

/We will begin the seventh lecture on the Book of Daniel. / Today's text is Daniel chapter 6. / The title of the chapter is, "The Lions' Den."

/First, Daniel is faithful to his job. / Verses 1-4. / Second, an issue of decree of thirty days to kill Daniel. / Verses 5-9. / Third, Daniel prays three times a day. / Verse 10.

/Fourth, Daniel is charged. / Verses 11-15. / Fifth, Daniel is thrown into the lions' den. / Verses 16-18. / Sixth, Daniel survives in the lions' den. / Verses 19-23.

/Seventh, those accused Daniel are thrown into the lions' den. / Verse 24. / Eighth, the king and the people fear God and praise him. / Verses 25-27. / Ninth, Daniel prospers for generations. / Verse 28.

/Read 6:1. / It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom,

/This "Darius" was Darius king of the Medes. / 5:30, 31. / There was "Cyrus" king of Persia. / "Cyrus" king of Persia and "Darius" king of the Medes together formed an alliance.

/Hence, Medo-Persia conquered the nation of Babylon. / King Cyrus made "Darius" governor over the region of Babylon.

/Darius appointed 120 satraps in the kingdom. / Daniel was one of the administrators. There were three administrators.

/The satraps reported to the prime ministers, and the prime ministers reported to the king. /They made sure that the king did not suffer loss.

/Verse 2. / with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss.

/Administrators and satraps were beneficial to the nation and to the king. / This was now about two years after the nation of Babylon was destroyed.

/At this time, Daniel was about 83 years old. / We presume that Daniel was about 83 years old.

/Verse 3. / Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.

/Daniel distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities. / Daniel was a wise person. / He was faithful to his work for the kingdom.

/Verse 4. / At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor

negligent.

/Daniel had some political enemies. / There were those who were against Daniel. / They tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel, but he had nothing of fault. / Daniel was neither unjust nor corrupt.

/Daniel also was not negligent. / He was faithful. / Thus, Daniel was an example of a believer and an example of a politician. / Daniel was an ordinary believer. / Still, he was faithful to his faith.

/He also set an example in worldly politics. / We must be like Daniel and believe that God entrusted us with our worldly works, and we must be faithful before God and people. /We must believe that God entrusted us with our work and be faithful.

/Daniel was blameless before God and before man. / There was nothing to rebuke him for. / Daniel was faithful in public and private affairs.

/He served the king very well. / He ruled over satraps and other leaders very well. / Mark 7:11 / Romans 14:18 / Ephesians 6:8 / God is the God of all authority and order.

/The authority of a nation is from God. / Romans 13:1, 2. / Therefore, we must be upright before God and before others.

/The first through fourth commandments are about God, / and the fifth through tenth commandments are about people. /We must do right before our parents. /We must do right before our neighbors.

/Like this, Daniel was faultless and blameless. / Hence, the enemies tried to find fault in Daniel. /However, they could not find any.

/Verse 5. / Finally, these men said, "We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God."

/There were people who hated Daniel and envied him. / He had political opponents. / They thought, unless it has something to do with the law of Daniel's God, they would never find any basis for charges against Daniel.

/Daniel had no faults concerning his conduct of governmental affairs. / Thus, they tried to find any basis to charge against him, something to do with the law of God.

/Verse 7. / The royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lions' den.

/The political opponents of Daniel visited king. / They agreed that a decree be issued. /

The decree was that “anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days except to king, shall be thrown into the lions' den.”

/They proposed a issuing of a decree that said, “anyone who prays to any god or man other than the king shall be thrown into the lions’ den.” /This meant that religiously, those who prayed to any gods other than king should be thrown into the lions’ den.

/Verse 8. / Now, O king, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered--in accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed."

/The king issued a decree as his men desired and put it in writing. /He put it in writing so that it could not be altered—in accordance with the laws of the Medes and Persians.

/Like this, the laws of the Medes and Persians would not be repealed once it was issued by the king. / Esther 1:19 / 8:8/ A decree that could not be repealed was issued. / This was because they thought that the king was a delegate of the gods.

/Therefore, the people thought the king never made mistakes. / However, a king cannot be a god. / A human being cannot become a god. / Man-made laws can be wrong.

