

## **SPIRITUAL TASK — DANIEL IN THE LIONS' DEN** (Daniel 6)

by the Rev. David Roth at the New Church of Boulder Valley

**Story** King Darius of Babylon had issued a decree prohibiting all from petitioning any god or man except the king himself for a period of thirty days. All who disobeyed were to be thrown into the den of lions. Daniel continued to go to his upper room three times a day, kneel in the direction of Jerusalem, and pray to the Lord. Daniel was reported to king Darius, who had no choice but to order that Daniel be thrown into the lions' den. Because of his faith Daniel was protected. The lions could not harm him.

**Meaning** The hells long to attack us and destroy our desires to know truth and to live in good. We can be protected from this onslaught if we, as did Daniel, have faith or trust in the Lord. When we trust in the Lord by living according to His Word, the Lord is invited in to protect us from the fiercest of hells.

**Task** We are taught that faith is formed through a person approaching the Lord, learning truths from the Word, and living by them (TCR 347). This week, work on strengthening your faith in the Lord by speaking to Him every morning in prayer, learning truths by spending five minutes reading something from the Word of your choosing (a psalm, a chapter from the Gospels, a paragraph from *Heaven and Hell*, etc.), and choosing an idea that has come to you from your prayer and reading and making an effort to live that truth to the best of your ability in that day. If you are struggling with it, just stop and ask the Lord to give you the strength you need to do the right thing.