

The Most High God
Ruler of Heaven and Earth

Daniel and the Lions' Den
Daniel 6
Lesson 6

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
July 6, 2014

Daniel – Outlines

1. History (1-6)
2. Prophecy (7-12)

1. Daniel purposed not to defile himself (1)
2. Message to the nations in Aramaic (2-7)
3. Message to Israel in Hebrew (8-12)

Daniel – Purpose

- ▶ Sovereign God in the realm of mankind
- ▶ Individual believer in the realm of mankind
- ▶ Christ in the realm of mankind – Savior & King

Historical Context

- ▶ Termination of the Kingdom of Israel
 - The Promise of God – Genesis 12:1-3
 - The Law of Moses
- ▶ The hope of restoration
 - Deuteronomy 30
 - Jeremiah 31:31-34
 - Ezekiel 37
 - Daniel 9

The Course of World History

Daniel 2 – the great statue

- ▶ Babylon - head of gold
 - Habakkuk
- ▶ Medes and Persians – chest and arms of silver
 - Isaiah 13:17; Jeremiah 51:11, 28
- ▶ Greek – belly and thighs of bronze
- ▶ Rome – legs of iron
 - Feet of iron mixed with clay
 - 10 toes
- ▶ Kingdom of God – Stone cut without hands

Daniel and the Lions Den – Daniel 6

- ▶ Daniel in the Medo-Persian empire
- ▶ A ruler under Cyrus and Darius
- ▶ A prophet – 9:1; 10:1 – 1st and 3rd year of Darius
- ▶ The servant of the living God

Daniel in Medo-Persia (6:1-9)

- ▶ Daniel, the commissioner (SARAK)
- ▶ Daniel's enemies
 - Despised him for his excellence and preferential treatment
 - Spiritual warfare (Eph. 6:12) – hostility to Christ
- ▶ A ground of accusation
 - In regard to government affairs
 - In regard to the law of his God

A Manufactured Crime

- ▶ No other gods before Me
- ▶ Love God with all your heart, soul and might
- ▶ It is the distinguishing feature of Daniel
- ▶ It is an affront to the god of this world
- ▶ The death trap for Daniel

Daniel and the decree (6:10-15)

- ▶ Daniel's reputation of submission to the king
- ▶ Daniel's resolve not to defile himself
- ▶ Daniel prayed 3 times a day in his home
- ▶ Prayer and thanksgiving
- ▶ Windows open toward Jerusalem
 - 1 Kings 8:46-50
 - Ezek 11:13-23 (glory departed); Ezek 43:1-8 (glory returns)

Accusation of his enemies

- ▶ Pays no attention to the king
- ▶ Pays no attention to the decree and its penalty
- ▶ Loves and serves God more than life

Darius, advocate for Daniel

- ▶ King not personally offended
- ▶ King unable to save Daniel
- ▶ Daniel's enemies had no respect for the King
- ▶ The King trapped by his pride

Daniel and the lions' den (6:16-23)

- ▶ Your God whom you constantly serve
- ▶ Faith of Darius?
- ▶ A restless night for the king
- ▶ Servant of the living God . . .
- ▶ The Angel of the LORD
- ▶ Innocent of crime against the king

The Divine Verdict (6:23)

- ▶ Because Daniel trusted in God
- ▶ What did Daniel believe?
 - Sovereignty of God – Daniel 2:20-23; 4:35
 - God of his fathers – the Promise – Daniel 9:4
- ▶ Faith of Abraham – Galatians 3:6-8
 - Hebrews 11:6, 13, 17-19
 - Genesis 15:1, 6
- ▶ Faith in the blessing of God – the reward
 - Hebrews 11:32-40

The ways of God

- ▶ Enemies of God in the lions' den
- ▶ The decree of the king
 - The Possessor of heaven and earth
 - The Savior
- ▶ The elevation of Daniel

Daniel, the servant of the LORD

- ▶ Trust in God
- ▶ Holiness
- ▶ Constantly serve God
- ▶ Thankful in everything
- ▶ Hope