

DANIEL: Thriving In Babylon

Lesson Seven • Daniel 6:1-28

Living for God in a Culture of Hostility

The Story of Daniel in the Lions' Den

Daniel shows us that it is possible to LIVE FOR GOD in a culture that is hostile toward Christ-followers, even if it means being thrown to the lions.

Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. 1Peter 5:8 NIV

Living for God in a Culture of Hostility

1. Faithfully Live in the World with INTEGRITY! Vs. 1-9

So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him. Daniel 6:4

Daniel's Integrity Is Above Reproach

- Daniel was FAITHFUL in his duties.
- Daniel was FAULTLESS in his character.
- Daniel was FERVENT in his prayers.

How to Disqualify a Faithful Disciple

Daniel's accusers created an intentional CLASH between the "law of man" and the "law of God," and as a result Daniel has a choice and choices have consequences.

Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God." So these governors and satraps thronged before the king, and said thus to him: "King Darius, live forever! All the governors of the kingdom, the administrators and satraps, the counselors and advisors, have consulted together to establish a royal statue and to make a firm decree, that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions." Daniel 6:5-7

2. Diligently Depend On the Lord in PRAYER! Vs. 10-17

The Secret of Daniel's Success

Daniel's life is DEFINED by regular intentional prayer.

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days. Daniel 6:10

3. Completely Trust God as Your DELIVERER! Vs. 18-28

The Lions in Daniel's Den

God VINDICATED Daniel's innocence by delivering him from the lions while Daniel's accusers were delivered to the lions.

Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever! My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him, and also, O King, I have done no wrong before you." Then the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God. Daniel 6:21-23

Life Lessons for Modern-Day Daniels

- ❖ We can RISK IT ALL to live for God, knowing that our God will ultimately deliver us.
- ❖ Christ-followers who live for God should expect OPPOSITION.
- ❖ God can use us to IMPACT unlikely people when we are faithful to Him.

The Lions' Den and the Cross of Christ

Emerging from the lions' den we see a foreshadow of the saving work of Jesus Christ to rescue us from our sin with His death and resurrection.

Embrace the certainty of Daniel's faith in the living God who is mighty to save before it's too late.