



# CAPITOL COMMISSION®

## The Profound Innocence and Power of Daniel

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Pastor David Andersen / 804-683-2285 / PO Box 2020, Chesterfield, VA 23832 / David.Andersen@capitolcom.org

**Daniel 6:1-5** *It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom one hundred and twenty satraps, to be over the whole kingdom; 2) and over these, three governors, of whom Daniel was one, that the satraps might give account to them, so that the king would suffer no loss. 3) Then this Daniel distinguished himself above the governors and satraps, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king gave thought to setting him over the whole realm. 4) So the governors and satraps sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find no charge or fault, because he was faithful; nor was there any error or fault found in him. 5) Then these men said, “We shall not find any charge against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the law of his God.” (NKJV)*

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THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME AGAIN TO ME, SAYING:  
“SON OF MAN, WHEN A LAND SINS AGAINST ME BY  
PERSISTANT UNFAITHFULNESS, I WILL STRETCH OUT MY  
HAND AGAINST IT ... EVEN IF THESE THREE MEN, NOAH,  
DANIEL, AND JOB, WERE IN IT, THEY WOULD DELIVER ONLY  
THEMSELVES BY THEIR RIGHTEOUSNESS,” SAYS THE LORD  
GOD. EZEKIEL 14:12-14

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Is Darius a conscientious and effective administrator? How was Daniel immediately given this responsibility of authority? What one thing is described as their collective responsibility? In what way did Daniel distinguish himself above the others? Did Daniel have the capacity to oversee the entire Medo-Persian Empire? Why were the other leaders so antagonistic against Daniel and his possible promotion? When they could not find any dirt on Daniel, did they give up? What was Daniel most known for to all of those around him?

### FOCUS ON FUTURE BIBLE STUDIES:

- > FEBRUARY 22: DANIEL 6:6-10 *DECEITFUL LEGISLATION IS WEAPONIZED TO DESTROY DANIEL!*
- > FEBRUARY 29: DANIEL 6:11-15 *THE KING IS TRAPPED BY HIS OWN PRIDE!*

Daniel is now over eighty years old. He knew that God was blessing his prayers and his leadership in protecting his people while they are captive in a foreign land. God had already used his leadership and that of his three friends for many years during the Babylonian Empire under Nebuchadnezzar. Not only had God manifested his great power in rescuing Daniel’s three friends from the fiery furnace but the king had even issued “*a decree that any people, nation, or language which speaks anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made an ash heap; because there is no other God who can deliver like this*” (Daniel 3:29). Then God had miraculously answered his prayers and the great King Nebuchadnezzar, after seven years of humbly eating grass, had embraced “*the King of heaven*” (4:36) and “*blessed the Most High*” (4:34) and repented of his “*pride*” (4:36) in a public letter “*To all peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth*” (4:1). That empire had ended when Nebuchadnezzar’s son, Belshazzar, had again sought to attack the God of Israel by desecrating the golden vessels taken from Solomon’s Temple and God had personally written his epitaph upon the wall that his kingdom was “*finished*,” because he had been “*weighed in the balances and found wanting*,” thus his “*kingdom has been divided and given to the Medes and the Persians*” (5:26-28). Now that Darius the Mede was ruling the empire, there were no protections for the people of Israel except the leadership of one elderly statesman.

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EVENING AND MORNING AND AT NOON I WILL PRAY, AND  
CRY ALOUD, AND HE SHALL HEAR MY VOICE.  
PSALM 55:17

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### 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

## The Profound Innocence and Power of Daniel

### I. HIS CALLING

#### DANIEL 6:1-3

Though he was made an emasculated slave, Daniel excelled in the early years of his schooling in Babylon, so that when he was examined by King Nebuchadnezzar at the end of his training, he and his friends were found to be “*ten times better*” (1:20) than all the other exiles subjected to the same rigorous academics. Soon their lives were threatened because the king wanted to have not only the interpretation of his dream, but wanted to prove that they had the correct interpretation by giving him the dream itself! When Daniel told Nebuchadnezzar his dream and the interpretation, he was promoted to be “*ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief administrator over all the wise men of Babylon*” (2:48). He would have continued in this role until the death of Nebuchadnezzar in 562 BC, a span of about forty years, from probably about 17 to 57 years of age. Since Belshazzar did not seem to know him, then the last ten years he probably held a lower position, but he had been elevated over the entire empire the night the Babylonian empire fell. Darius the Mede had the responsibility of establishing the new empire, raising taxes and keeping the peace. So he chose 120 satraps to govern locally with three presidents to whom they answered in the capital. Daniel was the “*first*” (KJV) of these presidents. Darius needed a reliable and trustworthy man with experience and capacity to bring in check the rampant corruption of the previous empire. When Daniel “*distinguished himself above*” all the others, with his “*excellent spirit*” from the “*Spirit of the Holy God*” (5:11), Darius knew he had the right man for the job.

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**THE MOST HIGH RULES IN THE KINGDOM OF MEN, AND GIVES IT TO WHOMEVER HE CHOOSES.**

**DANIEL 4:25**

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### II. HIS CLEANNESS

#### DANIEL 6:4

Likely most of the other leaders in the administration of King Darius were Medes or Persians who had enjoyed

the conquest and felt that they had earned an opportunity to rule in the new empire, so they probably first despised Daniel because he was not one of them. Secondly, they would have despised his age. Thirdly, they would have despised his character in that they could not commit corruption or get by with slack performance. Fourthly, they would have despised his promotion over all of them, making them all accountable to him. Fifthly, they were envious because they did not get the promotion. Sixthly, Satan always despises God’s people and moves his own to do the same. Finally and most significantly, they would have despised his slavery and his Jewish heritage (6:13), which made him committed to the Most High God and His Word. So they “*sought to find some charge against Daniel concerning the kingdom.*” To their great disappointment, they could not find anything, no corruption and no neglect. But his faithfulness did not stop their evil plotting, investigation and conspiracy against him.

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**WRATH IS CRUEL, AND ANGER IS OUTRAGEOUS, BUT WHO CAN STAND BEFORE ENVY? PROVERBS 27:4**

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### III. HIS COMPULSION

#### DANIEL 6:5

Daniel’s greatest motivation was tied to a letter from the prophet Jeremiah written to King Nebuchadnezzar to tell God’s people how they were to respond to their slavery or captivity. They were to build houses and marry in order to increase (which Daniel could not do as a eunuch). Most importantly, they were to pray for their enemies around them, seeking their peace, for in their “*peace you will have peace*” (Jeremiah 29:7). And after 70 years, “*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 ... and I will bring you back from your captivity*” (29:12-14). The seventy years are almost up and Daniel has begun to pray with “*fasting, sackcloth, and ashes*” (Dan. 9:2-3) but it seems he is alone in his intense “*prayer before the LORD our God*” (9:13).

#### Questions to Ponder:

- 1) Are you faithful to your calling to your place of authority and without corruption and neglect?
- 2) Or do you find yourself against God’s people and His Word in many of the decisions that you make?
- 3) Is your life compelled by prayer for the eternal peace of other leaders around you, even your enemies?