

DN-07

Daniel 6— The Lion's Den

As we have come to realize, the first half of the book of Daniel is one of intrigue and drama. In the Great Controversy, this can be expected, as we saw from our second case study dealing with Genesis 3, when sin entered our world—so came the inclination ‘to hide,’ to ‘justify self,’ to ‘seek for control,’ to work not in the light, but in darkness--scheming, conniving, positioning for one's advantage.



As chapter six unfolds, we see the principles of truth and justice “an excellent spirit” shining forth in the author of the book in contrast to the principles of deception, greed and envy. We admire just such a character in that of Daniel, for it is rare and precious in our day, even among those who profess His name.

There are a number of concepts in this chapter, new to the book of Daniel which we will be exploring. Here are few:

- The law of his God
- The law of the Medes and Persians
- Three times a day--prayer

The application of this chapter to our day is clear in some ways, but not as obvious in other ways. Before we look at that in more detail, here are a couple statements regarding the character of Daniel.

*“The case of Daniel was presented before me. Although he was a man of like passions with ourselves, the pen of inspiration presets him **as a faultless character**. His life was given us as a bright example of what man may become, even in this life, if he will make God his strength and wisely improve the opportunities and privileges within his reach.” {4T 569-570}*

“In the midst of a nation of idolaters, Daniel was to represent the character of God. How did he become fitted for a position of so great trust and honor? It was his faithfulness in the little things that gave complexion to his whole life. He honored God in the smallest duties, and the Lord co-operated with him.” {COL 356-357}

Daniel was set over all the princes and presidents of the Medes/Persian Kingdom. This brought forth an envious and jealous spirit by the leading men. They could find no fault against him and his business practices, “except against him concerning the law of his God.”

How are we to understand this in connection with one's prayer life? _____

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This “royal decree” of the king, the law of the Medes and Persians in vs.8, is again repeated in vs.12. Why is this phrase reiterated by the “presidents and princes, governors, counsellors,” of the kingdom to the king? _____

To Be continued in Part 2