

Daniel Chapter 6

“The Lion’s Den”

Here, we have a very nice lesson about what happens in Daniel 6, the lion’s den. When we look into this chapter, we see a blessed account happening. As we know, Cyrus is a prophesied anointed man of God. Darius is not mentioned in that respect. However, I would like to point out something here that I believe is very nice. You can see that truly nothing is new under the sun. God is working also with king Darius in the same manner that Jesus the King of kings had been working with Nebuchadnezzar. Remember the furnace that was heated 7 times greater for the friends of Daniel? Take a look at...

Daniel 3:19 Then was Nebuchadnezzar full of fury, and the form of his visage was changed against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: [therefore] he spake, and commanded that they should heat the furnace one seven times more than it was wont to be heated.

This was an instrument by which God used to help convert Nebuchadnezzar. It is the same thing with Daniel and the Lion’s den for king Darius. Amen. And one thing that I would love to point out here about the fiery furnace that was heated seven-fold greater than usual, which was to be the three friends of Daniel punishment, came back to Nebuchadnezzar. Remember what the Bible says...

Job 4:8 Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same.

Matthew 7:12 Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets.

So, based on that, Nebuchadnezzar in all his fury and wickedness that caused him to be enraged against the three friends of Daniel and had cast them into the furnace heated seven-fold greater, look what happened to Nebuchadnezzar in...

Daniel 4:31-33 While the word [was] in the king's mouth, there fell a voice from heaven, [saying], O king Nebuchadnezzar, to thee it is spoken; The kingdom is departed from thee. And they shall drive thee from men, and thy dwelling [shall be] with the beasts of the field: they shall make thee to eat grass as oxen, **and seven times shall pass over thee,** until thou know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will. **The same hour was the thing fulfilled upon Nebuchadnezzar:** and he was driven from men, and did eat grass as oxen, and his body was wet with the dew of heaven, till his hairs were grown like eagles' [feathers], and his nails like birds' [claws].

And another thing that I would like to point out here is how quick Nebuchadnezzar was sent out to the wilderness for seven years. Look what he did to the three friends of Daniel and how fast he sent them off into the furnace.

Daniel 3:22Therefore because the king's commandment was urgent, and the furnace exceeding hot, the flame of the fire slew those men that took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego.

So, the king's commandment was urgent. And so, how true it is that what we sow we shall reap, and what we do unto others, it will be done unto us. Just as swiftly Nebuchadnezzar had cast them into the furnace, that day when Nebuchadnezzar went to live with the beast of the fields, he was sent out urgently too. So, let us learn from this and be full of love and wise. This is one reason why I do all I can to be as loving as I can, especially to those who are in error, one false move and you can be scattered many in the fold. We have to be very cautious in how we treat and work with others in words and deeds because what we do to others is how we shall be treated in our testing time that we may fail or what have you. We need to always be on guard and also be careful and always be as loving as possible. Just as we treat, or handle or talk to or what have you, what we want to be done unto us, we then need to do it unto others. If we cut the head off right away, our head will be cut off right away as well. If we show love, mercy and tender kindness to those who are in error, when our time comes when we are found in error, we will be treated the same way. So, let this be a lesson for all of us. It is for me too. Let us love one another just as Christ loves His Church.

Now, in Daniel chapter 6, we see how Darius and Cyrus have stepped on the world scene as the leaders of the world under the direction of God where Cyrus is the anointed one of God to be that king to make it all happen, while Darius is spending time with Daniel to learn of His God. Darius saw well in Daniel and was amazed of him. He found favor in Daniel as we read in...

Daniel 6:1-3, "It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel [was] first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit [was] in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm."

And so, what usually happens to those who do not know God? God reveals himself to them and will make ensamples unto He pleases to do so for His purpose. Once again, we find men of worldly honor possessing jealousy of one having more favor than self, which was with Daniel and by king Darius. So, the verse that speaks of nothing new under the sun is fulfilled again in the life of Daniel in...

