

## Exile and Return: "Being a Faithful Witness Among the Lions" Daniel 6

Hebrews 11:33 - "...through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions."

Daniel 5:29-31 - "Then Belshazzar gave the command... Daniel was clothed with purple, a chain of gold... and a proclamation was made ...that he should be the third ruler in the kingdom. That very night, Belshazzar the Chaldean king was killed. And Darius the Mede received the kingdom..."

I. God honoring work is crucial to evangelism. (Daniel 6: 1-2)

Colossians 3:12, 24 - "...as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved...Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ."

2 Thessalonians 3:6 - "Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness..."

3:7 - "...we were not idle when we were with you..."

3:8 - "...we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you."

3:9 - "...an example to imitate."

3:10 - "... we give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat."

3:13 - "As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good."

II. Godly character is important in earning the right to be heard. (Daniel 6: 3-5)

Psalms 92:12-14 - "The righteous flourish... They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green."

Ephesians 5:18 - "...be filled with the Spirit..."

Galatians 5:16 - "But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."

III. Prayer is what fuels witness. (Verses 6-10)

1. Ask for God's wisdom.
2. Let our private life fuel our public life.
3. Pray according to scripture.

1 Kings 8:48-49 - "If they repent with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their enemies, who carried them captive, and pray to you toward their land...the city that you have chosen, and the house that I have built for your name...you will maintain their cause."

4. Develop spiritual disciplines.
5. Have a trusting relationship with the Lord.

IV. God allows troubles to reach us to reach beyond us. (Daniel 6: 10-28)

Psalms 22:21 - "Save me from the mouth of the lion!"

**Faith Sheet for Friends and Family this Week**  
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**Daniel 6**

1. What did you learn as a child about the story of Daniel in the lions' den?
2. What was it about Daniel's life that made him such a model employee and public servant? Read 1 Corinthians 9:22, Ephesians 6:8 & 1 Timothy 2:1. Discuss how you can improve in honoring the Lord and being on mission in your work.
3. How does your faith impact your leisure time? Read 1 Corinthians 10:31 and discuss what it means to honor the Lord with our time off.
4. What statement did it send to those watching when Daniel refused to obey the king's edict? Read Acts 5:27-29. What are some specific times you would be ready to obey God over man?
5. What role do you think Daniel's consistent practice of prayer had in his political world and beyond? Read Matthew 7:7, Hebrews 4:14-16, 11:6, James 4:10 and 5:16-17. How do these verses connect and what do they say about a powerful prayer life? Pray for one another.