

Scottish Baptist preacher, Alexander McClaren, in *Expositions of Holy Scripture*, 1908:

"It's remarkable that a character of such beauty and consecration as Daniel's should be rooted and grow out of the court where Daniel was. For this court was half shambles and half pigsty. It was filled with luxury and sensuality and lust and self-seeking and idolatry and ruthless cruelty. And in the middle of this there grew up that fair flower of character, pure and stainless by the acknowledgement of his enemies."





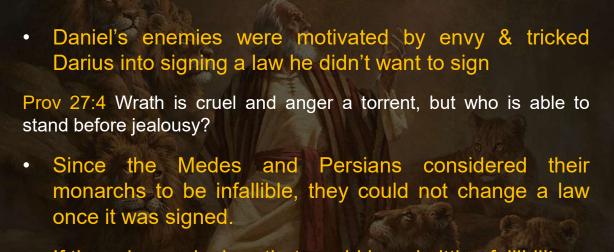
7/2/2023

7/2/2023

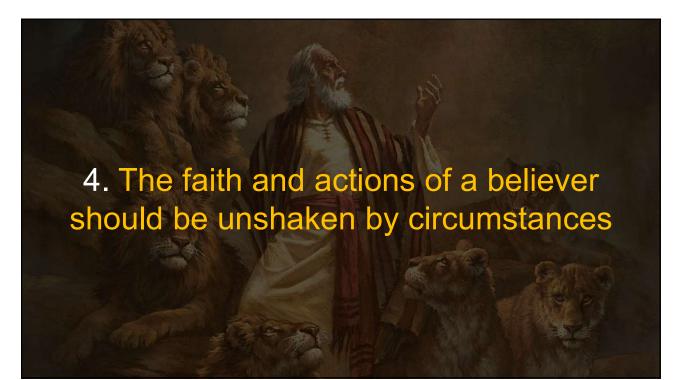
Dan 6:6-9 So these governors and satraps thronged before the king, and said thus to him: "King Darius, live forever! <sup>7</sup> All the governors of the kingdom, the administrators and satraps, the counselors and advisors, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a firm decree, 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.

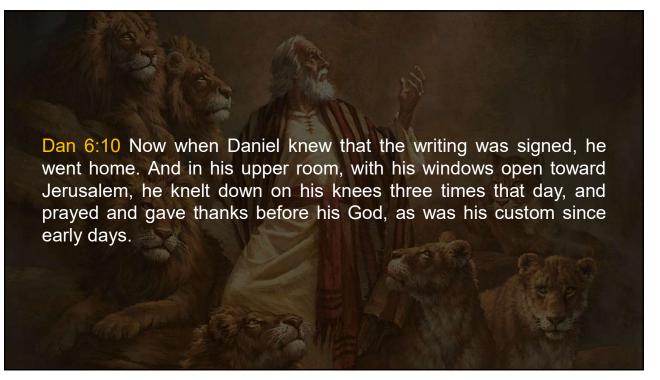
#### Government is designed to be a ministry of God:

Rom 13:1,4,6 For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. ... <sup>4</sup> For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil. ... <sup>6</sup> for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing.



• If they changed a law, that would be admitting fallibility.





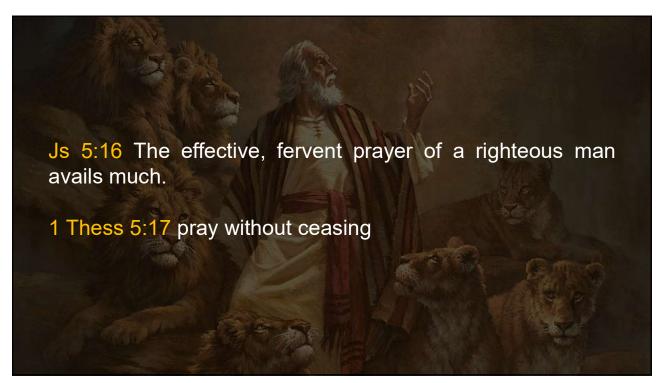
7/2/2023

5

Ps 55:17 Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, and He shall hear my voice.

