

Hope that Motivates Faithfulness  
“Stepping In and Living Out”  
Daniel 6  
Sunday October 13, 2019

**Big Idea: God is our faithful deliverer who is always in control.**

Definition of Disciple:

“Jesus followers who are resiliently faithful in the face of cultural coercion and who live a vibrant life in the Spirit.”

**I. The Silver kingdom - Daniel 6:1-9**

Summary of relationships between ch.3 and ch.6

- Both involve a death threat for those who will not comply with a pagan decree (Dan. 3:6; 6:7).
- Both show faithful Jews refusing to comply with the pagan decree, recognizing that it is better to die nobly than live ignobly (3:12, 16–18; 6:10).
- Both present the pagan king questioning God’s ability to deliver his people (3:15; 6:20).
- Both mention God’s angel helping God’s servants (3:28; 6:22).
- Both show God’s faithful being supernaturally preserved while the wicked who oppose them die (3:22, 27; 6:22, 24).
- Both accounts explicitly state that God’s servants trusted in him (3:28; 6:23).
- Both present the pagan king responding to God delivering his servants by praising God and decreeing that he should be respected (3:28–29; 6:26–27).
- Both accounts resolve with a statement of how the faithful Jews were promoted or prospered (3:30; 6:28).
  - a. Persians take over Babylon and Daniel is elevated
    - i. Change in power and change in government structure
      - 1. High Officials (3 listed in Daniel ch.6)
      - 2. Satraps (120)
  - b. Daniel is elevated (6:3)
  - c. A conspiracy against him. (6:4-9)

**II. Trusting God in Babylon (6:10)**

- a. Daniel Chose to fear God more than man
  - i. He was convinced that God was the source of his strength (He prayed three times a day)

Matt. 4:4

“If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.”  
But he answered, “It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

John 4:34

“My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work.”

- b. His identity was rooted in God.
- c. He Practiced gratitude  
“gave thanks before his God, as he had done previously.” (6:10b).

### **III. Trusting God when hope seems lost (6:11-18)**

- a. God is sovereign, Not man.
  - i. The plot unfolds and the king is distressed

### **IV. God is faithful to deliver (6:19-22)**

- a. God is able to do what no king or man could ever do.
- b. God is present with Daniel in the Lions Den.

Miracles are not wrought by God to “show off” but to demonstrate to a lost world that he is the true God and should be honored. Neither was Daniel delivered primarily for his own benefit but so that the Lord could manifest to a lost king and a lost world his reality and power (cf. Exod 20:18–20; Deut 2:25; Josh 2:9).<sup>1</sup> – Stephen Miller, *New American Commentary*

### **V. The result of trusting God in Babylon (6:23-28)**

- a. Daniel was vindicated and his accusers were thrown into the lions den.
- b. A Pagan King bows to Daniel’s God

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<sup>1</sup> Miller, S. R. (1994). *Daniel* (Vol. 18, p. 189). Nashville: Broadman & Holman Publishers.