

God Protects Daniel Daniel 6

With hope Daniel's God would deliver him - 16
With fasting & anxious night, no sleep - 18

I. Position of Daniel - 6:1-3

1. Darius Reorganizes the Empire - 1, 2
New ruler needs to gain control of vast empire
Protect against revolts - "have no damage" - 2
Kingdom divided into 120 principalities - 1
Princes accountable to 3 presidents - 2
Daniel in first position among 3 presidents
God's people, as Daniel, can serve in government with integrity
2. Daniel in line for higher position - 3
Darius preferred him over princes & presidents
Excellent spirit (attitude with which he serves)
King planned to put him over whole realm

II. Plot of His Enemies - 6:4-9

1. Looked for flaws they could exploit - 4
Examined all he did but came up empty
Daniel is faithful, man of integrity, in his job
2. Focus attack on Daniel's spiritual life - 5
Confident he would be consistent in his faith
3. Manipulate king & law to get Daniel - 6-9
They used flattery to get to the king - 6, 7
Proposed 30 days to honor Darius as a god
Lied about who was making this request
Used legal system to secure proposed law - 8
Able to get the king to sign this new law - 9

III. Prayer-life of Daniel - 6:10-11

1. Daniel knew intent of new law - 10
Could chose to alter prayer life for 1 month
2. He continued to pray as he had - 10
Prayed privately - "in his chamber"
Prayed unashamedly - "windows open"
Prayed directionally - "toward Jerusalem"
Prayed reverently - "kneeled on his knees"
Prayed regularly - "three times a day"
Prayed gratefully - "gave thanks to his God"
Prayed consistently - "as he did aforesaid"
3. Enemies observe him in prayer - 11

IV. Pressure on Darius - 6:12-18

1. Question king about edict he signed - 12
Did you sign law with the prescribed penalty
Darius affirms he did & law is unchangeable
2. Inform the king of what Daniel did - 13
Charge disrespect for the king & for his law
3. King is angry he was manipulated - 14
Tried every way to get around this law
4. Enemies press king for execution - 15
5. Reluctantly put Daniel in lion's den - 16-18

V. Protection of God - 6:19-23

1. Early next day king hurries to den - 19, 20
Came with mixed feelings of fear, guilt, hope
Lament; Daniel please tell me you are still alive
2. Daniel tells of God's intervention - 21, 22
He seeks to comfort the fears of the king
Assures him God is sovereign over lions
God overrules the miscarriage of justice
3. King rejoices in God's deliverance - 23
Daniel taken out of den without a scratch
Daniel's faith is reason for deliverance
King recognizes Daniel's faith in his God

VI. Proclamation of the King - 6:24-28

1. Darius orders plotters cast into den - 24
Their families share their punishment
Lions demonstrate that they were hungry
2. Darius wrote in praise of God - 25-27
Sent to all areas in his kingdom - 25
Calls people to fear God as true God - 26
Praises God as sovereign, eternal King - 26
Praises God for deliverance of Daniel - 27
3. Daniel prospers under Darius & Cyrus - 28
God blesses those who stand firm for Him

THE MEDO-PERSIAN EMPIRE 4-6TH CENTURY B.C.

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