**46:1-3** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. <sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, even though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; <sup>3</sup> Though its waters roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with its swelling.





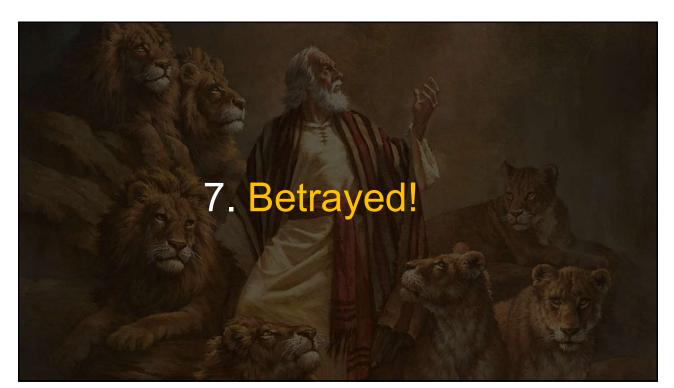




Mk 8:38 For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ

2 Tim 1:8,12,16 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God, ... nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day. ... Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me, and was not ashamed of my chain



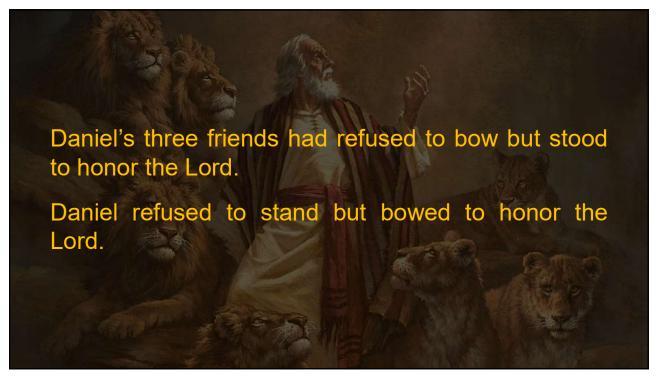
Dan 6:12-13 And they went before the king, and spoke concerning the king's decree: "Have you not signed a decree that every man who petitions any god or man within thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered and said, "The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter." <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."

## We must stand in the face of tyranny

Acts 4:19-21 But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to listen to you more than to God, you judge. <sup>20</sup>For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard." <sup>21</sup>So when they had further threatened them, they let them go, finding no way of punishing them, because of the people, since they all glorified God for what had been done.

Acts 5:29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.

Lk 22:36 Then He said to them, "But now, he who has a money bag, let him take it, and likewise a knapsack; and he who has no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one.



## We must stand in the face of betrayal

Ps 41:9 Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up his heel against me. (Mt 26:15,47-50)

2 Sam 11:14-15 In the morning it happened that David wrote a letter to Joab and sent it by the hand of Uriah. <sup>15</sup> And he wrote in the letter, saying, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hottest battle, and retreat from him, that he may be struck down and die."

2 Tim 4:10,16 for Demas has forsaken me, having loved this present world, and has departed for Thessalonica ... <sup>16</sup> At my first defense no one stood with me, but all forsook me. May it not be charged against them.



Dan 6:14-15 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."

**Ps 19:13** Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression.

Lk 1:28-32 For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it — <sup>29</sup>lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup>saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace.

