

Daniel 6

King James Version (KJV)

6 It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; (Darius was the king of the Medial Persians <Medes and Persians> who had conquered the Babylonian Empire. Darius was of the Medes)

²And over these, three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. (This is going to cause these princes to envy Daniel – The Medes didn't want to report to a Hebrew)

³Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm. (Daniel was blessed by God; God's spirit was in Daniel. People could feel that in him – like Nebuchadnezzar previously and now, Darius)

⁴Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him. (He was without guilt, so they had to make something up in order to frame him)

⁵Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God. (They know that Daniel is a good man, who hasn't committed any crimes; so they will try to use his religion to create conflict with the ways of the Medes)

⁶Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. (Buttering him up before they con him)

⁷All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. (The set up-> turning the king against Daniel by appealing to his ego. This is also Satan's MO – to use your own ego against you. They know that Daniel will only worship Yahoveh, and therefore, he will disobey this decree)

⁸ Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. (Once signed, a king's decree could not be changed by anyone. Even the king couldn't change it if he wanted to)

⁹ Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree. (His ego got the better of him. They have him right where they want him)

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 remained true to God as he always had been. He obeyed the laws of the land provided they didn't come between him and God)

¹¹ Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. (They were eavesdroppers; spying on Daniel so they could trap him)

¹² Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. (The trap for Daniel is set)

¹³ Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day. (Turning Daniel in; they know that the king will now be forced to punish him per his decree. Daniel is a type for the Elect, when they will be delivered to witness before antichrist)

¹⁴ Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him. (The king loved Daniel, and realized he had been tricked by these jackals. He stayed up all night trying to think of a way to save Daniel)

¹⁵ Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed. (They are telling the king right to his face that there's nothing he can do)

about it. They are exposing themselves as subverters, and they will be dealt with in later verses)

¹⁶ Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. (The Median king had faith in God)

¹⁷ And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. (He's not sealing it to keep Daniel in. The king is protecting Daniel by sealing the cave to keep these men out; so that they can't kill Daniel during the night)

¹⁸ Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him. (He was praying for Daniel's welfare)

¹⁹ Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. (He wanted to get Daniel out of there as soon as possible)

²⁰ And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

²¹ Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever.

²² My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. (God will protect the Elect the same way, in the end days; when antichrist tries to persecute them and intimidate them into worshipping him)

²³ Then was the king exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God. (Daniel's faith in God is what saved him)

(Jesus also taught many times – “Thy faith in God has healed you, or has delivered you”)

²⁴ And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den. (The king got even with those that had set him up. They got the very punishment that they tried to inflict upon Daniel – poetic justice)

²⁵ Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

²⁶ I make a decree, that in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end. (Darius is using his office to inform all the people of his kingdom that there is a true God in heaven. God wants us to also share the truth, when He gives it to us)

²⁷ He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions. (Like Nebuchadnezzar, Darius was wise enough to realize that God is in control. Only the living God in heaven could have saved Daniel from the lions)

²⁸ So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian. (God promised Israel that if they went into captivity, they would live and prosper. Daniel obeyed God and did just that. Cyrus was named by God before he was born. He would later allow the Israelites to return to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple. See Ezra & Nehemiah)