

Susanna on Trial

Susanna 28-64 (Daniel 13; Susanna and Daniel)
by Don Falkos
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Susanna was put on trial. Her two would-be rapists accused her of adultery.

We were walking in the garden. Susanna came in with two servant girls. She told them to close the gate and leave. Then a young man came out of hiding. They tore off their clothes and started having sex under a tree. We knew she was married. We ran over to stop them. But the young man got away because he was stronger than we were. He opened the gate and ran off. Susanna refused to tell us who he was.

There were two of them, and they were both powerful men, so everyone believed them, and Susanna was sentenced to death.

She cried out, "Eternal God, you know these men have told evil lies about me today. Now, because of their wicked charges against me, I'm going to die, even though I haven't done anything wrong."

The Lord heard Susanna's prayer and stirred up the Holy Spirit in a young man named Daniel, who shouted, "I will not take part in murdering this woman! You have condemned her without even trying to find out what really happened."

Daniel ordered the two men be separated. Then he questioned them individually. "You say Susanna was making love with a young man under a tree. What kind of a tree was it?"

The first man responded, "It was a small gum tree."

The other said, "They were under a massive oak tree."

Their accounts contradicted each other. Clearly they had made up the whole story. They were put to death for proffering false charges against Susanna. The people praised God for saving an innocent woman's life. And from then on, Daniel was held in great esteem.