/In those days, when a king made a law, it could not be changed or repealed. / This king was not aware of Daniel’s enemies who wanted to harm Daniel.

/Daniel’s political opponents wanted to kill Daniel. / These enemies pretended to work for the king’s benefit. / They made the king seal the decree so that it could not be repealed.

/Verse 10. / 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.

/Now here wee see the faith of Daniel. / Daniel was aware that anyone who prayed to other gods or men in the next thirty days would be thrown into the lions’ den. / Daniel knew the evil plan of the enemies who were trying to kill him.

/Still, Daniel prayed three times a day. / Daniel prayed to give thanks. / Daniel did not pray secretly. / Daniel did not ask God to kill his enemies.

/He did not ask for his life to be saved. / As he had done before, he prayed to give thanks. / Daniel was about to be thrown into the lions’ den, so how he could pray to give thanks?

/Jesus also went to the Mount of Olives to pray before the cross. / Daniel’s reasons for thanking God were as follows. / First, Daniel found joy in God as he always did. /Daniel made God his life.

/Even though Daniel lived on earth, he lived in the spiritual world. / He lived together with God in the spiritual world. / God's comfort and life is in that world. / There was God's comfort.

/Even though he might die in the lions' den, he would not be deprived of his spiritual life. / Galatians 2:20 / This is what it means to live with Jesus. / Hence, Daniel was able to give thanks.

/Second, Daniel gave thanks / because he did not live in the flesh, but lived a spiritual life of communication with God. /He lived in the spirit. /Philippians 1:21 /Paul lived in Christ. /He lived by the life of Christ.

/Daniel's three friends also lived in the life of the spirit. / 3:17-18/ Third, Daniel was thankful because he believed that his spirit would grow if he received hardships for the Lord. /The spirit grows through hardships.

/In other words, one can be a bigger person. / Sufferings become blessings. / Our characters are built through sufferings. /Our spirits can become more and more like Jesus.

/Fourth, God's will is fulfilled through hardships. /God's will is fulfilled through hardships. /God's kingdom is advanced.

/God is glorified. / Believers will be praised and honored. / Therefore we too must be like Daniel and give thanks when we face different trials.

/Be joyful always. / Pray continually. / Give thanks in all circumstances. / We can be thankful even when seems difficult to give thanks. / Like Daniel we must have faith to be thankful even as we face death.

/It is important to have faith to be joyful in the midst of trials. /Trials build character and perseverance. /Faith keeps us from lacking. /James 1:2-4 /James 1:2-4.

/God only gives us trials that we can bear. /We must believe that God will help us overcome trials, and we must rely on God and give thanks.

/Let's look at how Daniel prayed in verse 10. /The characteristics of Daniel's prayer. /First, Daniel prayed toward Jerusalem. /Daniel opened his window and prayed toward Jerusalem.

/He prayed according to God's word. /1 Kings 8:46-50. /1 Kings 8:46-50. /We must find God's will in the Bible, hold on to the truth, and act according to the truth.

/When we find God's, we must pray for strength to follow his word. / When we pray it is important to seek God's will. / When the people were taken captive, they were told to pray toward Jerusalem. / Psalm 28:2.

/We must find God's will in the Bible. / Proverbs 28:9. / Second, he prayed with his windows open. /His is unchanging faith. /He prayed with the window open in the past.

/He should not have closed the window as he prayed because the king issued a decree. /Daniel prayed with his window open whether the king issued a decree or didn't.

/This was unchanging faith. / He prayed according to his conscience. / Acts 2:22 / Third, Daniel prayed three times a day. / This was regular prayer. / He chose specific times for prayer.

/The Jews prayed three times a day. / Acts 3:1 / Acts 10:2-3 / We must pray continuously. / We must pray regularly. / Psalm 55:17.

/The prophet Samuel said that he would not commit the sin of failing to pray. / 1 Samuel 12:23. / We must pray before God, and we must pray for our neighbors.

/If we cannot pray three times a day, we must pray at least once a day. / It is very good to pray once early in the morning out of the three times of prayer a day. / Jesus made it a habit to pray before dawn.

/We must awaken the dawn. / It is very good to pray early in the morning in silence. / We must pray before God before we begin worldly works.

