

Only One Fault

5-24-20

Daniel 6:5 (ESV)

Then these men said, “We shall not find any ground for complaint against this Daniel unless we find it in connection with the law of his God.”

Daniel is one of the few people in the Bible that has nothing negative written about him. In fact, the jealous leaders around Daniel could not find any fault in him, except one. He was devoted to HIS God. Therefore, Daniel’s enemies used his devotion to God as a weapon to get rid of him. They hatched a plan to convince the King that he should declare that no one could pray to anyone one else except to him for 30 days or be thrown into the den of lions. The King let his ego get the best of him and agreed. When Daniel heard the legal document had be signed, he did what he always did.

Daniel 6:10 (ESV)

When Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he went to his house where he had windows in his upper chamber open toward Jerusalem. He got down on his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.

These jealous leaders having cleverly had laid their trap, when all the pieces were in place they sprang into action. Knowing what Daniel would do, they caught him defying the King’s command. Now all the men had to do was present the evidence before the King.

Daniel 6:13 (ESV)

Then they said before the king, “Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or the injunction you have signed, but makes his petition three times a day.”

Daniel was a valuable member of the King’s court. The King had a great appreciation for Daniel, but he could not revoke the foolish law he had enacted. Interestingly, not being able to do anything himself, the King called out for Daniel’s God to somehow rescue him.

Daniel 6:16 (ESV)

Then the king commanded, and Daniel was brought and cast into the den of lions. The king declared to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!”

The King spent the night worrying, fasting, and praying that Daniel’s God could rescue him. The next morning the King rushed out to the Lion’s Den to check on Daniel.

Daniel 6:19-20 (ESV)

¹⁹ Then, at break of day, the king arose and went in haste to the den of lions. ²⁰ As he came near to the den where Daniel was, he cried out in a tone of anguish. The king declared to Daniel, “O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?”

Miracles of miracles, God protected Daniel!

Daniel replied to the King!

Daniel 6:22 (ESV)

My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths, and they have not harmed me, because I was found blameless before him; and also before you, O king, I have done no harm.

With God's protection came Daniel's testimony, "I was found blameless before God; and also, before you, O king, I have done no harm." Daniel was absolutely innocent. The only fault they had against Daniel was that he fully worshipped God and God alone.

Daniel 6:23 (ESV)

Then the king was exceedingly glad, and commanded that Daniel be taken up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of harm was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

God will take care of HIS people and our enemies will have their wrongdoing and evil intent fall on their own heads.

Daniel 6:24 (ESV)

And the king commanded, and those men who had maliciously accused Daniel were brought and cast into the den of lions—they, their children, and their wives. And before they reached the bottom of the den, the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces.

Tremendous Biblical truth!

Proverbs 26:27 (ESV)

Whoever digs a pit will fall into it!

The book of Esther states this truth even more profoundly. When the evil Haman built gallows to hang the righteous Mordecai, God reversed the situation and it was Haman who was hanged on the gallows he built for Mordecai.

Esther 7:10 (ESV)

So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai.

The truth of this lesson is repeated in the NT.

Romans 12:19 (ESV)

Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord."

Daniel gives an example that we should be the best citizens, the best employees, and the best neighbors possible, yet standing fast having "only one fault" that we worship the One True God. As we saw last week in the Fiery Furnace and this week in the Lion's Den, God moves on behalf of HIS people. We are special in God's sight. However, it is often through the Fiery Furnace and the Lion's Den that God will use us to bring HIM glory.

Notice how the King reacted to Daniel's witness!

Daniel 6:25–27 (ESV)

²⁵ Then King Darius wrote to all the peoples, nations, and languages that dwell in all the earth: “Peace be multiplied to you. ²⁶ I make a decree, that in all my royal dominion people are to tremble and fear before the God of Daniel,

for he is the living God,
enduring forever;
his kingdom shall never be destroyed,
and his dominion shall be to the end.

²⁷ He delivers and rescues;
he works signs and wonders
in heaven and on earth,
he who has saved Daniel
from the power of the lions.”

As Daniel, let us Declare Our One Fault before the world!

John 14:6 (ESV)

Jesus said, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”