

Series: The Exile & God's Restoration

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

1. THE WORLD'S WAY: J..... AND F.....

(Daniel 6:4-15; See also James 3:16; Proverbs 29:5; Romans 16:8)

- Daniel's exceptional qualities led to his promotion, triggering jealousy among other leaders. When they couldn't find any corruption in him, they targeted his faith and used flattery to manipulate King Darius's ego into signing a deadly decree.
- When others succeed, do you respond with darker emotions like jealousy and resentment, or with humility and blessing?

NOTES:

2. DANIEL'S WAY: A LIFE OF SPIRITUAL I

(Daniel 6:4-5,10; See also 1 Peter 3:16)

Integrity In Personal Life: Daniel lived with no corruption, no compromise, and habitual prayer and devotion to God three times daily. His enemies could only fault him for his faith, which is no fault at all. What would people discover if they examined your life as closely as Daniel's enemies examined his?

Integrity In Public Life: Living With HOPE:

HOPE Principles:

- H - HONOR those in authority (*1 Peter 2:17*)
- O - OBEY wherever possible (*Romans 13:1-2; Titus 3:1*)
- P - PRAY for those in authority (*1 Timothy 2:1-2*)
- E - ENDURE through changing circumstances (*Romans 12:12*)
- Daniel **honored** brutal, egotistic kings and they all loved him; he **obeyed** wherever possible, resisting only when commanded not to worship God or go against his will; he **prayed** three times daily including for his kings; and he **endured** faithfully for 66+ years across multiple empires.
- In which area of HOPE do you most need to grow in your relationship with authorities over you?

NOTES:

(TURN OVER FOR POINT 3 AND A PRAYER FOR THE WEEK)

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3. GOD'S V OF DANIEL

(Daniel 6:19-28)

- We see that God sent His angel to protect Daniel, while his accusers faced the lions instead. Following this, King Darius issued a kingdom-wide decree proclaiming reverence for Daniel's God, and Daniel continued to prosper. God honors those who honor Him.
- How might God be preparing you through current trials to be a witness of His faithfulness to others?

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APPLICATION FOR THE WEEK

Live with such integrity that if someone wanted to criticize you, their only complaint would be about your devotion to God. Like Daniel, let your light shine before others so they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven (Matthew 5:16).

PRAYER: "Lord God, help us to live with Daniel's spiritual integrity in both our private and public lives. When we face pressure to compromise our faith, give us courage to stand firm. Help us to honor, obey, pray for, and patiently endure those You have placed in authority over us. May our lives be so marked by Your character, that others will see You and glorify You through our faithfulness. In Jesus' Name, Amen."

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