

Daniel In The Den Of Faith
Daniel 6:1-28
By Russ Earl

Thesis: I want to show the importance of a Daniel like faith.

- Intro:
1. We all know stories of faith.
 2. Do we though have what it takes to have similar faith.
 3. Daniel will be our example of faith today.
 4. Notice with me the strength of Daniel.

I. The Scene is set first (v.1-9).

A. Daniel is very successful

1. He is appointed one of three governors over the kingdom (v.1-2)
2. Daniel “distinguished” himself above the others (v.3).
3. His success was cause of his “excellent spirit”.
4. He proves you can be successful without compromise.

B. Daniel is envied by others.

1. Others were envious of his success (v.4).
 - a. Even godly men can have enemies (David, Christ, etc)
 - b. Enemies can come from jealousy.
2. His enemies knew of his noble character (v.4b)
 - a. They could not make any charge against him
 - b. He was “faithful”, He was trustworthy and dependable.
3. His enemies found no way to defeat or overcome him (v.5)
 - a. they could find no conflict between the law of God and that of the land.

C. Daniel is made the target of his enemies.

1. The enemies visit the King (v.6).
2. They make a decree for no other statue of man or any God for 30 days (v.7).
3. The King is the encouraged to make the decree so (v.8-9).
 - a. A decree which according to the law could not be altered.
 - b. King Darius back the decree (v.9).

II. Daniel is taken in the trap by his enemies.

A. Daniel continues to pray as usual.

1. He knew the decree had been signed (v.10)
2. He was practicing a common law among the Jews (v.10)
 - a. Praying three times a day (psalm 55:17)
 - b. Praying toward Jerusalem (1 kings 8:27-30)
 - c. Praying on his knees (1 Kings 8:54)
 - d. Praying with thankfulness to God, while in times of trouble (Phil 4:6).
3. It was his custom since an early age, “early days” (v.10)

B. Daniel is caught by his enemies.

1. His enemies caught him while praying (v.11)

2. His enemies report Daniel to the King (v.12-13, Jer 20:10)
3. The King is forced to abide by his own decree (v.14-15).
 - a. The king was upset and tried to deliver Daniel
 - b. But the enemies pressure him to abide by his decree.
- C. Daniel is finally thrown into the den of lions.
 1. Despite this the King is hopeful for Daniel (v.16).
 - a. He is hopeful that he would be delivered.
 - b. He hoped the God he had worshipped continually would deliver him.
 2. The den is then closed with a stone and sealed (v.17)

III. The trap for Daniel is overcome (v.18-28)

- A. Darius is worried through the night.
 1. His night was without sleep (v.18)
 - a. He spends the night fasting
 - b. He spends it without musicians.
 2. His concern for Daniel is clear (v.19-20)
 - a. Rising early in the morning he went to the den
 - b. He wondered if God had delivered Daniel
- B. Daniel is delivered by the Father.
 1. Daniel answers the King (v.21-22)
 2. With the word of God's great deliverance he answered
 - a. Saved by an angel of God (3:28)
 - b. Who shut the lion's mouth
 3. Darius then takes Daniel out of the den (v.23)
 - a. The King was glad
 - b. Daniel was never harmed while in the den
Payback? Daniel 6:24
- C. God is exalted because of this great work
 1. Darius makes a decree that the God of Daniel be feared (v.25-27)
 2. He is the living God and will stand forever.
 3. Thus another King comes to realize who is in control.
 - a. Like Nebuchadnezzar (4:34-35)
 - b. Like Belshazzar, only he was too late (5:26-28).

- Conc:
1. Daniel did as he was supposed to.
 2. He prayed and obeyed God as a result he was delivered in times of trials.
 3. We can do the same.
 - a. We can remain true to God always.
 - b. He will deliver us in times of trials as well.
 4. Invitation