

# Pray or Be Prey

Oct 24, 2010, Dan 6

## I. Background

*Dan. 6:1-3*

## II. Framed!

*Dan. 6:4-9*

- A. Flattered
- B. Darius should have noticed...

## III. The picture in the frame (Daniel's response)

*Dan. 6:10*

- A. Busy? Please God or Men? What does it take to get you to stop praying?
  
- B. Toward Jerusalem: Glory departed, but The Lord had promised to return there (Ezek 43:2; Jer 29:10-14)  
*Dan. 9:2 in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the LORD given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years.*
  
- C. On his prayer list?

## IV. The Losers win!

*Dan. 6:11-15*

- A. Collusion, "pays no attention to you" cf. Shadrach, et al
  
- B. They look in, Daniel
  
- C. Dawns on Darius: real reason, he's been duped

## V. Daniel's execution

*Dan. 6:16-20*

- A. Heard of furnace.?
  
- B. Daniel probably 83
  
- C. Darius worried: where could he find such integrity, faithfulness?

D. "Living God" cf. acting on the possibility...

## VI. Daniel explains

*Dan. 6:21-22*

## VII. Loose ends (and the winners lose)...

*Dan. 6:23-28.*

- A. Not a scratch—remind you of anything? cf. furnace
  
- B. The bad guys: plotted, lied ("all agreed")
  
- C. GOD: alive/acts; hasn't been superseded (by Persians or Usians); takes care of His own.

## VIII. The point for us

- A. Resulting commitment: To God, not If God
  
- B. Integrity/no compromise
  
- C. Letting God be the hero
  
- D. If you are going to be condemned, let it be for being Good. (What to do at work where they're after you)  
*1Pet. 2: 12-25; 3:16; 4:14-17*
  
- E. What if he hadn't prayed?
  
- F. What Daniel saw:

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## Discussion-starting questions for small groups

1. Would you have stood with the three?
2. How does the dummies guide of 2010 compare with THE Guide?
3. On what issues do you stand nearly alone in your world?
4. Where does the world tempt us to compromise? What is your response? Where do you need God's help now?

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