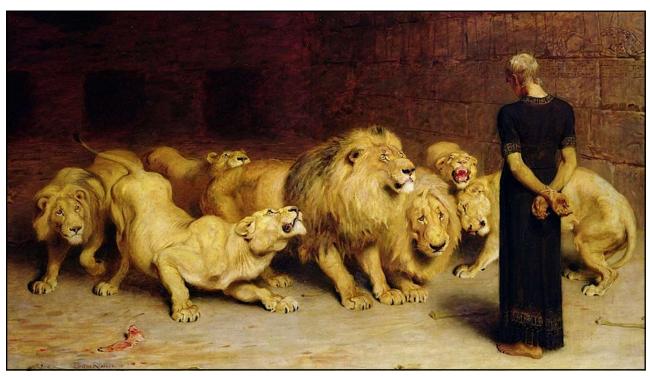
23

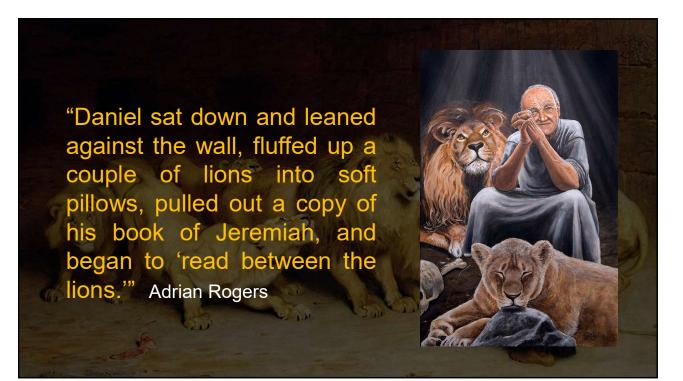
Js 4:13-16 Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow he will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit"; <sup>14</sup> whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away. <sup>15</sup> Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that." <sup>16</sup> But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.



Dan 6:16-18 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.

