

IS THY GOD ABLE TO DELIVER THEE

DANIEL 6:1-28

Text: Dan 6:20

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²⁰ And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: *and* the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

Introduction:

What we learn from Daniel teaches us that it is the importance of consistency and faithfulness.

It's not how one starts the race, though that is very important, and failing to start right results in never ending right. But not only is it important to begin right but it is also important to run faithfully all the way.

Hebrews 12:1-3

¹ Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, ² Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Notice:

1. A CONSISTENT FAITH WILL BE TESTED

Illustration:

2 Timothy 3:12

¹² Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

Notice what is accomplished when faith is put to the test.

- A. The Saint is Cultivated (vs 3) – God was developing some things even further in Daniels life.

Romans 8:28

²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to *his* purpose.

Jeremiah 29:11

¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Trials are never to destroy you, but rather to develop you.

- B. The Savior Is Celebrated (vs 25-28) – Because of Daniel's trial God received glory and honor.

- C. The Sinner is Convicted (vs 4-5) – These men were disturbed by Daniel’s faith.

2. A CONSISTENT FAITH WILL TESTIFY

Sometimes a testimony of faith under trial is louder than a testimony of words.

- A. It testifies to its Foes (vs 10-11)
- B. It testifies to its Friends (vs 14-20)
- C. It testifies to its Focus (vs 10)

3. A CONSISTENT FAITH WILL BE TRIUMPHANT

- A. Over Adversity – Daniels faith allowed him to see victory over:
 - 1. The Den of Lions
 - 2. Danger
 - 3. Darkness
 - 4. Darius
 - 5. Detractors
- B. Over the Adversary

Close:

Craig Davison is a consistent man. The Phoenix, AZ resident began running regularly in 1978 and hadn't missed a single day since then when an article was written about him in 1997. By May of 1997, at age forty-three, he calculated he had logged in 120,000 miles (nearly five laps around the world). His regimen of running is an example of consistency by itself, but what he's done traveling all of those miles is an equally impressive lesson in consistency. While running, Davison keeps his eyes open for loose change and doesn't pass up a single penny. This consistent vigilance has paid off. Over the years he has collected \$5,170. All those dimes, nickels, and pennies paid for a second honeymoon to Hawaii in 1991.

Consistency pays off but we frequently neglect it because the dividends come in slower than we desire. We'd all like to find \$5,000 but are we willing to run 120,000 miles to get it? Whether it's finances, meaningful relationships, spiritual maturity, or physical fitness, consistency is the best route to take.

We need some Daniels in our day! We need some men and women of faith who will make up their minds to just be consistent! Are you a consistent Christian? Do you live every day to the glory of God? God just wants people to be consistent. He just wants us to walk in obedience, minute by minute and day by day. Does that describe you? If not, there is help in Him. If you are up and down and in and out, you don't have to be! You

can walk for Him and be consistent. He will enable you, just as He enabled Daniel! He will do it so that you can demonstrate the power of a consistent life.