

## Daniel's Defiance Lands Him in the Lion's Den

Daniel 6

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**True believers will continue to live for God and willingly suffer the consequences.**

**I. Because of the excellence of his character and God's blessing, Daniel continued to be promoted. (v. 1-3)**

The LORD was with Joseph so that he prospered, and he lived in the house of his Egyptian master. When his master saw that the LORD was with him and that the LORD gave him success in everything he did, Joseph found favor in his eyes and became his attendant. Potiphar put him in charge of his household, and he entrusted to his care everything he owned. (Genesis 39:2-4)

But while Joseph was there in the prison, the LORD was with him; he showed him kindness and granted him favor in the eyes of the prison warden. So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there. The warden paid no attention to anything under Joseph's care, because the LORD was with Joseph and gave him success in whatever he did. (Genesis 39:20b-23)

The plan seemed good to Pharaoh and to all his officials. So Pharaoh asked them, "Can we find anyone like this man, one in whom is the spirit of the gods?"

Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Since God has made all this known to you, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. You shall be in charge of my palace, and all my people are to submit to your orders. Only with respect to the throne will I be greater than you." So Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I hereby put you in charge of the whole land of Egypt." (Genesis 41:37-41)

**II. Jealous rivals could find no basis to accuse Daniel so they plotted to exploit his devotion to Yahweh. (v. 5-6)**

A good name is more desirable than great riches;  
to be esteemed is better than silver or gold. (Proverbs 22:1)

**III. A short-term ban on prayer to anyone but the king was manipulated into place. (v. 6-9)**

**IV. Daniel refused to compromise the exercise of his faith and so, defied the king's order. (v. 10-12)**

May your eyes be open toward this temple night and day, this place of which you said, 'My Name shall be there,' so that you will hear the prayer your servant prays toward this place. Hear

the supplication of your servant and of your people Israel when they pray toward this place. Hear from heaven, your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive. (1 Kings 8:29-30)

This is what the LORD says: “When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place. For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you,” declares the LORD, “and will bring you back from captivity. I will gather you from all the nations and places where I have banished you,” declares the LORD, “and will bring you back to the place from which I carried you into exile.” (Jeremiah 29:10-14)

Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God. Consequently, whoever rebels against the authority is rebelling against what God has instituted, and those who do so will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers hold no terror for those who do right, but for those who do wrong. Do you want to be free from fear of the one in authority? Then do what is right and you will be commended. For the one in authority is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for rulers do not bear the sword for no reason. They are God’s servants, agents of wrath to bring punishment on the wrongdoer. Therefore, it is necessary to submit to the authorities, not only because of possible punishment but also as a matter of conscience.

This is also why you pay taxes, for the authorities are God’s servants, who give their full time to governing. Give to everyone what you owe them: If you owe taxes, pay taxes; if revenue, then revenue; if respect, then respect; if honor, then honor. (Romans 13:1)

Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges! As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.” (Acts 4:18-20)

**V. King Darius was grieved that he had been manipulated into punishing his best administrator. (v. 13-15)**

**VI. The King was dismayed that Daniel must suffer the prescribed punishment. (v. 16-18)**

**VII. Yahweh demonstrated His power and authority by keeping Daniel safe to the King’s delight. (v. 19-23)**

**VIII. Those who sought Daniel’s life, as a result, lost their own. (v. 24)**

“The day of the LORD is near  
for all nations.

As you have done, it will be done to you;  
your deeds will return upon your own head. (Obadiah 15)

I will bless those who bless you,  
and whoever curses you I will curse... (Genesis 12:3a)

**IX. The new King then also issued an edict honoring and glorifying Yahweh. (v. 25-27)**

It is not as though God's word had failed. For not all who are descended from Israel are Israel. (Romans 9:6)

When the thousand years are over, Satan will be released from his prison and will go out to deceive the nations in the four corners of the earth—Gog and Magog—and to gather them for battle. In number they are like the sand on the seashore. They marched across the breadth of the earth and surrounded the camp of God's people, the city he loves. But fire came down from heaven and devoured them. And the devil, who deceived them, was thrown into the lake of burning sulfur, where the beast and the false prophet had been thrown. They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever. (Revelation 20:7-10)

**X. Because of his trust and faithfulness, God continued to bless Daniel. (v. 28)**