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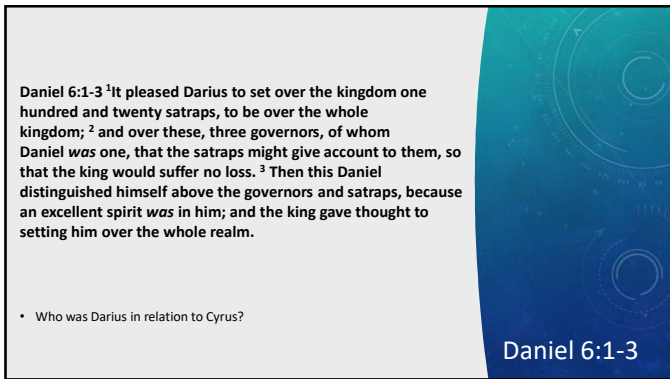
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Daniel 6:4-9 <sup>4</sup> So the governors and satraps sought to find *some* charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him. <sup>5</sup> Then these men said, "We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find *it* against him concerning the law of his God." <sup>6</sup> So these governors and satraps thronged before the king, and said thus to him: "King Darius, live forever! <sup>7</sup> All the governors of the kingdom, the administrators and satraps, the counselors and advisors, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a firm decree, that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions. <sup>8</sup> Now, O king, establish the decree and sign the writing, so that it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter." <sup>9</sup> Therefore King Darius signed the written decree.

- What lie is told in verse 6?
- How did the leaders go about discrediting Daniel?
- Was the decree made because of the king's ego?

Daniel 6:4-9

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Daniel 6:10-12 <sup>10</sup> Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days. <sup>11</sup> Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. <sup>12</sup> And they went before the king, and spoke concerning the king's decree: "Have you not signed a decree that every man who petitions any god or man within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered and said, "The thing *is* true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter."

- What is the first thing Daniel did upon learning of the decree?
- What was the composition of Daniel's prayers?

Daniel 6:10-12

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Daniel 2:18-23 <sup>18</sup> that they might seek mercies from the God of heaven concerning this secret, so that Daniel and his companions might not perish with the rest of the wise *men* of Babylon. <sup>19</sup> Then the secret was revealed to Daniel in a night vision. So Daniel blessed the God of heaven. <sup>20</sup> Daniel answered and said: "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, For wisdom and might are His. <sup>21</sup> And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding. <sup>22</sup> He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what *is* in the darkness, And light dwells with Him. <sup>23</sup> "I thank You and praise You, O God of my fathers; You have given me wisdom and might, And have now made known to me what we asked of You, For You have made known to us the king's demand."

Daniel 2:18-23

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Daniel 6:13-18 <sup>13</sup> So they answered and said before the king, "That Daniel, who is one of the captives from Judah, does not show due regard for you, O king, or for the decree that you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day." <sup>14</sup> And the king, when he heard these words, was greatly displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him; and he labored till the going down of the sun to deliver him. <sup>15</sup> Then these men approached the king, and said to the king, "Know, O king, that it is the law of the Medes and Persians that no decree or statute which the king establishes may be changed." <sup>16</sup> So the king gave the command, and they brought Daniel and cast him into the den of lions. But the king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you." <sup>17</sup> Then a stone was brought and laid on the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signets of his lords, that the purpose concerning Daniel might not be changed. <sup>18</sup> Now the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; and no musicians were brought before him. Also his sleep went from him.

- Was it true that Daniel did not show regard for the king?
- What was Darius' reaction to hearing of Daniel's prayers to God?

Daniel 6:13-18

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Daniel 6:19-23 <sup>19</sup> Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions. <sup>20</sup> And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?" <sup>21</sup> Then Daniel said to the king, "O king, live forever! <sup>22</sup> My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you." <sup>23</sup> Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.

- What profound thing does Daniel add to his statement that God found him innocent?
- What does Daniel's experience with the lions foreshadow/parallel 525 or so years later in history?

Daniel 6:19-23

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Daniel 6:24-28 <sup>24</sup> And the king gave the command, and they brought those men who had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions— them, their children, and their wives; and the lions overpowered them, and broke all their bones in pieces before they ever came to the bottom of the den. <sup>25</sup> Then King Darius wrote: To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: Peace be multiplied to you. <sup>26</sup> I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, And steadfast forever; His kingdom is the one which shall not be destroyed, And His dominion shall endure to the end. <sup>27</sup> He delivers and rescues, And He works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth, Who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions. <sup>28</sup> So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

- Why include wives and children in the death sentence?
- Did Darius give Daniel the glory?
- What profound statement does Darius make?
- What does God expect from us if His law differs from that of the land?

Daniel 6:24-28

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