



Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

Worship Theme: A Time for a Steadfast Faith
Sermon Theme: Innocent in His sight
October 28-30, 2023

Daniel 6:10-12, 16-23 Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before. ¹¹ Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help. ¹² So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: "Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or human being except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the lions' den?" ¹⁶ So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!" ¹⁷ A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed. ¹⁸ Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep. ¹⁹ At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. ²⁰ When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?" ²¹ Daniel answered, "May the king live forever! ²² My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty." ²³ The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

1. What was Daniel's job in the Babylonian and Persian Empires?

2. How did those jealous of Daniel exploit his faith and what was the penalty? (**Daniel 6:24** lets us know that these lions were HUNGRY, "And before they reached the floor of the den, the lions overpowered them and crushed all their bones.")
3. What did Daniel do once the law had been signed? Why is it both wise and loving to do the same?
4. Daniel, with better knowledge of his situation than we have, didn't pursue any way to change his fate, at least that we can read. The apostle Paul did insist on his rights as a Roman citizen when they were beaten and jailed without hearing. So, which is it? What are we supposed to do?
5. Why did Daniel write about the entertainment stress filled and sleepless, but still very much in a palace, night for Darius but provide no details of his night in the lions' den?
6. When you're overwhelmed with all that's on your plate, or maybe when you're literally terrified, what comforting portions of Scripture come to your heart and fuel your prayers?
7. Daniel came out unscathed from the lions' den, not a scratch on him. What made that possible? How do we come out of this life unscathed even though we're sure all full of wounds and hurts?
8. Jesus promised that words will be given to his people when they're put on the spot for their faith. What words did he give to Daniel? What can we learn from that?
9. How do the truths given us in **Romans 8:1, 31** allow us to repay hate with love, evil with good, and these with true love and generosity? **Romans 8:1, 31**, "Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ³¹ If God is for us, who can be against us?"