



# CAPITOL COMMISSION®

## Deceitful Legislation Weaponized to Destroy Daniel

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**Daniel 6:6-10** *So these governors and satraps thronged before the king, and said thus to him: “King Darius, live forever! 7) 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. 8) 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.” 9) Therefore, King Darius signed the written decree. 10) 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. (NKJV)*

### FOCUS ON FUTURE BIBLE STUDIES:

- > FEBRUARY 29: DANIEL 6:11-15 *THE KING IS TRAPPED BY HIS OWN PRIDE!*
- > APRIL 10-12: DANIEL 6:16-23 *DANIEL’S FAITH IN GOD CONQUERS THE LIONS AND FILLS THE KING!*

Other than the Lord Jesus Christ, who at times would spend all night, or much of the night, in prayer (Mt. 14:23, Mk. 1:35, Lk. 6:12, 11:1-13), Daniel seems to understand most the essential necessity of prayer. In the letter written to both Nebuchadnezzar and “*all who were carried away captive*” (Jeremiah 29:4), they were instructed specifically to “*seek the peace of the city where I have caused you to be carried away captive, and pray to the LORD for it; for in its peace you will have peace*” (29:7). Then Jeremiah set a deadline for their return, specifically in answer to their fervent prayers: “*For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place. For I know the thoughts that I have toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope. Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you. And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity*” (29:10-14). Since there were three deportations, Daniel does not know which one that God is referring to in application of the seventy years, but he knows that the time is about up from the time of his deportation. Thus, it was at this time that Daniel was fervently praying his prayer in Daniel 9. What seems to break the heart of Daniel the most is their lack of repentance: “*As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth. Therefore the LORD has kept the disaster in mind, and brought it upon us; for the LORD our God is righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice*” (Daniel 9:13-14). By the plural pronouns “*we*” and “*our*,” it seems that Daniel is aware that no one else is earnestly praying but himself!

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*MOREOVER AS FOR ME, GOD FORBID THAT I SHOULD SIN AGAINST THE LORD IN CEASING TO PRAY FOR YOU: BUT I WILL TEACH YOU THE GOOD AND THE RIGHT WAY: ONLY FEAR THE LORD AND SERVE HIM IN TRUTH WITH ALL YOUR HEART: FOR CONSIDER WHAT GREAT THINGS HE HATH DONE FOR YOU. I SAMUEL 12:23-24*

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How many forms of manipulation do these corrupt leaders use against their king? Do they require an immediate decision so that the king will have no time to think about this decree? Is their deceit an outright lie? Does the fact that the decree cannot be altered form a trap for the king? Did he sign it immediately? What was Daniel’s seasoned response?

### BIBLE STUDIES

THURSDAY @ 6:30 AM –PRAYER MEETING – GAB 14<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR SPEAKER’S CONFERENCE ROOM

THURSDAY @ 7:00 AM –BIBLE STUDY – GAB 14<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR SPEAKER’S CONFERENCE ROOM

# Virginia

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IF MY PEOPLE WHO ARE CALLED BY MY NAME WILL HUMBLE THEMSELVES AND PRAY AND SEEK MY FACE, AND TURN FROM THEIR WICKED WAYS, THEN I WILL HEAR FROM HEAVEN, AND WILL FORGIVE THEIR SIN AND HEAL THEIR LAND. 2 CHRONICLES 7:14

THESE SIX THINGS THE LORD HATES, YES, SEVEN ARE AN ABOMINATION TO HIM: A PROUD LOOK, A LYING TONGUE, HANDS THAT SHED INNOCENT BLOOD, A HEART THAT DEVISES WICKED PLANS, FEET THAT ARE SWIFT IN RUNNING TO EVIL, A FALSE WITNESS THAT SPEAKS LIES, AND ONE WHO SOWS DISCORD AMONG BRETHREN. PROVERBS 6:16-19

### I. LYING LEGISLATION

#### DANIEL 6:6-7

These deceitful leaders used every possible means of manipulation and advantage to overwhelm the king into doing what they wanted. *“So these governors and satraps thronged before the king.”* They brought plenty of leaders into the throne room before the king to apply group pressure upon him. This word *“thronged”* also carries the concept of disorderly conduct, so they are likely putting on a big show of how excited they are about this new legislation they have prepared. Additionally, this word can carry the concept of conspiracy in that they are all acting deceitfully for a hidden purpose to which they have all agreed. So after their salutation, the first word out of their mouth is a blatant lie! This word *“All”* would include Daniel who is obviously missing and who is the object of their conspiracy. Then they continue to lie and add other leaders who would have known nothing of this conspiracy, because they are local leaders throughout the kingdom. *“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.”* They present themselves as having not only a majority, but unanimous approval of all the leaders. The requirements of this legislation are only temporary—just thirty days, so they assure the king that there is nothing to worry about; *“that whoever petitions any god or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions.”* They would have stroked the king with the idea that this would unite everyone under him religiously as the ultimate priest to all the gods throughout the empire and this was a loyalty test. They have already documented the legislation so all that was necessary was the king’s personal signature.

### II. IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION DANIEL 6:8-9

Another means of manipulation and advantage is to give the king the shortest amount of time so he cannot think about it or ask any questions, lest he might realize that Daniel is not there, or think about the fact that Daniel is usually missing from the court three times a day in order to pray. So they begin with the word, *“Now”* to acquire the immediate response that they want. They know that if they can get a quick decision, then the king will be trapped because *“it cannot be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which does not alter.”* The deceit and demand worked and the king hastily signed the decree.

DO YOU SEE A MAN HASTY IN HIS WORDS? THERE IS MORE HOPE FOR A FOOL THAN FOR HIM. PROVERBS 29:20

### III. SEASONED SUPPLICATION DANIEL 6:10

Daniel’s response to the decree devised for his demise was to continue his Scripture seasoned trust in God and obedience to Him and His Word, the same way he had always done. He went home and with his windows still open, prayed toward Jerusalem in obedience to 1 Kings 8:46-52 & Psalm 5:7. He knelt down like King Solomon (2 Chronicles 6:13), continuing to pray three times a day as exemplified by King David in Psalm 55:17. Most beautiful is that he not only *“prayed,”* but on this occasion he even *“gave thanks”* (Ps. 100:4-5). Literally he continued *“all before that he had been doing from before this.”*

#### Questions to Ponder:

- 1) Are you an example in persuading others to do good or do you manipulate others to do evil?
- 2) Do you manipulate others to make hasty decisions so that they do not have time to ponder it carefully?
- 3) In time of crisis, do you continue to trust God in coming to Him in prayer and obedience to His eternal Word?