

Daniel in the Lions' Den

Daniel 6

by Don Falkos

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The new Medo-Persian king appointed governors to rule over Babylon. He also appointed three administrators to oversee the governors. One of these administrators was Daniel. He did his work so well the king decided to promote Daniel and put him in charge of the entire kingdom.

Some of the other administrators and governors were jealous of Daniel's rapid advancement. They decided to attack him through his devotion to God. They went to the king and convinced him to issue a decree:

For the next thirty days:
Anyone who prays to any god or to any person other than
His Majesty the King
shall be thrown into the lions' den.

Daniel continued to pray to the Lord three times a day, just as he always had. The conspirators went straight to the king and reported him. The king tried to think of a way to save Daniel, but even he was not above the law. In the evening, Daniel was brought and lowered into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you!"

A stone was placed over the opening of the den. The king sealed it with his royal seal and the seals of his nobles. No one would dare break those seals to rescue Daniel. The king went back to his palace and cancelled the evening's entertainment; he refused to eat; and he lay awake all night long.

At the first light of day, the king ran to the lions' den. He had the stone removed and called out, "Daniel, has your God rescued you from the lions?"

Daniel replied, "Yes. I'm here."

Daniel was lifted up out of the lions' den. His accusers were thrown in. Before they even hit the floor, the lions were already tearing them to pieces.

The king issued a decree, "Everyone in my kingdom must worship the God of Daniel, the living God, whose reign will never end."