

Great Stories of the Bible
Part 4

*Darius the Mede decided to divide the kingdom into 120 provinces, and he appointed a high officer to rule over each province. The king also chose Daniel and two others as administrators to supervise the high officers and protect the king's interests. Daniel soon proved himself more capable than all the other administrators and high officers. Because of Daniel's great ability, the king made plans to place him over the entire empire. **Daniel 6:1-3***

*So the administrators and high officers went to the king and said, "Long live the King Darius!" We are all in agreement - we administrators, officials, high officers, advisors, and governors - that the king should make a law that will be strictly enforced. Give orders that for the next 30 days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human - except to you, Your Majesty - will be thrown into the den of lions. **Daniel 6:6-7***

*But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done, giving thanks to his God. **Daniel 6:10***

*Hearing this, the king was deeply troubled, and he tried to think of a way to save Daniel. He spent the rest of the day looking for a way to get Daniel out of this predicament. In the evening the men went together to the king and said, "Your Majesty, you know that according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, no law that the king signs can be changed." So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, "May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you. A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den. The king sealed the stone with his own royal seal and the seals of his nobles, so that no one could rescue Daniel. Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night fasting. He refused his usual entertainment and couldn't sleep at all that night. **Daniel 6:14-18***

How Do You Build A Reputation That Blesses:

If people in your family or friends who know you best were asked to write down the top two or three commitments of your life, would Jesus make the list?

*You will be hated by all nations because of Me. **Matthew 24:9***

*God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers ... remember the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way. **Matthew 5:11-13***

*These things happened to them as examples for us. They were written down to warn us who live at the end of the age. **1 Corinthians 10:11***

If it was against the law to be a Christian would there be enough evidence against you to find you guilty?

*Very early the next morning, the king got up and hurried out to the lion's den. When he got there, he called out in anguish, "Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you serve so faithfully, able to rescue you from the lions?" Daniel answered, "Long live the king! My God sent his angel to shut the lion's mouths so that they would not hurt me, for I have been found innocent in his sight. And I have not wronged you, Your Majesty." The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. Not a scratch was found on him, for he had trusted in his God. Then the king gave orders to arrest the men who had maliciously accused Daniel. He had them thrown into the lion's den along with their wives and children. The lion's leaped on them and tore them apart before they even hit the floor of the den. **Daniel 6:19-24***

My life becomes a stage upon which God shows Himself to others

*I decree that everyone throughout my kingdom should tremble with fear before the God of Daniel. For he is the living God, and he will endure forever. His kingdom will never be destroyed, and his rule will never end. He rescues and saves his people; he performs miraculous and signs and wonders in the heavens and on earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions. **Daniel 6:26-27***

Sovereign: supreme ruler;
possessing ultimate power

*... being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every other name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. **Philippians 2:8-11***

*They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because He is the Lord of lords, and King of kings - and with Him will be His called, chosen and faithful followers. **Revelation 17:14***