

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 4

Law/Gospel

In the world, evil is called good, and those who seek to do good suffer and are brought down by sinners who hate anything good. **In Christ, I am blessed when I suffer for His name. He is with me, granting me His comfort and strength and preserving my life eternally by giving me salvation in Him.**

Bible Words

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith.

1 Peter 5:8–9

Prayer

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer

Daniel in the Lions' Den

Daniel 6

Daniel was a Jerusalem youth exiled to Babylon in 605 BC for training in the literature and language of the Chaldeans. Daniel became a government official. When he interpreted the king's dream, the king was impressed and made Daniel "ruler over the whole province of Babylon and chief prefect over all the wise men" (Daniel 2:48).

When the Persians ousted the Babylonians, Daniel became part of King Darius's three-man adviser group, in charge of 120 regional governors, called satraps. When the king valued Daniel above others, his political peers plotted against him.

Though Daniel lived in Babylon for years, he remained faithful to the God of Israel. He shunned the idolatry and ungodly ways of his neighbors. Three times a day, Daniel faced toward Jerusalem and prayed. Seeing this, his enemies convinced the king to decree that people could pray only to him for thirty days, or be thrown into a den of lions. Calmly, Daniel continued to pray to the Lord in front of the windows in his home.

Of course the Persians told King Darius about Daniel's prayers. The king tried all day to find a way to release Daniel, but finally sent him to the lions' den. The Lord did not abandon Daniel, but shut the lions' mouths. Daniel emerged in the morning without a scratch.

Daniel's life points to Jesus. Jealous leaders, false accusations, a "tomb" sealed with a stone, and divine deliverance echoed in His earthly life too. To save the world, Jesus fought the satanic lion (1 Peter 5:8). When God raised Him from the dead, He "delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:13–14).

A Prophet of God

Like other Old Testament prophets, Daniel was highly regarded as a spiritual leader chosen by God. Daniel was a prophet, serving as God's spokesperson to reveal His will and plan to the people.

God also gave Daniel the ability to interpret dreams. Daniel revealed the meaning of several dreams to King Nebuchadnezzar. With God's help, Daniel even interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's first dream without knowing its content!

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