

YOUNG DANIEL

1:4 Without physical defect and handsome

Had aptitude for every kind of learning

Well informed and quick to understand

Able to teach Babylonian language and lit.

1:8 Resolved to remain undefiled

1:17 Had God-given knowledge and understanding

Made able to understand dreams and visions



THE ANCIENTS WERE
COMMENDED:
DELIVERED FROM THE DEN

Daniel 6

OLD DANIEL

By this point, Daniel has seen kings come and go, and he is no longer a young man. He's in his 80s now.

S'pose Daniel's lost that idealism of his youth?

“Be faithful, even to the point of death,
and I will give you the crown of life.”

- Jesus, Rev. 2:10

SCRUTINIZING THE CAPTIVE 6:1-5

Daniel - one of 3 administrators over Babylon,
entrusted to keep the king from suffering loss (Vs. 3)

No work-related grounds for charges
Neither corrupt nor negligent

Now that's a reputation to chase hard after!

LAYING A TRAP 6:6-9

Conspired against by his equals and his subordinates
(yet didn't stoop to their level)

“O king...(We) have all agreed... anyone who prays to any god or man during the next 30 days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lion's den...So King Darius put the decree in writing.”

6:10-12

Note Daniel's steadfastness – his first response:

Not organizing a march nor preparing a petition. Not whining on social media.

He simply prayed toward Jerusalem (1 Kings 8:44-49)

From his usual place.

With the windows open.

3 times each day.



What did Daniel pray?

He gave thanks to God, as was his custom.

He asked God for help.

Of note:

Daniel's prayer appears to be out of a pure heart. He prayed out of obedience to God, not out of defiance to the king. (See Acts 5:29)



“DANIEL, ONE OF THE EXILES...”
6:13-15

Really? After nearly 70 years?

Have you ever noticed how the enemy often tries to drag you back to who you used to be? (Rev. 12:10)

But wait: this also was a great clue to what made Daniel stand out




6:16-18

Daniel is cast into the den of lions, as promised, although the king was grieved to see it.

“May your God...” Not the king’s god

“Whom you serve continually”

This is key to EVERYTHING we read of Daniel



6:19-20

“Has your God...been able to rescue you?”

See Isaiah 40



6:21-23

Daniel delivered w/o a wound! What a mighty God we serve!!


“My God sent His angel and he shut the mouths of the lions...”

The same who was with Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego? Perhaps

PERSIAN JUDGEMENT 6:24

The accusers, plus their wives and children, were cast into the den.

Note the hunger of the lions. Critics suggest that the lions were either toothless or already well-fed when Daniel arrived.



6:25-28

The power of God at work
through the life of a faithful witness

“You will receive power when the Holy comes on you,
and you will be My witnesses...”

Will we be found faithful?