

Daniel, the Man and the Message

Daniel's Defiance of Darius

Daniel 6

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Note: Daniel was about 80 years old in chapter six. If you are old, don't count yourself out. If you are old, don't retire from serving Christ.

Freehand Notes on Text:

What did Daniel do?

"If a man hasn't discovered something that he will die for, he isn't fit to live."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"When Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went into his house. The windows in its upper room opened toward Jerusalem, and three times a day he got down on his knees, prayed, and gave thanks to his God, **just as he had done before.**" Daniel 6:10 [emphasis added]

#1: He acted in _____ and its consequences.

"One may well ask, 'How can you advocate breaking some laws and obeying others?' The answer is found in the fact that there are two types of laws: there are just laws and there are unjust laws. I would agree with Saint Augustine that "an unjust law is no law at all."

Now, what is the difference between the two? How does one determine when a law is just or unjust? **A just law is a man-made code that squares with the moral law or the law of God.** An unjust law is a code that is out of harmony with the moral law. To put it in the words of Saint Thomas Aquinas, **an unjust law is a human law that is not rooted in the eternal and natural law.**" [emphasis added] Martin Luther King, Jr., *Letter from a Birmingham Jail*

#2: He _____ to a remote location to pray.

#3: He _____ to pray.

#4: He _____ his prayers to once each day, like early in the morning.

#5: He was _____. He prayed to his God.

Four Applications

#1: Prayer is a _____ and we should use it as God leads.

#2: Prayer is a testimony to others of the _____.

#3: Don't equate the spiritual discipline of prayer (or bible study, worship, etc.) _____ . Prayer should be _____.

“Does it strike you as strange that in America today almost no Christians pray this way? I'm sure that there are some who would celebrate this absence of order and design and habit and pattern as a sign of freedom from legalism. I might believe it if I saw anything like the freedom and power of Daniel where discipline like his is absent. But I don't see it and I don't believe it.”

Dr. John Piper

#4: Prayer is _____.