

Daniel In The Lions' Den (6:1-28)

INTRODUCTION

1. The faith of Daniel has been an inspiration to many young people...**Daniel 1:8;**
2. Daniel should also be an inspiration to older people...

I. THE TRAP IS SET (1-9)

A. DANIEL IS SUCCESSFUL...

1. He is appointed one of three governors over the kingdom – **Daniel 6:1-2;**
2. Daniel "distinguished" himself above the others - **Daniel 6:3;**

B. DANIEL IS ENVIED...

1. His success leads to envy by others - **Daniel 6:4**
2. His noble character is attested to by his enemies - **Daniel 6:4**
3. His enemies determine there is only one way to defeat him - **Daniel 6:5**

C. DANIEL IS TARGETED...

1. The king is approached by Daniel's enemies - **Daniel 6:6**
2. They propose a royal statute, a firm decree - **Daniel 6:7**
3. The king is encouraged to establish the decree - **Daniel 6:8-9**

II. THE TRAP IS SPRUNG (10-17)

A. DANIEL CONTINUES TO PRAY...

1. Knowing full well that the decree had been signed - **Daniel 6:10**
2. Practicing a custom common among the Jews - **Daniel 6:10**
3. His own custom since "early days" - **Daniel 6:10**

B. DANIEL IS CAUGHT...

1. His enemies catch Daniel praying - **Daniel 6:11**
2. His enemies report Daniel to the king - **Daniel 6:12-13**
3. The king is forced to abide by his own decree - **Daniel 6:14-15**

C. DANIEL IS THROWN INTO THE LIONS' DEN...

1. Yet the king is hopeful - **Daniel 6:16**
2. The den is closed with a stone and sealed - **Daniel 6:17**

III. THE TRAP IS SPOILED (18-28)

A. DARIUS IS WORRIED...

1. His night is restless - **Daniel 6:18**
2. His concern for Daniel is evident - **Daniel 6:19-20**

B. DANIEL IS DELIVERED...

1. Daniel answers the king - **Daniel 6:21-22**
2. Darius removes Daniel from the den - **Daniel 6:23**

C. THE CONSPIRATORS ARE EXECUTED...

1. Cast into the same trap intended for Daniel, along with their families - **Daniel 6:24**
2. As often happens, those who set the trap get caught in it!

D. GOD IS EXALTED...

1. Darius makes a decree that the God of Daniel be feared – **Daniel 6:25-27**
2. Another pagan king comes to realize Who is really in control!

E. DANIEL PROSPERS...

1. In the reign of Darius, who ruled Chaldea - **Daniel 6:28**
2. In the reign of Cyrus of Persia (who also ruled over Darius) - cf. **Daniel 1:21**

CONCLUSION