

THE PRICE OF PRAYER

DANIEL 6:1-11

Text:

Introduction:

Daniel is most recognized as the one who was thrown into the lion's den but escaped unharmed because of God's protection.

1. THE PERSON

A. Slave

Was taken into slavery at a young age

B. Steadfast

Because of his steadfast commitment to the God of Israel, he was greatly blessed

As we have stated often since we began this series of messages, it's important to understand what is involved in the development of a fervent prayer life. It may involve a situation that causes us to pray.

God often uses bonds to bless

Illustrations:

Paul

How many lives would Paul not minister to if not for the thorn in the flesh and his ability to learn to trust in God's sufficient grace?

Fanny Crosby

How many hymns would Fanny Crosby written if not for her blindness & her dependence on her Lord?

Daniel was probably about 85 years old at this time.

He was greatly respected by many. He occupied the 2nd highest place in the kingdom, or what we would call the prime minister.

C. Spiteful

Though Daniel was respected by some he was despised by others.

They desired to harm or even destroy Daniel.

Their actions resulted in Daniel being thrown into the lion's den.

Note:

For the Christians there are always lions waiting.

Like Daniel, for the trusting Christian with undoubting faith, there is peace in the lion's den.

2. THE PLACE OF PRAYER

You will recall there are no temples of worship in Babylon. It was a pagan land.

A. Private Place

Daniel made himself a place of prayer, a private place. It was an opened window facing Jerusalem.

The decree was sent out that no one would worship or pray to a god other than the king of Babylon

B. People's Plot

Daniel's enemies were watching, waiting to trap him. They knew this was the only way to catch him. They probably had seen him praying there many times before.

Do you think Daniel thought about closing the window?

I have to ask this question, if someone wanted to catch us in a Godly act, or at least in prayer would they know where to go?

This opened window was a witness to Daniel's faith, a testimony to his prayer life.

3. THE PRINCIPLE OF PRAYER

A. The Secret

The secret of his prayer life is found in verse 10.

Daniel 6:10

¹⁰ Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

“As he did aforetime”

Daniel knew his enemies were watching, and he would be turned. But he still prayed.

Daniel had been doing what was right for so long he probably didn't even think of changing of his ways.

Pray was a principle with him.

B. The Surety

Daniel went to his open window to pray because he had learned that the window in heaven was open and available to him

Close:

As we look at the prayer life of Daniel, we must ask this question; Is there a cost to prayer? The answer is yes.

But prayer also pays off.