

“Daniel in the Lion’s Den” Daniel 6

1. After the Medes and the Persians (the silver chest and arms of the statue in Daniel 2:32) conquer Babylon, Darius the Mede takes the throne and appoints 120 satraps to rule over the kingdom. He then places in authority over the satraps, 3 administrators, one of whom was Daniel.

How was Daniel distinguishing himself among the other administrators (v.3)?

2. Out of jealousy and resentment (because Daniel was a Judean), the other administrators and satraps seek some basis on which to accuse Daniel of some wrongdoing. Why was this proving difficult (v.4)?
3. Since the other leaders couldn’t find any corruption in Daniel’s administrative duties, they decided to find a basis for accusation in his religious practices. Daniel was definitely outnumbered as these 122 leaders devise a plot and suggest to King Darius that he be made the sole object of worship for 30 days. Saying that “all” of the other leaders (including prefects, officials, and governors) “consulted” and agreed on this plan was false because they obviously had not discussed it with Daniel. What was the penalty for refusing to obey this irrevocable “injunction” (vv.7,12)?

When Daniel hears that the document is signed which dictates that all prayer is to be addressed to the king for 30 days, what is the first thing Daniel fittingly does in verse 10?

4. Despite impending opposition, Daniel resumed his lifestyle of prayer. How does your life and daily schedule portray a priority on prayer? How can you improve in this discipline?
5. What is the first thing that Daniel’s prayer reflects (v.10)?
Daniel also prayed for God’s guidance and help. No doubt he may have also prayed for physical strength to carry out his heavy duties and responsibilities since he was now more than 80 years old. Daniel was about 16 when he was taken captive 66 years and he understood the importance of a devotion and dependence upon God. Take a few moments to pray for God’s thanksgiving, guidance, help, and strength to fill and overflow out of our government, school, church, and business leaders during this season of uncertainty.
6. Even though Daniel was innocent, he was thrown to the lions. How did God use this moment of injustice to glorify Himself?
7. God often works in mysterious and strange ways when it comes to suffering. On this side of heaven, our view is limited. Why should this passage encourage us when it comes to suffering?
8. In what ways is Jesus the true and better Daniel? How does the story of Daniel relate to Jesus?