/Fourth, Daniel prayed on his knees. / He prayed with a humble attitude. / He prayed with sincerity. /We must pray as Daniel did.

/Like this, Daniel was faithful in his faith. / He lived a godly life of faith. / He gave thanks in his life of faith. /He did not doubt his faith, but kept his faith even before death.

/He did not blame God when he encountered difficult trials. / Rather, he was thankful. / He accepted them as blessings from God. / He believed that if he became the lions' food and martyred, he would go to heaven.

/He thought that it would be an honor to die for his faith. / Hence, Daniel kept his faith very well here.

/Verse 11. / Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help.

/Here Daniel's enemies went to the king. / They reported that they found Daniel praying to God. / Daniel prayed to God as usual.

/The officers who were jealous of Daniel accused him. / Those who hated Daniel were happy because Daniel might be killed. / However, the king was greatly distressed about this.

/The king tried hard to save Daniel. / The king was determined to rescue Daniel and did what he could until sundown to save him. / The king did this because Daniel worked hard in politics for the king. / He was a wise administrator, / and he was good for the kingdom.

/Verse 13. / Then they said to the king, "Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the decree you put in writing. He still prays three times a day."

/These political opponents called Daniel "one of the exiles from Judah." / Daniel had been in exile for over seventy years now. /Still, they called Daniel "one of the exiles."

/It was because they hated Daniel and envied him. / They discriminated against Daniel because of his race, and despised him. / They said that Daniel was not one of their own people. / They hated Daniel exclusively.

/Verse 14. / When the king heard this, he was greatly distressed; he was determined to rescue Daniel and made every effort until sundown to save him.

/Like this, the king was distressed. / In verse 13, they accused Daniel by saying, "he pays no attention to you, O king, or to the decree you put in writing."

/Those who envied Daniel claimed that Daniel despised the king. / They were ready to do anything to falsely accuse Daniel so that they might kill Daniel.

/Verse 15. / Then the men went as a group to the king and said to him, "Remember, O king, that according to the law of the Medes and Persians no decree or edict that the king issues can be changed."

/The king did everything he could to try and save Daniel. / However, the law of the Medes and Persians said that a decree once issued could not be changed. / Therefore, the king, according to the law, had no other choice but to throw Daniel into the lions' den.

/Verse 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!"

/The king tried hard not to kill the faithful Daniel. / However, the decree was issued, and even the king could not go against the law. / The king ordered that Daniel be thrown into the lions' den.

/In those days, the lions' den was a large dungeon. / There was a dividing wall between the lions and man. / Then when the wall was lifted, the man was killed by the lions.

/The king was very distressed for losing the faithful Daniel. / The king realized that he was trapped by his officers' evil plan.

/In verse 16, the king said, “May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you.” / This means that Daniel was always kept his faith before God. / The king knew of Daniel’s faith since it was clearly shown to him.

/When Joseph kept his faith, Potiphar acknowledged it. / Potiphar, the captain of the palace guard, was aware of Joseph’s faithfulness. / Here, Daniel’s faithfulness was known to the king. / The king asked God to help Daniel.

/Verse 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.

/Daniel was thrown into the lions’ den, and they sealed it with a stone. / No one was allowed to open the mouth of the den.

/Verse 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.

/The king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating, / and without any entertainment for him. / He could not sleep. / There was no music or food that night.

/This showed that the king knew of the power of the God whom Daniel served, and this showed that the king asked God for help in his heart. /The king believed that God could save Daniel with his power. /1 Timothy 3:7.

/The king forbid all entertainment and did not sleep, which showed that the king made great sacrifices. / The king acknowledged Daniel to that extent.

/Verse 19. / At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den.

/Verse 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?"

/The next day, the king got up early in the morning and hurried to the lions' den. / When he came near the den, he called out. / “Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?”

/Verses 21-22. / Daniel answered, "O king, live forever! 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, O king."

/Did you read verse 22? / Yes. / Here, Daniel praised God. / He said, “My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions.” / Then he said that he was innocent.

/Daniel said that he was found innocent. /Here, God sent his angel to shut the mouths of

the lions. /Daniel was not hurt in any way in the lions' den.

