

「 PORTRAITS OF GRACE 」

Pastor Paul Chappell | Sunday Morning | August 13, 2017

MESSAGE TITLE: GRACE TO STAND LIKE DANIEL

“Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him. 5 Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God. 6 Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. 7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions. 8 Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not. 9 Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.”
(Daniel 6:4-9)

INTRODUCTION

“But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king’s meat, nor with the wine which he drank: therefore he requested of the prince of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself.”
(Daniel 1:8)

Quote: “The men and women who have moved the world have been the men and women the world could not move.”

“Now at the end of the days that the king had said he should bring them in, then the prince of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. 19 And the king communed with them; and among them all was found none like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah: therefore stood they before the king. 20 And in all matters of wisdom and understanding,

that the king enquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and astrologers that were in all his realm.” (Daniel 1:18–20)

Quote: “Darius soon learned about Daniel and the reputation he had for honesty and wisdom... Darius planned to make him his number-one administrator over the entire kingdom.”—**Warren Wiersbe**

1. An Evil _____ (vv. 4–9)

Quote: “A smooth sea never made a skilled sailor.”
—**Franklin D. Roosevelt**

A. An Ungodly _____ (v. 4a)

Definition: *occasion*—a pretext, a made-up reason

“But and if ye suffer for righteousness’ sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; 15 But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:” (1 Peter 3:14–15)

B. A Faithful _____ (v. 4b)

NO FAULT WAS FOUND

Definition: *faithful*—trustworthy, sure

Definition: *fault*—corruption

“A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.” (Proverbs 22:1)

TRUST HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED

“For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state.” (Philippians 2:20)

C. A Jealous _____ (vv. 5–9)

2. An Earnest _____ (vv. 10–17)

A. A _____ Prayer (v. 10)

“Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29)

Quote: “Prayer is the difference between the best you can do and the best God can do.”

IT WAS PUBLIC

IT WAS INTERCESSORY

“If they sin against thee, (for there is no man which sinneth not,) and thou be angry with them, and deliver them over before their enemies, and they carry them away captives unto a land far off or near; 37 Yet if they bethink themselves in the land whither they are carried captive, and turn and pray unto thee in the land of their captivity, saying, We have sinned, we have done amiss, and have dealt wickedly; 38 If they return to thee with all their heart and with all their soul in the land of their captivity, whither they have carried them captives, and pray toward their land, which thou gavest unto their fathers, and toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house which I have built for thy name: 39 Then hear thou from the heavens, even from thy dwelling place, their prayer and their supplications, and maintain their cause, and forgive thy people which have sinned against thee.” (2 Chronicles 6:36-39)

IT WAS HABITUAL

Quote: “The second half of a man’s life is made up of the habits he acquired during the first half.”—**Fyodor Dostoyevsky**

“The wicked watcheth the righteous, and seeketh to slay him.” (Psalm 37:32)

Quote: “Adversity does not build character, it reveals it.”

—**James Allen**

Quote: ““Pray for a faith that will not shrink when washed in the waters of affliction.”—**Ernest Wadsworth**

B. A _____ Persecution (vv. 11-12, 16-17)

“The wicked watcheth the righteous, And seeketh to slay him.” (Psalm 37:32)

3. An Exceptional _____ (vv. 18-24)

“And the Lord shall help them, and deliver them: He shall deliver them from the wicked, And save them, because they trust in him.” (Psalm 37:40)

A. A _____ King (vv. 18–20)

“The king’s heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: He turneth it whithersoever he will.” (Proverbs 21:1)

HE FASTS

HE LAMENTS

Definition: *lamentable*—pained, grieved, afflicted

B. A _____ Prophet (vv. 21–24)

FROM A PERSONAL GOD

“If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king.” (Daniel 3:17)

“The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; My God, my strength, in whom I will trust; My buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower.” (Psalm 18:2)

“But I am poor and needy; yet the Lord thinketh upon me: Thou art my help and my deliverer; Make no tarrying, O my God.” (Psalm 40:17)

IN A COMPLETED MANNER

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

“And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.” (Daniel 6:24)

Quote: “Darius didn’t throw all 122 officers and their families into the den of lions but only those men and their families who had accused Daniel... It seems cruel to us that the families were destroyed along with the conspirators, but that was an official Persian law and the conspirators knew it.”—**Warren Wiersbe**

CONCLUSION



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