

DANIEL CHAPTER 6

Vs 1-3 With the conquest of Babylon and its surrounding territory, Darius organizes for the purpose of administering rule and collecting taxes.

Rom 13:6

He sets up 120 satraps (princes) over his empire.

Esther 1:1

He also placed 3 rulers over these satraps of which Daniel was one.

It was not long before Daniel distinguished himself to such an extent that the king planned to make him the sole ruler (under Darius) of the kingdom.

Excelling to such an extent resulted in opposition from those whom Daniel had eclipsed.

Vs 4-5A Plot Forms

Is it not a rare testimony of any human, that 119 politicians can't find a single thing in Daniel's practice which would form a ground for accusation against him?!

With that, they move to establish a conflict between official rulings of the government and Daniel's conscience and observance of the Law of God.

(Any single politician could accomplish this task.)

DANIEL – CHAPTER 6 continued

Vs 6-9A Ban on Prayer

It would appear that all the satraps came together as one in their effort to destroy Daniel (119 politicians coming together as one – It's a miracle!).

They wanted the king to declare himself as the only representative of deity.

Upon signing the decree, under the law of the Medes and Persians, it could not be revoked.

Esther 1:19; 8:8

These 119 satraps, knowing Daniel's reputation with the king, were making sure that the king would not be able to change his mind – and it also speaks to the fact that they all were certain that Daniel would violate the decree upon its issue.

Daniel, a man in his 80's who everyone in the kingdom knew, not only what he believed, but also that he would never compromise what he believed.

Vs 10-11 The Custom of Praying Toward Jerusalem was adopted by Solomon. 2 Chron 6:34-39

Prayer, 3 times a day, was a well established practice.

Ps 55:16-17

This approach to prayer continued until Christ stopped it. Jn 4:20-24

It can also be assumed that a man who was one of 3 presidents over the kingdom would be a very busy man; yet Daniel was not too busy to fail to go home 3 times a day and pray.

DANIEL – CHAPTER 6 continued

Vs 12-13 Daniel's Actions are brought before the king.

The accusers make sure, before they start, that the king is in agreement with the decree and the kind that it was.

In verse 13 they bring their charge.

Vs 14-15 The King's Response to the Situation

(Vs14) The king realized that he had been trapped, and made every effort to deliver Daniel.

(Vs15) As it often goes with politicians, there is no way out.

Vs 16-17 Darius Follows Through – and – Daniel Goes to the Lion's Den!

Literally, what Darius said was, "I have tried to save you, but have failed. Now your God must save you."

Darius said this to Daniel after he had been put into the den.

The den was a square room, divided by a wall with a door opening that separated it into two halves. It was open on the top and a stone was used to keep

the lions in one side of the den.
Thus, Darius was talking to Daniel before the door is opened to allow the lions in from the other half.
After speaking, the top is sealed with a stone.

DANIEL – CHAPTER 6 continued

Vs 18-20 A Long Night for the king
Darius's actions indicate that he was not so convinced of what he had said up to this point.
(I believe, help my unbelief!)

Vs 21-24 Daniel's Deliverance Heb 11:33
(Vs24) It may be that it was the two remaining presidents and their families that were cast into the lion's den. They would have been the spokesmen.

Killing a family for the sins of a father is not an uncommon Old Testament occurrence.
Num 16; Esther 7:9-10

Vs 25-28 The Decree of Darius
Similar to Nebuchadnezzar's Decree of 4:1,
Darius' Decree was short and to the point,
"Men are to tremble before the God of Daniel."
Daniel's God is GOD!!!
Like no other! Josh 2:11
And He has demonstrated this by delivering Daniel.

Daniel's life of service and prosperity continued.

Note: As stated above, Daniel chapter 7 and 8 happened before the events recorded in Daniel chapters 5 and 6. Belshazzar is reigning as the final king of Babylon of the Chaldeans.