

Trust God when “Lions” Threaten!

Babylonia (626-539)- Nebuchadnezzar (605-562), Nabonidus / Belshazzar (562-539)
Medo-Persia (539-330) - **Darius the Mede** / King Cyrus (539-530), King Darius (521-486)

³⁰ That very night Belshazzar, the Babylonian king, was killed.

³¹ And **Darius the Mede** took over the kingdom at the age of sixty-two. **Daniel 5:22-31**

¹ Darius the Mede divided the kingdom into 120 provinces, appointing a high officer to rule over each province. ² The king also chose **Daniel** and two others as administrators to supervise the high officers and protect the king’s interests. ³ 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.

⁴ Then the other administrators and high officers began searching for some fault in the way Daniel was handling government affairs, but they couldn’t find anything to criticize or condemn. He was **faithful**, always **responsible**, and completely **trustworthy**. ⁵ So they concluded, “Our only chance of finding grounds for accusing Daniel will be in connection with the rules of his religion.” **Daniel 6:1-5**

➤ Put God first and let him make you distinctive !

⁶ So the administrators and high officers went to the king and said, “Long live King Darius! ⁷ We are all in agreement—we administrators, officials, high officers, advisers, and governors—that the king should make a law that will be strictly enforced. Give orders that for the next thirty days **any person** who prays to anyone, divine or human-except to you, **Your Majesty**—will be thrown into the den of lions. ⁸ And now, Your Majesty, issue and sign this law so it **cannot be changed**, an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked.” ⁹ So King Darius signed the law.

¹⁰ But when **Daniel** learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down 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**. ¹¹ Then the officials went together to Daniel’s house and found him praying and asking for God’s help. ¹² So they went straight to the king and reminded him about his law... “Yes,” the king replied, “that decision stands; it is an official law of the Medes and Persians that **cannot be revoked**.” ¹³ Then they told the king, “That man Daniel, one of the captives from Judah, is **ignoring you and your law**. He still prays to his God three times a day.” **Daniel 6:6-13**

➤ Remember God is greater than any conspiracy !

¹⁴ Hearing this, **the king** was deeply troubled, and he tried to save Daniel. He spent the day looking for a way to get Daniel out of this predicament.

¹⁵ 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, that a law the king signs **cannot be changed**.” ¹⁶ So 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.**”

¹⁷ 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 Daniel’s situation **could not be changed**. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ Very early at **sunrise** the next morning, the king got up and hurried out to the lions’ den. ²⁰ 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?**”

²¹ Daniel answered, “Long live the king! ²² **My God** sent his angel to shut the lions’ 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.”

²³ The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. **No wound** was found on him, for **he had trusted in his God**. **Daniel 6:14-23**

➤ Turn to God when your “lions” threaten !

> God changed what “could not be changed”.
 His changes often starts within us first...

> What “lion-like” threats are you facing...

Now? From your past? In your future?

> Find hope in these parallels...

Daniel & the Lion’s Den

Jesus’ Trial, Cross & Tomb

Disciples in Locked Room



Daniel & The Dream Weaver

*"Praise be to the name of God for ever and ever;
wisdom and power are his. He changes times and seasons;
he sets up kings and deposes them... and light dwells with him.
Daniel 2:20-22*

Sundays 10:00 am

- Jan. 3 ***Trust God in Great Difficulty (1)***
- Jan. 10 ***Look to God for Sovereign Help (2a)***
- Jan. 17 ***Hope in God's Coming Kingdom (2b)***
- Jan. 24 ***Rest in Worship of God Alone (3)***
- Jan. 31 ***Avoid Exalting Self over God (4)***
- Feb. 7 ***God Reigns; Learn from His Rain (5)***
- Feb. 14 ***Trust God when Lions Threaten (6)***

Crossroads Church
Discovering Life Connected with God
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Crossroads Church

Discovering Life Connected with God!

Our Vision

To be a dynamic and diverse family of believers in Jesus Christ connected in transforming relationships with God, each other, and our world!

Our Purpose and Mission

To connect people with God, God's family, and God's mission through a transforming relationship with Jesus Christ!

Our Strategy

To fulfill God's purpose in our lives through a balanced commitment to love God with our entire being and to love our neighbor as ourselves, according to God's Great Commandment and Great Commission in the Bible.

Our Commitment

Growth

To speak and act more like Jesus Christ each day of our lives.
To reach people disconnected from God with the love of Jesus.

Relationships

To develop depth, consistency, and closeness in our walk with Jesus.
To share life and spiritual journey together with each other.

Relevance

To apply God's truths and principles to life in practical ways.
To engage and meaningfully share Jesus with people.

Involvement

To participate in church family relationships and responsibilities.
To discover and contribute our dynamic and diverse abilities.

Truth

To value Jesus Christ and the Bible as God's eternal revelation to us.
To believe and center on Jesus Christ as forgiver and life leader.

Let's Catch the Vision and Share the Mission Together!

"We are an autonomous, biblically-based church family that actively partners locally and internationally to fulfill our mission to connect people in transforming relationship with Jesus Christ!"