Be Ready.

Daniel: Lesson 6 of 7: MANUP.org

Q: What would you do if you **KNEW** that your home would be attacked tonight?

A: You'd **BE READY** for the attack!

One of the major truths we've learned from the book of Daniel is that the enemy **NEVER GIVES UP!**

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Daniel 6:1-9 (Page 950)

¹ Darius the Mede decided to divide the kingdom into 120 provinces, and he appointed 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." 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.

"Daniel went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem. He prayed 3 times a day, just as he had ALWAYS done, giving thanks to his God."

- Daniel 6:10

The Truth about Battles.

- It's not a matter of <u>IF</u> but <u>WHEN</u>.
- Your biggest battle probably won't be a big <u>SIN</u> but a little <u>COMPROMISE</u>.
- Your biggest battle might still be in <u>FRONT</u> of you.
- Your biggest battle can also be your biggest <u>VICTORY</u>.
- You have to be ready <u>BEFORE</u> the battle if you ever expect to make it <u>THROUGH</u> the battle.

Small Group Discussion.

Q: What Battle are you fighting right now?

Q: How are you preparing to fight that Battle?

Daniel 6:15-28 (Page 951)

- 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, no law that the king signs can be changed."
- 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, "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 no one could rescue Daniel. 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 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, <u>whom you serve</u> 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. Not a scratch was found on him, for he had trusted in his God.
- 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.

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

"Peace and prosperity to you! 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. 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." ²⁸ So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

Don't assume that **YOUR** story is all about **YOU**.

7 Holy Habits.

- 1. Choose your **SOUNDTRACK**.
- 2. Pray a specific PRAYER.
- 3. Ask for HELP.
- 4. Mourn the LOSSES.
- 5. Celebrate the WINS.
- 6. Do something GOOD.
- 7. Take a BREAK.

Daniel 12:13 (Page 958)

13 "As for you, go your way to THE END."

Resources.

- WORSHIP MUSIC Austin Stone, Bethel Worship,
 Hillsong, Passion City, Maverick City Worship
- PODCASTS Andy Stanley, Louie Giglio, Tony Evans,
 Francis Chan, Matt Chandler, Craig Groeschel
- DEVOTIONALS Jesus Calling, The BIBLE App,
 WIRE for men, FINDING JOY on the MANUP App
- COUNSELORS Austin Stone Counseling,
 Crossroads Counseling, The Timothy Center,
 The Center for Relational Care