

SUNDAY SERVICE 23:09:2018

THIS DANIEL

Daniel 6:25-28

Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: "Peace be multiplied to you. I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people are to tremble and fear before the God of Daniel, for he is the living God, enduring forever; his kingdom shall never be destroyed, and his dominion shall be to the end. He delivers and rescues; he works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, he who has saved Daniel from the power of the lions." So this Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Scripture is very particular about this Daniel.

- This Daniel lived the heavenly life here on earth.
- He literally enjoyed heaven on earth.
- He was unique and distinguished.
- He lived difficult times.
- The country's moral character had deteriorated to lowest levels.
- God allowed foreign powers to capture them.
- **Proverbs 14:34**
Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people.

Daniel 6:3

Then this Daniel became distinguished above all the other high officials and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him. And the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.

Note

- Daniel's exploits were done in a foreign land and in difficult situations.
- The light of God is never extinguished in darkness.
- When darkness is covering the earth and gross darkness the people, that is the time to rise and shine.

In Babylon

- The situation looked helpless and hopeless.
- Hope for going back alive was not there because they were to be there for 70 years.
- It looked like God had abandoned them.
- In moments and circumstances like this, this Daniel prospered.
- What did he do differently?

1) Decision

- The defining moment in Daniel's life was when he resolved in His heart.
- **Daniel 1:**
But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself.
- In the middle of challenges, Daniel made up his mind.
- He made up his mind for God.
- In the middle of challenges you need to draw close to God
- As long as we are in this world we will face problems. John 16:33.

- His resolution was about defilement
 - The system in Babylon was one that sought to defile.
 - He may have been out of Israel but Israel was in him.
 - For them it was food for us it is corruption and technology.
- 2) **Favored**
- God's favor is a response to the preparedness of the heart.
 - When the favor of God shines upon you, no door will be permanently closed for you.

3) **Enhanced mind**

• ***Daniel 1:17***

As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.

- Daniel was ahead of his mates.
- God literally opened the treasures of heaven and poured blessings on Daniel

4) **Long life**

• ***Daniel 1:21***

• ***And Daniel was there until the first year of King Cyrus.***

- During Nebuchadnezzar he interpreted dreams.
- During Belshazzar he interpreted the writing on the wall.
- During Darius he survived in the lions' den.
- During Cyrus he prayed for the release of the Israelites.

- Daniel survived the 70 years of captivity.
- He did not survive as a slave but as a ruler in foreign land.

Psalms 91:16

*With long life I will satisfy him
and show him my salvation."*

5) **Above reproach.**

Daniel 6:4-5

Then the high officials and the satraps sought to find a ground for complaint against Daniel with regard to the kingdom, but they could find no ground for complaint or any fault, because he was faithful, and no error or fault was found in him. Then these men said, "We shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God."

- No one will be a darling to everyone.
- Haters will be there.
- They will raise charges against you but they will be false.
- Live for God both in private and public life.

God sees your heart.

Be sincere in your heart today.

Call on the God of heaven.

- He will show himself strong on his behalf. 2 Chronicles 16.9

• ***Isaiah 66:1-2***

Thus says the Lord:

***"Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool;
what is the house that you would build for me,
and what is the place of my rest?***

All these things my hand has made,

and so all these things came to be, declares the Lord.

*But this is the one to whom I will look:
he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.*

Psalms 51:17

*The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.*

Exodus 3:3-4

*And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not
burned." When the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of
the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."*

Psalms 34:4-7

*I sought the LORD, and he answered me
and delivered me from all my fears.*

*Those who look to him are radiant,
and their faces shall never be ashamed.*

*This poor man cried, and the LORD heard him
and saved him out of all his troubles.*

*The angel of the LORD encamps
around those who fear him, and delivers them.*