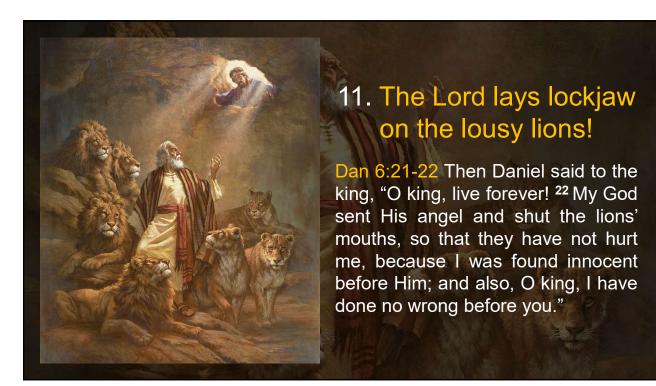




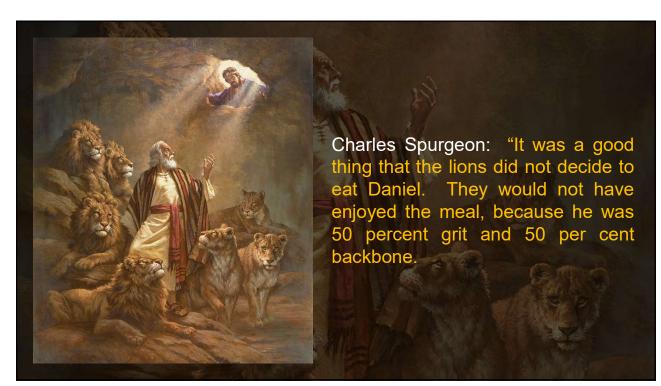


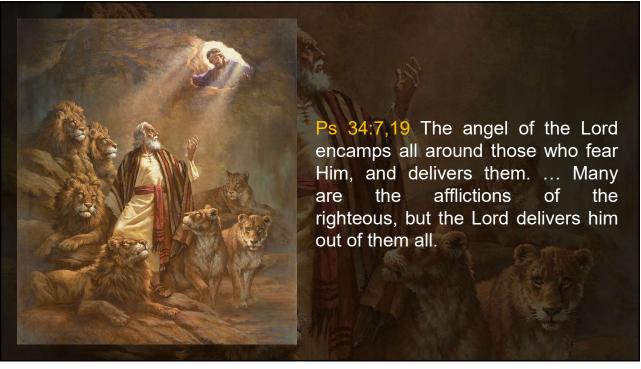


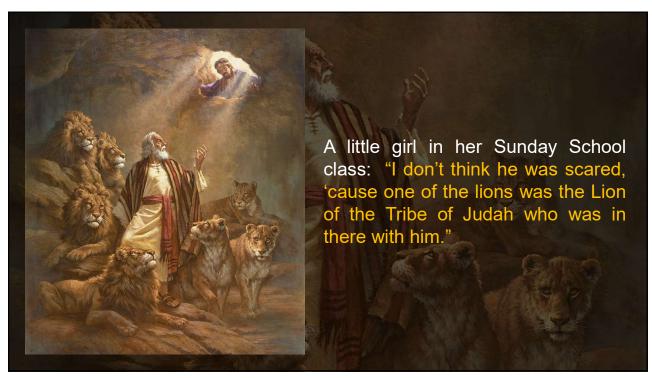
Dan 6:19-20 Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions. <sup>20</sup> And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?"

