



In the Company of Lions

Daniel 6

Sermon Series: Finding True
Courage

Romans 15:4 (ESV)

- *“For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”*

Introduction

- The Old Testament was written for our instruction-and through the instruction of Scripture we will gain three things: **endurance, encouragement, and hope.**
- In Revelation 5:5, the Lord is described as *“the Lion of the tribe of Judah.”*

The Lion of lions rule over bureaucrats (Dan. 6:1-2 NLT)

- ¹Darius 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.

Daniel 6:3 (NLT)

- 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.

The Lion of lions rule over bureaucrats (cont'd)

- Daniel 5:30-31, *“That very night, Belshazzar, the Babylonian king was killed. And Darius the Mede took over the kingdom at the age of sixty-two.”*
- Daniel now found himself serving under a new king and new empire.

II. The Lion of lions rule over conspiracies (Dan.6:4-5)

- 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."

III. The Lion of lions rule over political maneuvering (Dan. 6:6-9)

- 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.

Daniel 6:8-9 (NLT)

- 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.

IV. The Lion of lions rules over Daniel (6:10-15 NLT)

- *Read in your Bible
- The text makes it very clear that when Daniel knew the document had been signed, he just went about life as he had always done.
- Daniel was a man of habitual prayer. He was a man who had built spiritual disciplines into his life from his earliest days.

The Lion of Lions rules over Daniel (cont'd)

- Philippians 4:9 (ESV), “*What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—**practice these things**, and the God of peace will be with you.”*
- The saintly life is a simple life. **Here are some of the principles by which the saints lived:**

The Lion of Lions rules over Daniel (cont'd)

- *The first characteristic was that they desired to live to God's glory.*
- Let us be quite practical, how can we test whether this is true of us?
- *What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things.*

The Lion of Lions rules over Daniel (cont'd)

- First and foremost is reading the text book. If you would know God, then go to God's revelation.
- *The next characteristic is prayer.*
- When you look closely at great men and women of God down through the ages, the structure of their lives look very similar.

The Lion of Lions rules over Daniel (cont'd)

- Jeremiah 6:16 (ESV) lays it out for us:
- *Thus says the LORD: "Stand by the roads, and look, and ask for the ancient paths, where the good way is; and walk in it, and find rest for your souls."*

V. The Lion of lions rules over all other lions (Dan. 6:16-28)

- *1. Daniel was delivered, but his accusers and their families were not.*
- The God of Israel gave a law to His people through Moses that children, “should not be put to death for their fathers; everyone shall be put to death for his own sin” (Deut. 24:26).

The Lion of lions rules over all other lions (cont'd)

- *2. Another pagan is brought to a place of giving glory to Daniel's sovereign and all powerful God.*
- It's clear from the text that something had happened in the life of Darius before he put Daniel in the lion's den.

The Lion of lions rules over all other lions (cont'd)

- Back in v.16, as Daniel was about to be thrown into that den of death, Darius acknowledged that the God whom Daniel constantly served had the power to deliver him.
- Dan. 6:25-27 (Darius' testimony) puts it all to rest.

Isaiah 30:15 (NLT)

- *This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says:
“Only in returning to me
and resting in me will you be saved.
In quietness and confidence is your
strength.”*

The Lion of lions rules over all other lions (cont'd)

- “There are times when danger threatening is beyond man’s ability to control the situation. All that is left to do is to wait on the Lord. *For seemingly passive reliance on the Lord is not weakness, it is actually strength.*”

The Lion of lions rules over all other lions (cont'd)

- There are three sane yet counterintuitive steps to take when life is out of our control and you are threatened by the lions.
- *Wait calmly*
- *Remain quiet*
- *Maintain confidence*

The Lion of lions rules over all other lions (cont'd)

- When Daniel was shown the shocking events that would take place in the last days, he was sick and exhausted (Dan. 8:27). And then what did he do?
- ***He got up and went to work.***

The Lion of lions rules over all other lions (cont'd)

- We are to trust God and keep living life.
- He was the stability of their times, and He will be the stability of our times (Isa. 33:6 NASB).
- It's our responsibility to believe that and to live those truths each day.

Invitation

The background features a warm color gradient from yellow on the left to orange on the right. In the top-right and bottom-left corners, there are intricate, light-colored floral and scrollwork patterns. The central area is filled with a repeating pattern of concentric circles and dots in various shades of yellow and orange, creating a textured, mandala-like effect.