

**Messenger:** "Peace and prosperity to you!  
26 "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.

27 He rescues and saves his people; he performs  
miraculous signs and wonders in the heavens and on  
earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the  
lions."

**Narrator:** 28 So Daniel prospered during the reign  
of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian. (? 6)

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## Men of Faith: **DANIEL** **IN** **THE LIONS' DEN**



Early in Daniel's life ... *Daniel made up his mind  
not to defile himself  
by eating the food and wine given to them  
by the king.  
He asked the chief official for permission  
to eat other things instead.*

### Characters in the story:

**Narrator:** Story teller

**Administrators & princes:** Men jealous of Daniel

**King Darius:** King of the Medes & Persians

**Daniel:** He trusted in & obeyed God

**Messenger:** Read the King's message

**Lions:** Eat up the bad guys

**Soldiers:** Throw the bad guys into the lion's den

### Daniel in the Lions' Den

Daniel 6:1-28

**Narrator:** A long time ago, there was a man named Daniel who loved and obeyed God even in a foreign land.

Daniel's nation, the Children of Israel, had done some very bad things, so God sent a foreign king to Israel to destroy the country. The King then took some of the young men from Israel back to his country as captives. Daniel was one of these young men. In Babylon God watched over Daniel and had him elevated to a high office in the kingdom.

One day ... (King) *Darius the Mede* decided to divide the kingdom into 120 provinces, and he appointed a prince to rule over each province.

2 The king also chose Daniel and two others as administrators to supervise the princes and to watch out for the king's interests.

3 Daniel soon proved himself more capable than all the other administrators and princes. Because of his great ability, the king made plans to place him over the entire empire.



**Narrator:** 23 The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. Not a scratch was found on him because he had trusted in his God.

24 Then the king gave orders to arrest the men who had maliciously accused Daniel. He had them thrown into the lions' den, along with their wives and children. The lions leaped on them and tore them apart before they even hit the floor of the den. (? 5)

25 Then King Darius sent this message to the people of every race and nation and language throughout the world:

**Administrators & princes:** *"Your Majesty knows that according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, no law that the king signs can be changed."*

**Narrator:** 16 So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him,

**King Darius:** *"May your God, whom you worship continually, rescue you."*

**Narrator:** 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 no one could rescue Daniel from the lions.

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 the next morning, the king hurried out to the lions' den. When he got there, he called out in anguish,

**King Darius:** *"Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you worship continually, able to rescue you from the lions?"* (? 4)

**Narrator:** 21 Daniel answered,

**Daniel:** *"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."*

4. Then the other administrators and princes began searching for some fault in the way Daniel was handling his affairs, but they couldn't find anything to criticize. He was faithful and honest and always responsible. So they concluded,

**Administrators & princes:** *"Our only chance of finding grounds for accusing Daniel will be in connection with the requirements of his religion."* (?1 )

**Narrator:** 6 So the administrators and princes went to the king and said,



**Administrators & Princes  
before King Darius**

**Administrators & princes:** *"Long live King Darius! 7 We administrators, prefects, princes, advisers, and other officials have unanimously agreed that Your Majesty should make a law that will be strictly enforced. Give orders that for the next thirty days anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human--except to Your Majesty--will be thrown to the lions. 8 And let Your Majesty issue and sign this law so it cannot be changed, a law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked."*

**Narrator:** *9 So King Darius signed the law. 10 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. (? 2)*



*11 The officials went together to Daniel's house and found him praying and asking for God's help. 12 So they went back to the king and reminded him about his law.*

**Administrators & princes:** *"Did you not sign a law that for the next thirty days anyone who prays to anyone, divine or human--except to Your Majesty--will be thrown to the lions?"*

**King Darius:** *"Yes,"*

**Narrator:** *the king replied,*

**King Darius:** *"that decision stands; it is a law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be revoked."*

**Narrator:** *13 Then they told the king,*

**Administrators & princes:** *"That man Daniel, one of the captives from Judah, is paying no attention to you or your law. He still prays to his God three times a day."*

**Narrator:** *14 Hearing this, the king was very angry with himself for signing the law, and he tried to find a way to save Daniel. He spent the rest of the day looking for a way to get Daniel out of this predicament. (? 3)*

*15 In the evening the men went together to the king and said,*