

DANIEL, Chapter 6  
Out of the Lion's Mouth!

I. Daniel 6: Introduction

Daniel 6 informs us that after the conquest of Babylon, the city was ruled by a king named "Darius the Mede." This statement poses a problem. There is no record of such an individual outside the Bible. This fact has caused the historicity and authorship of Daniel to be questioned. Many believe that an unknown author wrote Daniel hundred of years after the fall of Babylon and that the figure Darius the Mede, like most of Daniel, is pure fiction. Though the cynics still exist, those who accept the historicity Daniel believe there is a plausible explanation. "Darius" is the throne name of someone who was known by a different, personal name before being appointed to the rulership of Babylon. This was a common practice throughout the ancient Near East. We have numerous examples of this practice from Egypt, Assyria, (2 Kings 15:19, 29) and even Judah (2 Kings 15:1 and 2 Chronicles 26:1) and (2 Samuel 12:25).

II. Daniel 6: Body

A. Daniel 6:1 - 9

1. Why presidents and why three? (v. 2) \_\_\_\_\_

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a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

2. V. 3, 4; why Daniel? (4:8, 9, 18 & 5:11, 12, 14) \_\_\_\_\_

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3. Vs. 4, 6, 7, 12, 13; what was the Presidents, deputies, satraps, counselors, and the governors opinion of Daniel? Why?

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4. What are the Last Day Overtones found in these verses?

a. V. 4; Describe Daniel's character. \_\_\_\_\_

b. (Rev. 14:1-5) Describe the character traits of God's Remnant people.

i. 14:4; \_\_\_\_\_

ii. 14:4 \_\_\_\_\_

iii. 14:4 \_\_\_\_\_

iv. 14:5 \_\_\_\_\_

v. 14:5 \_\_\_\_\_

c. V. 5; What was the only way Daniel's enemies could accuse him?

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d. (Revelation 12:17; 13:15 – 17; 14:9 - 12; 20:4) What is the only way the enemies of God's Remnant can be accused?

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e. Summation;

i. \_\_\_\_\_

ii. \_\_\_\_\_

iii. \_\_\_\_\_

iv. \_\_\_\_\_

v. \_\_\_\_\_

“From the very beginning of the great controversy in heaven it has been Satan's purpose to overthrow the law of God. It was to accomplish this that he entered upon his rebellion against the Creator, and though he was cast out of heaven he has continued the same warfare upon the earth. To deceive men, and thus lead them to transgress God's law, is the object which he has steadfastly pursued. Whether this be accomplished by casting aside the law altogether, or by rejecting one of its precepts, the result will be ultimately the same. He that offends "in one point," manifests contempt for the whole law; his influence and example are on the side of transgression; he becomes "guilty of all." James 2:10.

. . . The last great conflict between truth and error is but the final struggle of the long-standing controversy concerning the law of God. Upon this battle we are now entering--a battle between the laws of men and the precepts of Jehovah, between the religion of the Bible and the religion of fable and tradition.” *The Great Controversy*, p. 582

B. Daniel 6:10 - 17

1. How did Daniel deal with the crisis? V. 10

a. \_\_\_\_\_

b. \_\_\_\_\_

c. \_\_\_\_\_

d. \_\_\_\_\_

- i. 1Kings 8:44, 48; Psalms 55:17; Acts 1:14; 2:1-2,15; 3:1; 10:92
- ii. Stay tuned for the prominence of Prayer in the book of Daniel!

1. How should we deal with the coming crisis? \_\_\_\_\_

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Take ye heed, watch and pray," were the words of our Saviour spoken in reference to the time of the end, and his second coming to take his faithful children home.

First, you are to watch. Watch, lest you should speak hastily, fretfully and impatiently. Watch, lest pride should find a place in your heart. Watch, lest evil passions should overcome you, instead of your subduing them. Watch, lest a careless, indifferent spirit comes upon you, and you neglect your duty and become light and trifling, and your influence savor of death, rather than life.

Second, you are to pray. Jesus would not have enjoined this upon you, unless there was actual necessity for it. It is well known to him that of yourself you cannot overcome the many temptations of the Enemy, and the many snares laid for your feet. He has not left you alone to do this; but has provided a way that you can obtain help. Therefore he has bid you to pray.

To pray aright, is to ask God in faith for the very things you need. Go to your chamber, or in some retired place, and ask your Father for Jesus' sake to help you. There is power in that prayer that is sent up from a heart convinced of its own weakness, yet earnestly longing for that strength that comes from God. The earnest, fervent prayer will be heard and answered. Go to your God who is strong, and who loves to hear children pray, and, although you may feel very weak, and find yourself at times overcome by the Enemy, because you have neglected the first command of our Saviour, to watch, yet do not give up the struggle. Make stronger efforts yourself than before. Faint not. Cast yourself at the feet of Jesus, who has been tempted, and knows how to help such as are tempted. Confess your faults, your weakness, and that you must have help to overcome, or you perish. And as you ask, you must believe that God hears you. Plead your case before God, through Jesus, until your soul can with confidence rely upon him for strength, and you feel that you are not left to do the work of overcoming alone. God will help you. Angels will watch over you.

But before you can expect this help, you must do what you can on your part. Watch and pray. Let your prayers be fervent. Let this be the language of your heart, "I will not let thee go unless thou bless me." Have a set time, a special season for prayer at least three times a day. Morning, noon, and at night Daniel prayed to his God, notwithstanding the king's decree, and the fearful den of lions. He was not ashamed, or afraid to pray, but with his windows opened he prayed three times a day. Did God forget his faithful servant

when he was cast into the lion's den? O, No. He was with him there all night. He closed the mouths of these hungry lions, and they could not hurt the praying man of God.

Children, you cannot live without food; you would soon feel the cravings of hunger, and your bodies would pine and die. You need spiritual food just as much, and often, as your body needs temporal food. Three times a day is none to often to draw strength from heaven, or sap and nourishment from Christ, the living vine. Read the words of our Saviour in Matt. v, 6. "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness; for they shall be filled." *Youth Instructor*, October 1, 1855

3. V. 14, what was the king's opinion of Daniel? \_\_\_\_\_

4. V. 17; what is the significance of this verse? \_\_\_\_\_

C. Daniel 6:18 - 24

1. V. 22, what was the outcome of Daniel's faithfulness and devotion to his God?

a. Who was the Angel?

i. Exodus 3:7, 8; \_\_\_\_\_

ii. Daniel 3:25 \_\_\_\_\_

iii. Daniel 12:1 \_\_\_\_\_

2. What can we expect in the last days? \_\_\_\_\_

2. V. 24, what was the king's opinion of "those men"? \_\_\_\_\_

III. Daniel 6: Conclusion

A. Daniel 6:25 - 28

1. What was Darius' opinion of God? \_\_\_\_\_

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2. What is the significance of V. 28 \_\_\_\_\_

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“ . . . In all cases where the king had a right to command, Daniel would obey; but neither the king nor his decree could make him swerve from allegiance to the King of kings.

Thus the prophet boldly yet quietly and humbly declared that no earthly power has a right to interpose between the soul and God. Surrounded by idolaters, he was a faithful witness to this truth. His dauntless adherence to right was a bright light in the moral darkness of that heathen court. Daniel stands before the world today a worthy example of Christian fearlessness and fidelity.” *Prophets and Kings*, p. 542