

# Daniel Worships the Lord

Daniel 6:1–28



By Rev. Kurt Horigan Asplundh  
Illustrated by Leah Smith

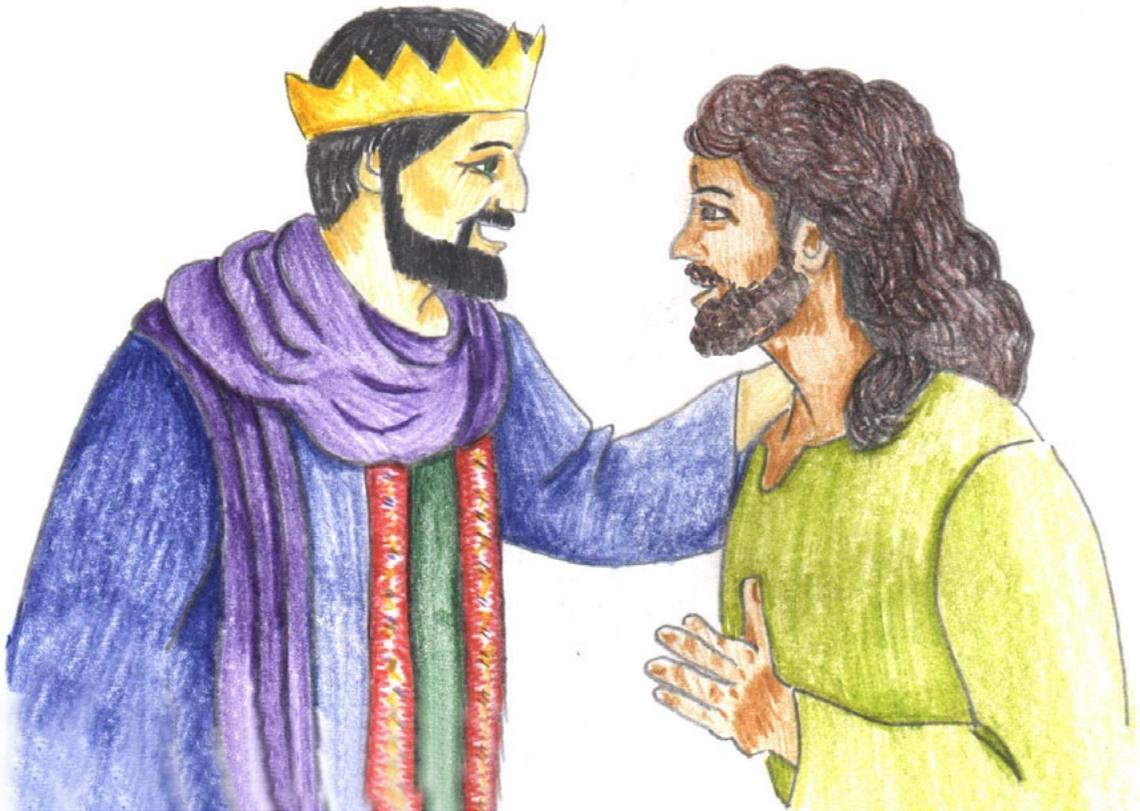
© 2010 General Church Office of Education



Long ago there was a brave soldier named Daniel. He worshipped the Lord. One day, there was a battle and Daniel and the other soldiers were captured and taken to another land called Babylon. King Darius was the ruler of Babylon. He wanted the captured soldiers to learn the ways of his people.

The King's people worshipped idols. But Daniel did not forget the Lord his God and the Lord's commandment that says, "You shall have no other gods before My face. You shall not bow down to them or serve them." (Exodus 20:3, 5). We should only worship the Lord, and so Daniel did!

Every day Daniel worshipped the Lord. He knew his prayer brought the Lord near to him. He spoke to the Lord with his prayers. Three times each day, he knelt and prayed to the Lord.



Daniel was a wise and good man and King Darius of Babylon liked him. The king wanted to make him the ruler of the land.

This made some bad men of Babylon jealous of Daniel. They wanted Daniel to do something against the king so that he would not be made ruler, but Daniel was always faithful and honest.

The jealous men knew Daniel prayed to the Lord every day, so they made a plan to trick him. They asked the King to sign a law that said everyone must pray only to King Darius or be thrown into a den of lions.



Then the men spied on Daniel. Daniel knew about the new law but he prayed only to the Lord. The jealous men told King Darius that Daniel was praying to the Lord instead of the king. The men wanted Daniel to be punished.

Suddenly King Darius realized that he had made a foolish law. He tried to change it because he wanted to save Daniel from death in the lion's den, but the king could not change this law.



“Daniel, Your God, whom you serve continually, He will deliver you. He delivers and rescues, and He works signs and wonders in heaven and on earth,” the king said. But the king did not really believe this. He was sure Daniel would be eaten. Sadly, he watched while his men rolled a stone over the mouth of the den so that it could not be opened until morning.



All night long, King Darius worried about Daniel. He did not sleep. Early in the morning he hurried to the den and called anxiously, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, delivered you from the lions?" And Daniel answered the king : "My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me."



He was alive! The king was happy because the Lord had sent an angel to protect Daniel all night. Then the king made Daniel a ruler. And each day, Daniel went to his room, opened his window toward Jerusalem and knelt down and prayed to the Lord.

You can pray to the Lord, too—in the morning, at mealtimes, and when you go to bed each night. Praying can give you strength and help you feel safe. And when you pray, the Lord is happy to hear you talk to him!

We should remember the words of the Psalm: “Give unto the Lord the glory due to His name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness” (Psalm 29:2).