#### "Daniel In The Lions Den" Daniel 6: 1-7

Judah's 70 years of captivity ends with Belshazzar's death -

This was God's promise that captured Judah would be restored to the land -

<u>Isaiah 44: 26-28</u>

<u>Isaiah 45: 13</u>

150 years before it occurred, as prophesied by the prophet Isaiah, Cyrus is named and lets the people go back to Jerusalem - just like the Bible said!!

WHO'S IN CHARGE?

GOD!!

#### <u>Verse 1 - 3</u>

#### Daniel has favor

## The man of God, favored by God, had an excellent spirit and attitude, and the king noticed!

- People take notice of an excellent spirit and a great attitude!
- A positive attitude can be cultivated
- A negative attitude can be changed; you must make the decision to change!
- Darius notices Daniel's spirit and promotes him

#### <u>Verse 4 - 9</u>

A jealous plot to destroy Daniel

Daniel's life of honor and faithfulness starts with God; if that is in order, other things will follow

A common enemy tactic is to attack your faith (Baker and Florist)

The line has been drawn!

Bow to the culture's mores, values, idols and gods <u>OR</u> be faithful to the true God!!

#### **The Plot:**

Attack Daniel's God Attack Daniel's belief

Daniel determined in his heart to be a God follower, not a cultural compromiser!

#### Verse 10 - 11

#### The prayer of Daniel

## Daniel heard the edict; Daniel knew what was at stake, but Daniel prayed!!

The Christian is to be an excellent citizen and obey the government laws - Romans 13: 1-2

**UNLESS** the government requires disobedience to God's Word - **Exodus 1: 17**; **Daniel 3: 16**;

Acts 5: 28-29

#### **Verse 12 - 15**

The plot to persecute Daniel

### Cyrus fell into the pride trap and flattery trap and rued the day!

Cyrus was greatly displeased with himself and he labored to free Daniel - <u>verse 14</u>

The king panicked, but Daniel didn't!

- 1) The Lord was with Daniel Daniel 6: 22
- 2) Daniel had a different attitude, spirit and countenance <u>Daniel 6: 3</u>
- 3) Daniel did not fear people or their plots <u>Proverbs 29: 25</u>
- 4) Daniel did not use age (80's) as a reason to retreat Hebrews 12: 1

Know that when you are prosecuted for your faith that God will get you to the finish line!

## Verse 16 - 17 Daniel had no regrets

#### What you see in Daniel is:

No self-pity, no plea for release, no "poor me", not "why me?"

#### You see:

A total trust in God no matter what! NO REGRETS!!

#### **REMEMBER:**

The essence of faith is the willingness to serve God without a guarantee

#### <u>CONCLUSION</u>: DANIEL IN THE LIONS DEN (PART 1)

How we respond to life's challenges and shocks is determined by how we are dwelling in Christ -

Daniel knew that God is sovereign and in control, through the good, the bad and the ugly!

#### <u>CONCLUSION</u>: DANIEL IN THE LIONS DEN (PART 1)

The lion's den is not unique 
How you face the lion's den

with God's strength is unique!!

So that the world may know that we have been with Jesus!!

# SO THAT THE WORLD MAY KNOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN WITH JESUS!