

Character Study: Daniel
Part 6 – Daniel and the Lion’s Den
Daniel 6:1-28

What’s happening?

- Darius made Daniel one of his three governors to help rule within his kingdom. Daniel excelled in this position and the king even considered placing him over all the people. (6:1-3)
- Daniel’s success made the other leaders jealous. Knowing his loyalty to God, they convinced the king to make a decree that no one could pray to any god or person (except the king) for the next thirty days. Anyone breaking the decree would be thrown into a den of lions. (6:4-9)
- Hearing of the decree, Daniel returned to his home and bowed down in prayer to God. He prayed three times that day, as he did every day. It did not take long before someone spotted him through an open window. Word quickly got back to the king. (6:10-13)
- The king urgently pleaded on Daniel’s behalf, but the other leaders insisted the decree had to be upheld and judgment carried out. As a result, Daniel was thrown into the den of lions. (6:14-17)
- The king was unable to sleep that night and quickly went down to the den the next morning to see if Daniel’s God had spared his life. To his relief, Daniel responded, letting him know that God had sent angels to close the mouths of the lions. Daniel was taken out unharmed. (6:18-23)
- The king, now understanding the plot against Daniel, had his accusers and their families thrown into the pit. They were overpowered by the lions immediately. King Darius wrote a new decree that everyone in his kingdom must fear Daniel’s God, for his God is the living God who works wonders, and whose kingdom cannot be destroyed. (6:24-28)

What’s God doing?

> God does not let dishonest men ruin what He has accomplished. In fact, He uses their plotting for good. Through this miracle of delivering Daniel from death, God revealed His great power to the Medes and Persians.

What’s to learn?

→ It was not the obstacles in life that encouraged Daniel to be bold in his walk with the Lord, but rather it was Daniel’s walk with the Lord that encouraged him to be bold in the face of obstacles. Godly people are always characterized by a meaningful and personal walk with the Lord.