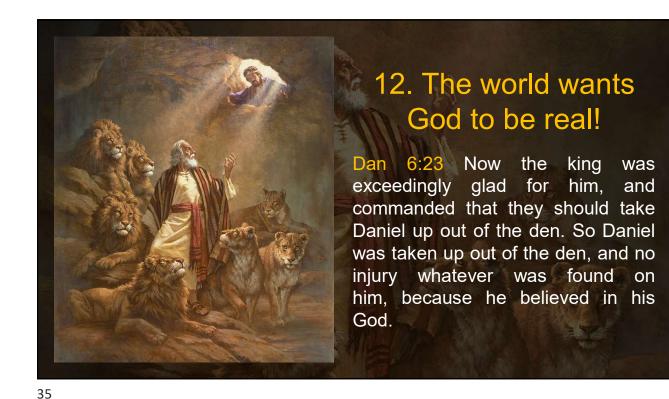


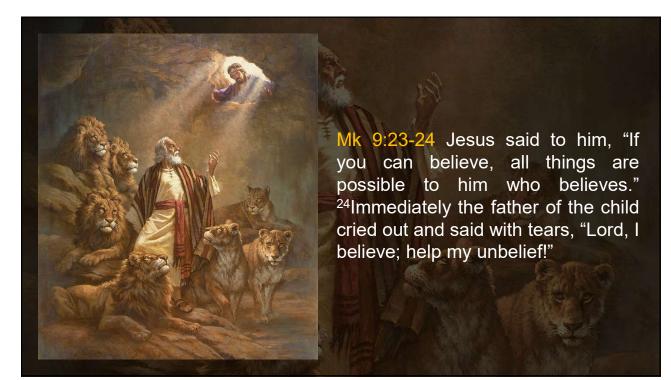






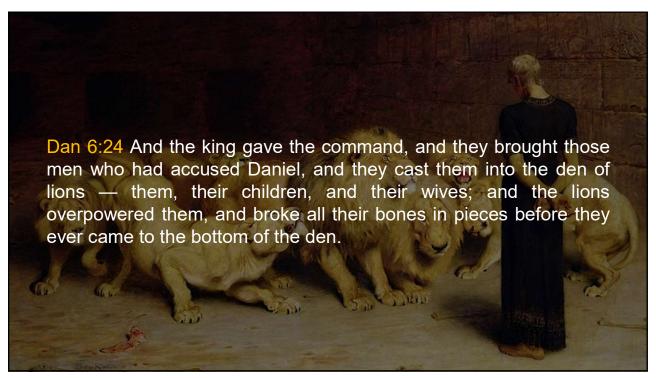




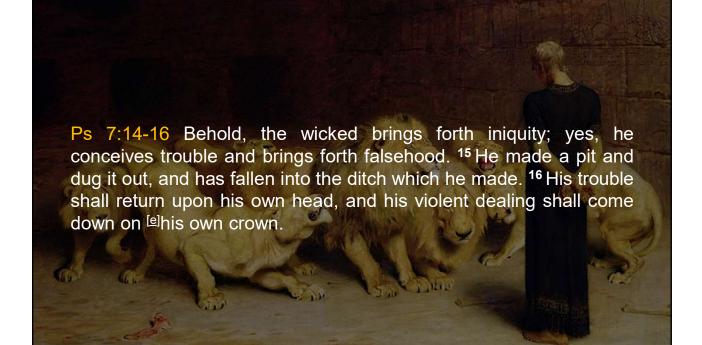


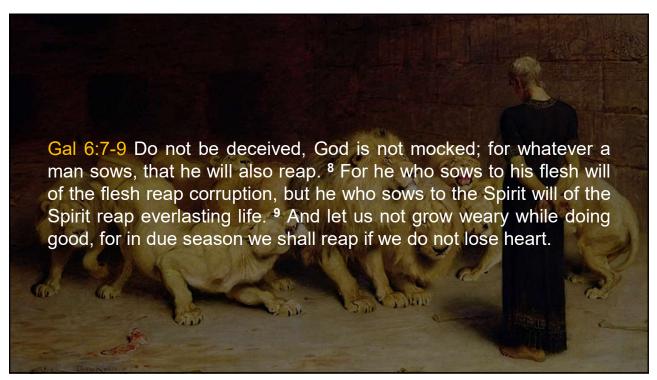
















Dan 6:25-28 Then King Darius wrote: To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: peace be multiplied to you. <sup>26</sup> I make a decree that in every dominion of my kingdom men must tremble and fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, and steadfast forever; His 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.

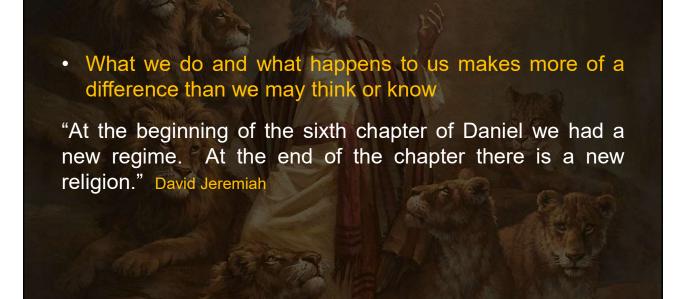
Mt 5:13-16 You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men.<sup>14</sup>"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. <sup>16</sup>Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

1 Cor 4:9 For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men.

Heb 10:32-33 But recall the former days in which, after you were illuminated, you endured a great struggle with sufferings: <sup>33</sup>partly while you were made a spectacle both by reproaches and tribulations, and partly while you became companions of those who were so treated;







# • A lion is after all of us

**Ps 17:11-12** They have now surrounded us in our steps; they have set their eyes, crouching down to the earth, <sup>12</sup> As a lion is eager to tear his prey, and like a young lion lurking in secret places.

**Ps 57:4** My soul is among lions; I lie among the sons of men who are set on fire, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

1 Pet 5:8-9 Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

### • We will be victorious - no matter how things play out

**Ps 37:39-40** But the salvation of the righteous is from the Lord; He is their strength in the time of trouble.<sup>40</sup>And the Lord shall help them and deliver them; He shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in Him.

**2** Pet 2:9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to reserve the unjust under punishment for the day of judgment,

1 Cor 10:13 No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

Js 1:12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.



#### Grace Abounding to the Chief of Sinners:

"O the thoughts of the hardships I thought my blind one might go under, would break my heart to pieces. Poor child, thought I, what sorrow must thou have for thy portion in this world? ... If nothing will do unless I make of my conscience a continual butchery and slaughter shop, unless putting out my own eyes, ... I have determined, the Almighty God being my help and shield, yet to suffer, if frail life might continue so long, even till the moss shall grow on mine eyebrows, rather than thus to violate my faith and principles."