



Bethany Bible Study & Discussion

Daniel (Part-10) (Chapter 6:1-17)

Introduction (1-4): Who is Darius and how was his kingdom organized? What was Daniel's position in the kingdom? Why did Daniel enjoy such prominence, despite being a foreigner & a captive? What is the secret of Daniel's ascension?

The Plot against Daniel & 30-day Decree (5-9): What prompted Daniel's peers to plot against him? Did they find any fault against Daniel? What crooked idea did they bring before the king? What was the expected outcome of this devious plan? Why was the plan appealing to the king? Could the decree be changed? *Will our peers find valid reasons to bring accusation against us?*

Daniel's bold response (10): What did Daniel do? What do we learn about Daniel's prayer life? *What would you have done? How is your prayer life? Is there any law of this land that you find inconsistent with your faith?*

Daniel accused & convicted (11-17): What was Daniel accused of? What was king's reaction? What is king's surprising parting comment to Daniel? *Are your boss/family & friends aware of your Godly convictions? If no, why not?*



Chapter 6 outline

Introduction (1-4)

Plot against Daniel & Decree (5-9)

Daniel's bold response (10)

Daniel accused and convicted (11-17)

Daniel delivered (18-24)

New Decree and Daniel's continued prosperity (25-28)

Introduction (1-4)

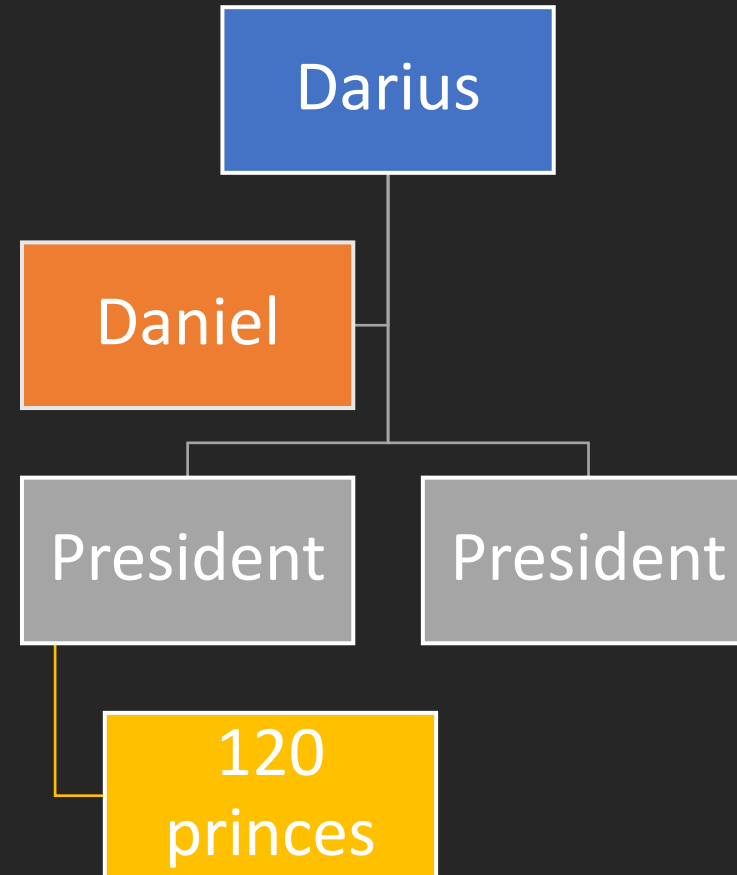
1. Who is Darius and how was his kingdom organized?
2. What was Daniel's position in the kingdom?
3. Why did Daniel enjoy such prominence, despite being a foreigner & a captive?
4. What is the secret of Daniel's ascension?

