

Daniel 6

Kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall, leaders are born and leaders die, but the Kingdom of the Lord stands _____.

“Another king comes with another kingdom; kingdoms rise and fall but Daniel, the symbol of the kingdom of God, remains. He has seen Nebuchadnezzar and Belshazzar come and go. Now Darius the Mede has arrived, and Daniel is still serving the King of Kings.”-Ferguson

Before we jump into the text, it is interesting to note that there is no consensus on who the figure Darius is, as there have not been any historical records of a ruler with this name. There are several theories about this and three options could be: 1. Gubaru, the governor over Babylon appointed to rule this area by Cyrus, 2. This is another name for Cyrus, 3. Darius has just not been historically discovered yet.

Another king, another _____ (6:1-9)

There are two chief sins that create the situation that is going to come upon Daniel: _____ and _____.

_____ -Daniel had once again risen amongst the ranks and was about to be even further exalted. The contemporaries of Daniel were envious of Daniel and sought a way to take him down.

-The Law of God teaches us to love the _____ and _____ our neighbor. Envy is both a sin against our neighbor and God. Envy and _____ often go together (Titus 3:3).

_____ -Darius (while not being as foolish as Belshazzar) was still a proud fool. Here we find a man who didn't think about the consequences of his decisions. Here also is a man who was exalted himself is trying to rob the glory from the Lord and give it to himself (as the one mediator).

-God _____ the proud but gives grace to the humble (1 Peter 5:5).

-side note--beware of the flatterer

In opposition to these wicked people, Daniel is displayed as a _____ servant of God who is striving for holiness of life (5:5, Titus 2:8)

The satanic _____ did not stop for Daniel but kept coming.

“We tend to assume that the great tests in Christian experience occur in its early stages. That perspective fails to see one of the chief functions of temptation in God's plan. He means to strengthen us through our successful resistance, to enable us to meet greater or more persistent tests in the future.”-Ferguson

The man of God does not _____ (6:10-13)

Daniel continues his established pattern of prayer despite the new law. In quiet faith he continues to do what is _____. The Lord alone is the ruler of Daniel's soul.

"His manner of prayer was the result of his deep piety, and could be discovered only by spies who were on the lookout for such things."-Young

Daniel was not commanded to _____ his faith, but simply not to pray for 30 days.

"It is not as though Daniel was asked to deny his faith or worship an idol...We may well ask ourselves in this context if it would make any substantial difference in our lives or the lives of our church fellowship if prayer were banned for the next thirty days. Perhaps in many instances the answer would be both embarrassing and startling."-Ferguson

God, the Great _____ (6:14-23)

Foolish Darius tried to get Daniel off the hook, but his fear forced him to _____ a godly man.

Providence _____ that Daniel was thrown into the lion's den for the purpose of revealing the salvation of the Lord (similar to chapter 3). The Lord protected his prophet and shut the mouth of the lions and delivered Daniel.

"A servant of God is immortal until his work has been completed."-Ferguson

As we have repeatedly seen, the sovereign Lord often allows His people to go through troubles so that He might be _____ by bringing His people through them.

God, the Great _____ (6:24)

The wicked who think they can harm the saints and come away on top are providentially judged and fall into their own trap. What they thought would be their victory actually turned into their _____.

Salvation and judgment are _____ in the hand of the Lord.

God is the Sovereign One (6:25-28)

As we have seen in every chapter, God is always in control even though from our perspective we can't see it or understand it. The saints are called to walk by faith, trusting in their God and not caving to the sinful _____ around them.

This historical section of Daniel has been given to strengthen and _____ us in our most holy faith and to foreshadow the glorious gospel of Jesus Christ.