

## **SERMON NOTES AND SCRIPTURE**

### **Daniel 6:1–3**

1 It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom, 2 with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss. 3 Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.

### **Power to stand in the midst of opposition:**

#### **1. When God raises you up, people will try to tear you down.**

### **Daniel 6:4–5**

4 At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. 5 Finally these men said, “We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God.”

#### **2. Kneeling to pray is what gives strength to stand.**

### **Daniel 6:10**

10 Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.

**“Real true faith is man’s weakness leaning on God’s strength.” –D.L. Moody**

#### **3. When you do what’s right, you can always trust God with the outcome.**

### **Daniel 6:19–23**

19 At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions’ den. 20 When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, “Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?”

21 Daniel answered, “May the king live forever! 22 My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty.” 23 The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.

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## **GROUP DISCUSSION**

**Read the passage of Scripture together as a group.**

**Have you ever faced opposition for your faith in Jesus? What happened? How did it work out?**

**What stood out to you about the story of Daniel?**

**How he responded?**

**How the king responded?**

**How God worked?**

**If you had to imagine how you would have responded, what do you think you would have done?**

**What are some ways your prayer life can focus on thankfulness in the midst of opposition?**

**What area of your life are you struggling to trust the Lord and the future he has for you?**