

Daniel 6 - Daniel Is Thrown To The Lions!!

READER 1
READER 2
READER 3
LEADERS
KING
DANIEL

READER 1: It pleased Darius to choose 120 captains to rule over the people. They would rule over the whole nation. And three leaders were to rule over them, and Daniel was one. The captains were to answer to them, so that the king might suffer no loss.

READER 2: Then Daniel showed that he could do better work than the other leaders and captains because a special spirit was in him. So the king planned to give him power over the whole nation.

READER 3: Then the leaders and captains tried to find a reason to complain against Daniel about his duties over the nation. But they could not find any reason to complain or anything to blame him for, because he was faithful and honest and did not do anything wrong. Then these men said,

LEADERS: We will not find anything to say against Daniel unless it has to do with the Law of his God.

READER 1: So these leaders and captains came as a group to the king and said,

LEADERS: King Darius, live forever! All the leaders of the nation, the captains, the important men and the rulers have spoken with each other and have agreed that a new law should be made. The king should make a law that must be obeyed, saying that anyone who asks something of any god or man besides you, O king, for 30 days, must be thrown to the lions. O king, make this law now and write your name on it so that it may not be changed. It will be by the law of the Medes and Persians, and cannot be changed.

READER 2: So King Darius made the law and wrote his name on it.

READER 3: When Daniel knew that the king had written his name on this law, he went into his house where, in his upper room, he had windows open toward Jerusalem. There he got down on his knees three times each day, praying and giving thanks to his God, as he had done before.

READER 1: Then these men came as a group and found Daniel praying and asking favor from his God. So they went to the king and spoke to him about his law, saying,

LEADERS: Did you not write your name on a law which says that anyone who asks something of any god or man besides you, O king, for thirty days, is to be thrown to the lions?

KING: This is true. It is by the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be changed.

READER 2: Then they said to the king,

LEADERS: Daniel, who is one of the people brought from Judah, does not listen to you, O king. He is not obeying the law that you wrote your name on. He is still asking things of his God three times a day.

READER 2: When the king heard this, he was very troubled and tried to think of a way to save Daniel. Even until sunset he was trying to find a way to save him. Then these men came as a group to the king and said,

LEADERS: Understand, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that any law the king makes cannot be changed.

READER 3: So the king had Daniel brought in and thrown into the place where lions were kept. The king said to Daniel,

KING: May your God, Whom you are faithful to serve, save you.

READER 1: And a stone was brought and laid over the mouth of the hole. The king marked it with his

own special ring and with the rings of his important men, so that no one could save Daniel. Then the king went to his beautiful house and spent the night without food and sleep. And nothing was brought to make him feel better.

READER 2: The king got up at sunrise and went in a hurry to the place where lions were kept. When he came to the hole in the ground where Daniel was, he called to him with a troubled voice, 'Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, Whom you always serve, been able to save you from the lions?'

READER 3: Then Daniel said to the king,

DANIEL: O king, live forever! My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths. They have not hurt me, because He knows that I am not guilty, and because I have done nothing wrong to you, O king.

READER 3: Then the king was very pleased and had Daniel taken up out of the hole in the ground. So they took Daniel out of the hole and saw that he had not been hurt at all, because he had trusted in his God.

READER 1: Then the king had those men brought to him who had spoken against Daniel. And they threw them with their wives and children into the hole with the lions. Even before they hit the bottom of the hole, the lions went after them and crushed all their bones.

READER 2: Then King Darius wrote to all the people of every nation and language who were living on the earth. He wrote,

KING: May you have much peace! I make a law that all those under my rule are to fear and shake before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God and He lives forever. His nation will never be destroyed and His rule will last forever. He saves and brings men out of danger, and shows His great power in heaven and on earth. And He has saved Daniel from the power of the lions.

READER 3: So things went well for Daniel during the rule of Darius and during the rule of Cyrus the Persian.

QUIZ - Fill in the blanks.

1. Daniel prayed to God _____ times a day.
2. King Darius made a law that said no one could pray to anyone but the _____ for _____ days.
3. Why was Daniel put in the den of lions?

4. How was Daniel saved from the lions?

5. The happy king and all his people _____ in God.