above all, at all costs. **Daniel did, would you?**

2. Lessons from the life of Daniel – through his Enemies vs 6-18

- The leading officials to the king, the royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisors, and governors all conspired against Daniel by lying, as vs. 7 notes that "all" have agreed, except of course for Daniel.
- They promoted idol worship, through worship of the king of Babylon.
- Daniel's response to knowing about the decree, vs 10, was that he sought God and his help in faithful prayer.

3. Lessons from the life of Daniel – through his Victories vs 18-28

- There is complete salvation with God – **vs 23** – Daniel trusted in God, remained faithful, and there was no wound on him.
- There is complete destruction without God – **vs 24** – The men accusing Daniel were thrown into the lion's den, along with their families, and were overpowered, completely crushing their bones.



Daniel acts as a signpost for us, pointing us to Christ Jesus

- No scratch is found on us in Christ, we are not marked by death
- Without Christ, there is brokenness, death, being claimed by destruction completely and eternally.
- In Christ, we are fully saved.
- Without Christ, we are fully condemned to death.
- This work of salvation of Daniel, and of us as well through Christ, is through Faith in God only, and salvation comes by God only, by his Grace.

4. Faithful Living Encourages Others

vs 25-28

- There is a first decree from the king of Babylon to worship him alone, to worship Darius (**vs 7-9**).
- Then, after seeing God's power, Darius issues a second decree (**vs 26**), stating that 'in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel'
- Everywhere you go, there are people watching our faithful living for God.

Who is watching you?

Challenges and difficulties allow God to shown himself
faithful and to show us who he is, a Savior.

Great Testing Allows for Great Testimony

-- Gordon Weir
