

# Among the Lions: Daniel



Daniel 6



## Daniel 5,6

5:30 ¶ That same night Belshazzar the Chaldean king was slain.  
31 So Darius the Mede received the kingdom at about the age of sixty-two. 6:1 ¶ It seemed good to Darius to appoint 120 satraps over the kingdom, that they would be in charge of the whole kingdom, 2 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. 3 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.



## Daniel 6:

4 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. 5 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."

## Service among 'lions'



- Jer 29:7 'Seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf; for in its welfare you will have welfare.'
- By now, Daniel is looking for a rest, not another leader!
  - Nebuchadnezzar set up statues, demanded worship
  - Been turned into a beast because he acted like one!
  - Been humbled and acknowledged the God of Daniel..

## Daniel's Excellence



- Virtue in one person reveals vice in another person.
- “Daniel began to distinguish himself...”
  - When you stand for God, you will be LIGHT and SALT!
  - Like Joseph, David, Esther
- “an extraordinary spirit”
  - This is what will set us all apart – HIS SPIRIT!!!
  - Our attitudes, motivations, insights, focus, ideas...

## Spirit of God = Character



- Fruits of the Spirit – extraordinary!
  - Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control – no law!
- Daniel stood out due to his stand for God!
  - Vs.4 “trying to find a ground of accusation”
  - Everyone is NOT doing it... God’s children!

## Faithfulness...



- Enemy evaluation – he was faithful, no negligence, no corruption! (vs. 4)
  - We should be a frustration to every sinner...
  - Not that we don't sin, but that we **focus** on GOD!
  - Our lives are the greatest testimony
  - Mt 5:16 "Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven."

## The Plot Thickens...



- Appeal to the king's vanity...
  - 30 day decree, no petitions except to you... vs.7
  - An unchangeable law... they had it all!
- And Daniel...
  - Continued to do what he had always done!!!



## Daniel 6:

10 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.

11 Then these men came by agreement and found Daniel making petition and supplication before his God.

# The Plot Fails!



- The king sees the lies and deceptions...
  - Deeply distressed...(vs 14)
  - "Your God whom you constantly serve will Himself deliver you." (vs.16)
  - People know where we stand, WHO we stand with...
  - 18 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.



## The King's Words

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

26 "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. 27 "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."