

DANIEL IN THE LIONS' DEN
(Daniel 6:1-28)

- I. The IDENTITY of Darius the Mede (Dan. 6:1)
 - A. Possibly a Median DEPUTY of CYRUS named Gubaru
 - 1. SET UP transitional government
 - 2. Turned it over to CYRUS later
 - B. Possibly a Median NAME for CYRUS
 - 1. Mother, Mandara, was DAUGHTER of Astyages, LAST king of independent Media
 - 2. Father, Cambyses I, was KING of PERSIA
- II. The CHARACTER of Daniel (Daniel 6:1-5)
 - A. TRUSTED and EXALTED by the king (6:1-3)
 - 1. Established one hundred twenty GOVERNORS over provinces
 - 2. Appointed three COMMISSIONERS to oversee the governors
 - 3. Intended to make Daniel CHIEF of the COMMISSIONERS
 - B. HATED by the governors (6:4-5)
 - 1. JEALOUS of his POSITION
 - 2. RESENTFUL of his INTEGRITY
- III. The CONSPIRACY against Daniel (Daniel 6:6-11)
 - A. Involved the other COMMISSIONERS and all the GOVERNORS (6:6-9)

1. Concocted a PLAN to DESTROY Daniel
 2. Flattered the king to proclaim himself “GOD-of-the-MONTH”
 3. Laid their TRAP
- B. Provoked NO CHANGE in Daniel (6:10-11)
1. Left his WINDOWS open toward JERUSALEM
 2. CONTINUED practice of thrice-daily PRAYER
 3. Easily OBSERVED by the conspirators
- IV. The CONSEQUENCES of Daniel’s Faithfulness (Daniel 6:12-28)
- A. PERSECUTED for righteousness’ sake (6:12-17)
1. Initial GLOATING of the CONSPIRATORS
 2. Immediate REMORSE of the KING
 3. Irrevocable NATURE of the DECREE
 4. RELUCTANT action of the king
- B. CONVICTED the king by his obedient example (6:18-20)
1. King passed a TROUBLED night
 2. King experienced a FEARFUL morning
- C. Enjoyed the PROTECTION of GOD (6:21-24)
1. Lions’ mouths STOPPED
 2. Enemies DESTROYED
 3. God EXALTED
 4. Daniel PROSPERED—the kingdoms of men will come and go, but God’s PEOPLE will ALWAYS ENDURE