Daniel 6:4, "Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he [was] faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him."

There is a beautiful lesson here brethren for us to obtain with neighbors. Let them find no fault in us. How do they find no fault in us? It is very easy: by being as Christ-like in all things as possible. Don't provoke, be gentle, merciful, and full of peace, and joy and happiness, full of

love which is the fulfilling of the Ten Commandments and what have you. If you fulfill the first four commandments, you will treat others as you would treat your King in heaven in establishing brotherly love for each other in the last six commandments. Love God supremely first and you will fulfill the last six.

Matthew 25:40, “And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done [it] unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done [it] unto me.”

So...do as Daniel did...

Ephesians 4:32 And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

And by doing this, we will reflect Christ and be seen by others of having no fault in us and obtaining even favor from among heathens and winning them to Christ, BUT of course, there are some that you can't win right away, so they go further into wickedness and try to find some other way to destroy your work with God. So, just as I have said, and just as it has happened to Daniel and his three associates in the previous sermons, once again, in the kingdom of Medo-Persia, we have jealous men that will go the extra mile to destroy the servants of God to find fault in them...

Daniel 6:5, “Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find [it] against him concerning the law of his God.”

These men were plotting evil against Daniel....

Job 4:8-10, “Even as I have seen, they that plow iniquity, and sow wickedness, reap the same. By the blast of God they perish, and by the breath of his nostrils are they consumed. The roaring of the lion, and the voice of the fierce lion, and the teeth of the young lions, are broken.”

Same stuff we are going to have to go through very soon when the rulers of modern day Babylon execute the decree by Satan, which will cause all but the faithful to bow before the pope and worship him on Sunday. Same old story.

Daniel 6:6-9, “Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.”

And as we all know, no true child of God is going to obey some decree by the world to stop us from walking and talking with God in prayer...because we have to pray. We have to call God and talk to Him. So, just like we should do, what did Daniel do?

Daniel6:10, “Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.”

Daniel prayed and prayed and prayed a third time and then prayed a foretime...and because of His love for God and the power He obtained from Jesus that led Daniel to the top of the chain of command in Medo-Persia, these men...

Daniel6:11, “Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God.”

Daniel6:12, “Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask [a petition] of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing [is] true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.”

Daniel6:13, “Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which [is] of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.”

Daniel6:14, “Then the king, when he heard [these] words, was sore displeased with himself, and set [his] heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.”

You can see that Darius has a heart full of love for Daniel. Darius knows that Daniel has the Spirit of the God of heaven and earth in him. This is why he was sore to hear the news about Daniel, so much so, that Darius was looking to find a way to deliver him from going to the lions. So these men came unto king Darius and said...O king....

Daniel6:15, “Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians [is], That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.”

And so, because it is written that the law not be changed, what happened?

Daniel6:16, “Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.”

First, I would like to say that we can see how Darius has faith in Daniel's God where he said that the God of Daniel will not fail Daniel by delivering him from the lions. And another thing we

can look at here and see wonderful consistency going on, which I will point out in the next few verses regarding what you sow you will reap, what you do unto others will be done unto you. Just keep in mind how fast these wicked men against Daniel had him thrown into the lion's den.

Daniel6:17, “And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.”

Daniel6:18, “Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of music brought before him: and his sleep went from him.”

Daniel6:19, “Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.”

That is the fruit of love for another dear family. He went haste to see his friend Daniel, to see if he was okay. And so...

Daniel6:20, “And when he came to the den, he cried with a **lamentable voice unto Daniel:** [and] the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?”

Brothers and sisters, Darius the king lamented of the servant of God. He was in deep regret, deep sorrow, deep pain for what had happened. He repented from what he had done. He was sorrowful for what he had done as the Word of God is faithful and true when it says that Darius had a lamentable voice for Daniel. And so, Darius the king had called Daniel “the servant of the living God” just as Nebuchadnezzar did. Amen. This man has been converted to God through the life and stories that came with Daniel and the work of his three associates and to seal this Darius's conversion to the God of heaven and earth, HE HEARD THE VOICE from the den exclaim...

