

DANIEL 6

*Daniel is promoted
and trapped
vs. 1-13*

*Daniel in the
lion's den
vs. 14-18*

*Daniel and his God
are vindicated
vs. 19-28*

Daniel in the lion's den

1. *The King is grieved for Daniel and wants to rescue him.*
2. *The King is forced to send Daniel to the lion's den.*
3. *The King encourages Daniel with the assurance that God will deliver him.*
4. *The King fasts for Daniel.*

"¹⁵ 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." ¹⁶ 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." ¹⁷ 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."

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Daniel and his God are vindicated

1. *The King arose the next day to find Daniel alive and well.*
2. *The King recognizes the work of God in delivering Daniel.*
3. *The King then ordered Daniel restored and his accusers with their families to be cast to the lions.*
4. *The King decreed that the whole nation should respect the God of Daniel.*
5. *Daniel was thus well respected and successful under Persian rule.*

"²⁵ 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! 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." ²⁸ So this Daniel enjoyed success in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian."

Observe Daniel's character

- ✓ He does everything right.
- ✓ He is treated unfairly.
- ✓ He does not protest or resist.
- ✓ He does not compromise the practice of his faith.
- ✓ He is willing to suffer the consequences of civil disobedience.

1 Peter 2

"¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as aliens and strangers to abstain from fleshly lusts, which wage war against the soul. ¹² **Keep your behavior excellent among the Gentiles**, so that in the thing in which they slander you as evildoers, they may on account of your good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation. ¹³ **Submit yourselves for the Lord's sake to every human institution, . . .**"

“18 Servants, be submissive to your masters with all respect, not only to those who are good and gentle, **but also to those who are unreasonable.** 19 For this *finds* favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly. 20 For what credit is there if, when you sin and are harshly treated, you endure it with patience? **But if when you do what is right and suffer for it you patiently endure it, this finds favor with God.**”

“21 For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, **leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps,** 22 who committed no sin, nor was any deceit found in His mouth; 23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting *Himself* to Him who judges righteously; 24 and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, . . .”

Meeting the challenge
of Personal injustice

Peace

Daniel 6

“14 Then, as soon as the king heard this statement, he was deeply distressed.”

“18 . . . and his sleep fled from him.”

The book of Daniel is a study in the contrast between fear and faith.

anxiety

the commander

“I am afraid of the Lord,
my King” 1:10

Nebuchadnezzar

“I had a dream and
my spirit is anxious” 2:3, 4:5

Belshazzar

“his hip joints went slack and
his knees began knocking
together” 5:6

Darius

“he was deeply distressed”
6:14

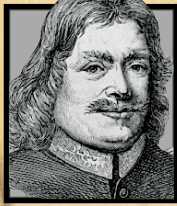


John 14:27

“Peace I leave with you;
my peace I give you. I do
not give to you as the
world gives. Do not let
your hearts be troubled
and do not be afraid”

John Bunyan

(English writer / preacher)



"If we have no peace
in our minds,
outward comfort will
do no more for us
than a golden slipper
on a bad foot."

The peace of Christ is a part of Godly character.

The Spirit of Christ does not indwell circumstances
but anoints us to respond to circumstances.

- Jesus in facing the cross
- Paul in prison

This frees us to do what we are called to do in
following Christ.

- Submitting to human authority
- Forbearing with personal injustice
- Forgiving those who have treated us unfairly

**Bitterness is a fruit
of Idolatry** (looking
for life in something
other than God).

**Bitterness makes
you indicates that
you are a slave to
the person you hate.**



**To forgive I must
first be freed from
the false messiahs
in my life.**

**My enemy is the
chain that holds
me to the person
who hurt me.**

Meeting the challenge
of Personal injustice

Patience

Faithfulness may cost us.

1. What are the costs to Daniel because of his loyal service to the Persian king, Darius?
 - His peers are jealous.
 - They try to find fault with him but can't.
 - They plot to bring him down by trickery.
2. What are the costs to Daniel because he is "faithful" to God?
 - He is put in harms way (made vulnerable).
 - He is persecuted under the law.

Peter Marshall



"Teach us, O Lord,
the disciplines of
patience, for to
wait is often
harder than to
work." (**worry, or
whine**).

***A common hindrance
to obedience***

- ✓ It doesn't always bring good results FAST enough.

The character of our age

- ✓ It's **PRAGMATIC** - "How is that WORKING for me?"
- ✓ It's **NARCISSISTIC** - It's all about ME, NOW, and THIS WORLD.
- ✓ It is **IMPATIENT** - Life is changing too fast to wait or save for anything.

***Patience is a fruit
of faith, hope, &
love.***

*faith that
Godliness is
worth it*

*hope that
God will
work things
for good*

*love that
sees people
in process*

1 Thessalonians 1:3

“. . . constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and perseverance of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. . .”

Ask yourself these questions

- ✓ What does my impatience tell me about the object of my faith, hope, and love?
- ✓ When and why do I work, wait, whine, or worry?
- ✓ How free am I to forgive, serve, and bless those who have hurt or disappointed me?

***“You only go
around once in life
SO -***

***- grab for all
the gusto
you can.”***



***- grab for all
the godliness
you can.”***