

FAITHFULNESS

Chapter Six demonstrates Daniel's faithfulness perhaps more than any other. From a leading role in the kingdom to the lions' den and back, Daniel is true to God and his duty in every circumstance.

I. King Darius Appoints Leaders

- A. 120 Satraps under the administration of 3 Commissioners
- B. Daniel is one of the Commissioners
- C. Daniel began distinguishing himself because he
 - 1. had an extraordinary spirit
 - 2. he was faithful in his responsibilities
 - 3. no negligence or corruption could be found in him
- D. He made enemies simply by being who he was

II. A Conspiracy to Entrap Him and Murder Him

- A. Finding no cause for accusation in Daniel, the other rulers conspire to trap him
- B. Daniel could only fail if being true to God was a crime
- C. They induce the king to enact a statute that no one could make a petition to any god or man besides king Darius for 30 days, punishable by being thrown into the lions' den
- D. They knew the only way to trap Daniel was to make a law against his faithfulness to God

III. Daniel's Habits of Devotion

- A. He lived in a fine house with upper story windows facing Jerusalem
- B. Daniel prayed looking out these windows three times a day, every day
- C. He made no change in his schedule or devotion because of the king's edict
- D. At last they had him, as they knew they would

IV. Accused Before the King According to the Law of the Medes and Persians

- A. The king, who liked Daniel, had signed a law that could not be changed
- B. Daniel's enemies bring the accusation
- C. With no way out of his own ruling, king Darius consigns Daniel to the lions' den
- D. He (Darius) is grieved and troubled all night, fasting and mourning Daniel's fate

V. A Horrible Turn of Events for the Jealous Accusers

- A. In the morning Daniel is found unscathed and unafraid
- B. The king trades places between Daniel and his accusers and their families, who are devoured by the lions before they even reach the floor of the den
- C. Daniel is promoted to the leading task and a new decree is written:

"I make a decree that in all the dominion of my kingdom men are to fear and tremble before the God of Daniel; For He is the living God and enduring forever, And His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed, And His dominion will be forever. He delivers and rescues and performs signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, Who has also delivered Daniel from the power of the lions." (Dan 6:26-27 NAU)