Daniel6:21, “Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.”

Daniel6:22, “My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.”

What a loving God we have...what mercy and compassion...just amazing to see what God can accomplish through just one faithful servant who would pray and pray and pray and aforesaid would pray to God, and I assure you that in Daniel's trying time in the lion's den, he was still praying. And when Darius heard the voice of Daniel, what do you suppose Darius was like?

Daniel6:23, “Then was the king exceeding 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 manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.”

So, the king was very happy to see that his friend Daniel who he loved was okay and they all saw, not just Darius, but all the people saw that there was no hurt in Daniel and that God had protected him because he believed in his God. Amen...And so, then what happened next do you suppose?

Daniel6:24, “And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast [them] into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.”

Remember, those wicked men who had swiftly made sure that Daniel was cast into the lion’s den, well, look what happened to them, they were cast right away into the lion’s den themselves, their wives and their children. Now, there is something that I would like to address here to bring the purpose of God into understanding here as to why the children would be destroyed as well. Think about this for a moment. What do you suppose those kids would be like if they would have grown up under the cares of those men or the wives of those men or some other family member that knew not God? Those kids God saw was their only hope to make it to heaven was through and early death. That is the love of God to actually save those kids. But one can understand why the wives of these wicked men would be cast into the fire though. Why do most get punished and destroyed when they are over the age of accountability? They are punished and destroyed for being wicked and rebellious as well. Why else would they be married to these men? Can two walk together unless they be agreed?

Daniel6:25, “Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.”

Daniel6:26, “I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he [is] the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom [that] which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion [shall be even] unto the end.”

Daniel6:27, “He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.”

AMEN AMEN AMEN...Praise be to the God of heaven and earth and the sea and the fountains of waters. Another heathen king was found loving the King of kings. What a work the Lord was able to accomplish through the life of His obedient servant Daniel. Just amazing and powerful to hear what God can accomplish through those who are obedient to God. Again, let us strive dear family unto perfection and do the best we can for the Lord so that many lives can be converted to Jesus. We have so much to work on, so much to do in helping others and in such a short time because all is about to come to an end. Please oh please fight and fight and have victory in Christ and don’t look back, don’t look and all the things that are happening in your life that you may question..oh.. why is this happening to me or why is that happening to me..Etc...and just understand and take a look at what Romans 8:28 says...

Romans 8:28, “And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to [his] purpose.”

Psalms 62:8, “Trust in him at all times; [ye] people, pour out your heart before him: God [is] a refuge for us. Selah.”

Psalms 91:1-16, “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, [He is] my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, [and] from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth [shall be thy] shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; [nor] for the arrow [that] flieth by day; [Nor] for the pestilence [that] walketh in darkness; [nor] for the destruction [that] wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; [but] it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the LORD, [which is] my refuge, [even] the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in [their] hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I [will be] with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and show him my salvation.”

Take this to heart brothers and sisters...let in rein in your doings. Let it live in your heart and minds with the law of God. Let this take root in all your members so that in your day of trying that shall come upon all the world soon to test and try them that dwell upon the earth, you and I will pass and walk into that special number, but through all our strivings, if we fall short, get back up as Moses did and taste death in righteousness for the Lord and glorify Him unto the sleep of death, for the hour of beheading stands before us, stands before this last generation, the hour of testing draweth nigh...the mark of the beast is marshalling into action as we see the stage has been set and the season is changing, .for the storm is approaching and the bands of Babylon are gathering, her weapons are locked and loaded, her wine of false doctrine has set sail in the hearts of the wicked and has gathered the evil ones from the four winds of hell which is earth, let us be not afraid for the time is at hand. Prepare to meet thy God O’Israel, prepare the way of the Lord and walk in all His ways, statutes, judgments and commandments. Do as the servant of the Most High God did in the book of Daniel, remain faithful and you shall prosper in all your days in the life here and after.

Daniel 6:28, “So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.”