



## Beware the Evil Web That Is Weaved!

By Ken Terry on March 1, 2024

**TODAY'S READING:** Daniel 6

Daniel has now served two empires--the Babylonian Empire and now the Medes and Persians after they defeated Babylon. Yes, my friends, Daniel was the constant force behind these empires for 70+ years. Daniel was popular among those rulers for one primary reason, he could be trusted. *"The king also chose Daniel and two others as administrators to supervise the high officers and protect the king's interests. Daniel soon proved himself more capable than all the other administrators and high officers. Because of Daniel's great ability, the king made plans to place him over the entire empire"* (Daniel 6:2-3, NLT).

Among men, there will always be those who are jealous of others, especially around the premise of honesty and integrity. Such jealousy is what befell Daniel under the Medo-Persian Empire. Evil men devised a plan that spoke to the arrogance and self-serving need of King Darius. *"We are all in agreement-we administrators, officials, high officers, advisers, and governors-that the king should make a law that will be strictly enforced. Give orders that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human-except to you, Your Majesty-will be thrown into the den of lions"* (Daniel 6:7, NLT).

Darius signed the document and injunction, not recognizing the betrayal of these wicked and evil men! The evil web was weaved, and the two high officials were sitting at the ready to catch Daniel in his ritual prayers. Daniel is caught praying and the king has to send him to the lions' den because the law of the Medes and the Persians could not be revoked. The king was deeply troubled and broken-hearted due to the fact he held Daniel so high in his kingdom. However, listen to the words of the king shared with Daniel, *"So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, 'May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you'"* (Daniel 6:16, NLT).

The God of Daniel closed the mouths of the lions in the den. Daniel was not scathed during this horrific event. However, the ones that created such treachery were dealt with swiftly, *"Then the king gave orders to arrest the men who had maliciously accused Daniel. He had them thrown into the lions' den, along with their wives and children. The lions leaped on them and tore them apart before they even hit the floor of the den"* (Daniel 6:24, NLT).

I know many of you have read this story before. You may have heard sermons and studied the book of Daniel in a small group setting, therefore none of this may be new. However, it is always good to revisit the book, retell the story and give to God all the glory because He is faithful and will always be at the ready to deliver His children. The only thing is, we must believe! Daniel believed his God would deliver him if it was His will to do so. One of the

most compelling parts of this story is the testimony of King Darius regarding Daniel's God: *"I decree that everyone throughout my kingdom should tremble with fear before the God of Daniel. For He is the living God, and He will endure forever. His kingdom will never be destroyed, and His rule will never end. He rescues and saves His people; He performs miraculous signs and wonders in the heavens and on earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions"* (Daniel 6:26-27).

Whose life will you touch and they, in turn, will exalt your God, the One who manifested Himself in you, then touched them through you? We all have the opportunity, let us engage accordingly.

**PRAYER:** Our Father in the heavens, Jehovah God, thank You for our time spent with You in Your word today. Thank You for the reminder of Your faithfulness to Your people. I pray that You will continue to lead us in all things Jesus and help fortify our faith in Him. Helps us, Father, to have the courage and boldness of Daniel. Help us look at overwhelming obstacles as bumps in the proverbial road. Help us keep our eyes on You to deliver us through Christ Jesus our Lord. We ask this in the name of Christ. Amen.

**TOMORROW'S READING:** Weekend is for catch-up and review.

**MONDAY'S READING:** Psalm 1

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