/God saw Daniel's faith. /God answered his prayer. /Daniel wholeheartedly trusted God.

/God answered Daniel's prayer. /Psalm 65:2 /Psalm 91:13 /Isaiah 65:4 /Job 5:19 /Daniel was thrown into the lions' den by the evil plot of those who envied him.

/However, Daniel had faith to defeat the lions. / Daniel was not afraid when he was thrown into the lions' den. / He did not worry by thinking, "What if the lions eat me?"

/Daniel did not think about things concerning the world or the flesh. /He knew that life and death was not in the hands of the lions. /Samson defeated a lion. /David also defeated a lion.

/Life and death of man is not in the hands of lions. /Life and death is not in the hands of the great winds. /God is the one who is in control over lions and the great winds.

/All good and bad things are under God's control. / Hence, we must not fear lions but rely on God. / Daniel relied solely on God, and he was guided by the Holy Spirit.

/He lived in the life of the spirit. / He looked only upon the Lord. / He delighted in the Lord. / He walked according to the Lord's commands. / Hence, there was no fear in his mind. / Matthew 13:30 / 1 Peter 5:8

/Daniel thought that it was good to die for his faith. / Like this, he had the faith of a martyr. /No one knew that Daniel would come out of the lions' den unharmed.

/However, miracles follow believers. / Mark 16:17, 18 /God's power is displayed through those who preach the gospel. / The king hurried to the lions' den at the first light of dawn.

/The king was aware that Daniel was a servant of the living God. / The king saw Daniel serve God. / God protected Daniel. / Daniel was not hurt, and came out of the lions' den.

/Verse 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.

/Daniel had no wounds, / because Daniel trusted God. / 2 Timothy 4:17

/Verse 24. / At the king's command, the men who had falsely accused Daniel were brought in and thrown into the lions' den, along with their wives and children. And before they reached the floor of the den, the lions overpowered them and crushed all their bones.

/Afterward, the king ordered that all the men who had falsely accused Daniel be brought in. / The plot of the accusers was revealed / through Daniel's survival in the lions' den by the power of God.



/The plot to harm Daniel was revealed. / Therefore, the king was angry and ordered that the false accusers be thrown into the lions' den. / They harmed the kingdom by trying to get rid of Daniel.

/Also, Daniel had done nothing wrong. /Thus, the king became angry and ordered that all who falsely accused Daniel be thrown into the lions' den.

/Hence, they were killed with all the members of their families. / They became the lions' food. /In this way, those who hurt God's believers will be destroyed.

/Verse 25. / Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations and men of every language throughout the land: "May you prosper greatly!

/Verse 26. / "I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. "For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end.

/King Darius issued a decree. / King Darius said, "My people must fear and revere the God of Daniel." / Our God is eternal, and he is an unchanging God. / His authority and power are limitless. /

/Daniel testified to the living God. / God's glory was revealed through these signs and wonders. / In the same way, when believers live by faith, even the Gentiles will respect them.

/The king will respect believers. /God will be exalted. /God is exalted when believers overcome trials. /The gospel is preached. /People will revere God. /Believers will be honored.

/Verse 27. / He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions."

/It says that God saved Daniel from the lions' den with signs and wonders. / God is an omniscient and omnipotent God.

/Verse 28. / So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

/Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian. / Daniel prospered everywhere and in whatever he did. / He prospered in each generation and environment.

/Daniel was upright in his worked before God and before men. / He was faithful to his country. /He kept his faith.

/Therefore, God was pleased with him. / Daniel prospered even when the kingship changed. / He prospered when national authorities changed. /He kept his faith in each time period, and he received blessings.

/God used Daniel in great ways. /Many kings used Daniel in great ways. /Daniel prospered in each generation.

/We, like Daniel, must keep our faith well before God and before men. / We must be faithful in whatever works that are given to us. / We must use our conscience when we work.

/Even if we lose our lives while keeping our faith and while keeping God's word, we must pray prayers of thanksgiving as Daniel did.

/Life and death are in God's hands. /Life and death, fortunes and misfortunes are in God's hands.

/Therefore, we must glorify God and live with faith.

/With this we will conclude the seventh lecture on Daniel. /Thank you.