

God's Calling Requirements
Part 44
From The Life Of Daniel

"1 It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; 2 And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage. 3 Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm. 4 Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him. 5 Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God. 6 Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. 7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. 8 Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. 9 Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree. 10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforesaid. 11 Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. 12 Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. 13 Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day. 14 Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him. 15 Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed. 16 Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. 17 And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. 18 Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him. 19 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. 20 And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? 21 Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. 22 My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. 23 Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of

the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God. 24 And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den. 25 Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you. 26 I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end. 27 He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions. 28 So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian." (Daniel 6:1-27 KJV)

The story of Daniel and what God did for him to deliver him from the lions is a well known story. Every time you read it you would desire to see God moving in your life in a way to close the mouth of the Lions that are attacking you. In the above story Daniel was thrown in the den of the lions, but in daily life and events lions can be Satan and demons who would try to attack you and harm you. Or lions can be people that Satan would use to inflict evil against you.

The Lord was the one who delivered Daniel from the mouths of the lions, but the Lord would not do that unless Daniel was up to what God was expecting from him. The following are the elements that Daniel kept and observed in his life that had attracted God to rescue him and as the following:-

- 1- He was accountable person (verse 2), that with his stewardship and good administration he did not allow the king to suffer loss. The administrative system that was implemented to manage the 120 provinces was not to allow the king to suffer loss. Be good steward to whatever God had entrusted to you. You need to be an accountable person to God and to man.
- 2- He was with excellent spirit (verse 3), he distinguished and developed himself with skills to make him useful to the task entrusted to him. God wants you to develop in skills and criteria to be effective and useful in the place that God had placed you in.
- 3- He was faithful person (verse 4), fully dedicated to the task that was entrusted to him. As if he was serving God and not man.
- 4- He was without error or fault to be found in him (verse 4). That is another good criterion that would bear him a good testimony. If you keep your work without error or fault, you will really keep a good testimony to God and to His church being a disciple of Christ and a member of His church.
- 5- He was keeping diligently the law of God (verse 5), up to the point that his enemies were forced to persecute him in order to get hold on him. They planned to issue a law that prohibits Daniel to worship God. They knew that he will not abide with that because Daniel was fully dedicated to obey God's commands.
- 6- He was a man of courage. He was captive but he was bold and strong to oppose all kind of persecution (verse 13).
- 7- He was a man who trusted God and not man. Daniel did not keep any friendship with kings or superiors thinking that they will help him when he is in troubles. When he heard about the decree he did not go to the king, but he went to God. Don't keep friendship with people in order to help you. They will not be able. The king wanted

- even to help Daniel and free him but he could not (verse 14, 15). Rather make your friendship and alliance with God who can help you.
- 8- He was a stable man, when he heard the news he was not in a panic situation (verse 10); he faced the whole matter alone because he was trusting in God. When you are trained to trust God and rely fully on Him you will find yourself calm when you face troubles.
 - 9- He was a man of kneeling down, thankful and prayerful to God (verse 10). That was his practice and what he used to do in his life.
 - 10- He had a regard to the church (verse 10). When he prayed he prayed toward Jerusalem. God wants you to have regard for His church and His people.
 - 11- He gave a great testimony (verse 11) when his enemies found him kneeling down and asking help from God and not man. This is another point that you can learn from Daniel.
 - 12- He served God continually (verse 16, 20). Continue to be persistent in serving the Lord and He will be the one to deliver you out of your troubles.
 - 13- He was innocent before God (verse 22). Do not have malice, and do not have wrong motive in serving God.
 - 14- He did no hurt to the king (verse 22). Do not harm people or do bad to them. Wait for God to rescue you and deliver you out of troubles.
 - 15- He believed in His God (verse 23). He followed keenly God's word and applied them in His life because he truly believed God. Apply faithfully and diligently the principle of God's Word. Your obedience to God's word will bring the salvation of God in your life from whatever trouble.
 - 16- He did not ask for revenge (verse 24). The king himself punished those people who conspired against him. His focus was on God and not on people. Learn this principle and apply it in your life.
 - 17- He preached the Gospel in a profound way (verse 25-26). The way he conducted his life, showed to the people around him the true living God and salvation (verse 25-27). In what he did, he convinced Darius to belief in God and raised him up as the only true God.

My dear and beloved: I pray that this Word of God had helped you to understand God's calling in your life and what he want you to do and how you need to live your life among the non believers that God had placed you in. Commit yourself to God to apply the principle of this message and He will be the one to deliver you from your trials as you agree to pray.

My Prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life. Lord I thank you for your word that makes things clear to me. Lord I ask you forgiveness for _____.* Today I commit my life to live for you and serve you as your Word in this message taught me. Lord always reminds me, helps me, sustains me to overcome and provide my needs to continue to serve you. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

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