Darius

There is lack of clear information on Darius

- King of Babylon, at age 62 (5:31, 2:37-39)
- Darius is other name for Ugbaru, general of King Cyrus, who lead the conquest of Babylon. Maybe King Cyrus appointed Darius (Ugbaru) to be the ruler/governor for a short time.
- Darius/Cyrus are the same person (but contradicts 6:28)

Goal: to protect the king from any damage (2)



Reason for Daniel's prominence & promotions

Recognized for his “excellent spirit” (3)

- Excellent spirit, knowledge, understanding, interpreting dreams (5:12)

Secret of Daniel's exaltation

- Part of God's sovereign plan
- Reward for his faithfulness to God

Deuteronomy 28:13

And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; IF that thou hearken unto the commandments of the Lord thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them:

The Plot against Daniel & 30-day Decree (5-9):

The Plot and Decree (5-9)

What prompted Daniel's peers to plot against him?

Did they find any fault against Daniel?

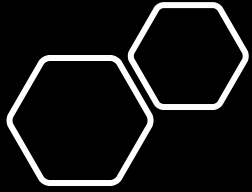
What crooked idea did they bring before the king?

What was the plan appealing to the king?

What was the expected outcome?

Could the decree be changed?

Will our peers find valid reasons to bring accusation against us?



Possible reason
for the devious
plot

What prompted Daniel's
peers to plot against him?

Jealousy, Hatred, Insecurity

... all that will live godly in
Christ Jesus shall suffer
persecution (II Timothy 3:12)

Daniel's blameless Character

- Faithful, and no fault or error found in Daniel (4)
- We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel except we find it against him concerning the law of his God (5)

How is our character? God expects us to have a blameless character like Daniel

”Then said Pilate to the chief priests and the people, I find no fault in this man” Luke 23:4

Reflection

*Will **our peers**
find valid reasons
to bring
accusation
against us?*



Reflection

*Will **God** find
valid reasons to
bring accusation
against us?*

- Search me O God (Psalms 139:23)



The Devious Plot & expected outcome

The **success of plot** depended upon:

- Daniel's uncompromising character and strong convictions; and
- Darius ego

“make a firm decree that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for 30-days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions” (7)

Expected outcome

- Daniel will not compromise and will break the law of the king
- king Darius will enjoy being regarded as God for 30-days (Genesis 3:5, you will be like God)

Unchanging decree (?) (8)

- Not true
- This decree changed (26)

Establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not (8)

Daniel's bold response (10):

What did Daniel do? What do we learn about Daniel's prayer life?

What would you have done? How is your prayer life? Is there any law of this land that you find inconsistent with your faith?

Daniel's bold response

Daniel Prayed as before.

¹⁰ Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

Daniel's prayer life (10,11)

Prayed in his house, his chamber (private place, personal prayer)

Prayed on his knees (reverence, dependence, humility) (Luke 22:41, Acts 7:60, Acts 20:36)

Prayed with windows open to Jerusalem (Solomon's prayer, I Kings 8:29,30,35,38,42,44)

Prayer was a discipline and a priority (3-times a day)

Prayed with thanksgiving

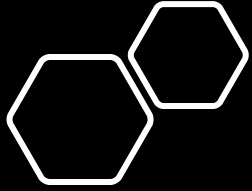
Prayed as before openly (prayer life not impacted by circumstances, 30-day decree)

Prayer included supplication (11)

**Daniel accused &
convicted (11-17):**

Accused & Convicted

1. What was Daniel accused of?
 2. What was king's reaction?
 3. What is king's surprising parting comment to Daniel?
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- *Are your boss/family & friends aware of your Godly convictions? If no, why not?*

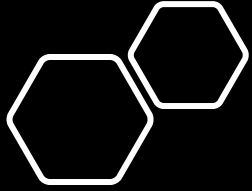


Accusations

- Accusers remind king of decree that cannot be changed (15)

Accusations (13)

- Daniel brought petition to his God 3-times a day (partially true, Daniel also thanked God)
- Daniel does not respect the king (not true)



king's reaction (14-17))

- Regrets at having hastily passed the decree, and Wants & tries to find ways to deliver Daniel (14)
- Honors the decree ... Daniel sent to lions' den (16)
- king's (surprising) parting words (16)... "Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee"
 - King recognizes: whom Daniel serves, Daniel's consistent life of devotion to God, and the power of God to deliver.

Reflection

*Is our boss/family &
friends aware of your
Godly convictions?
If no, why not?*





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