# **LIGHT IN DARKNESS**

Week 6 : Live Consistently

#### Daniel 6:1-10

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. There are some stories in the Bible that we just love and cherish and today's text is no different.
- B. As much as we love these particular stories, we face a danger when we study them. We can become so familiar with such stories that we miss some of the underlying details.
- C. Having spent some 7 decades in a foreign culture, one would think some of the pagan culture around Daniel might have worn off on him.

### **DANIEL'S REMARKABLE REPUTATION (vs. 1-5)**

- A. He was distinguished (v. 3). Daniel was a faithful servant and served as one of three high officials for the king.
- B. He was different (v. 4). Daniel was honest and no fault could be found in him. He was a man of integrity.
- C. He was disciplined (vs. 5, 10). Daniel continually displayed his total commitment to God.

### **DANIEL'S RELENTLESS RIVALS (vs. 6-9)**

- A. They appealed to the pride of the king.
- B. They lied to the king about all the high officials being in agreement.
- C. They manipulated the king by getting him to sign into effect a law that could not be revoked.

# **DANIEL'S REPEATED RESPONSE (v. 10)**

- A. Daniel did not allow the decree to change his commitment to God. He did what he had always done.
- B. Daniel did not respond out of defiance toward the king but out of devotion for his God.
- C. Daniel lived the same consistent life of obedience no matter his circumstances (vs. 10, 16, 20).

# IF WE WANT TO BE A LIGHT IN DARKNESS - WE MUST LIVE CONSISTENTLY IN OBEDIENCE TO GOD

- A. Form godly habits
  - 1. Daniel's decision to remain faithful had been made years before he ever got to Babylon (1:8).
  - 2. We don't just wake up one day and find ourselves living godly lives (Prov. 22:6; 2 Tim. 1:5).
- B. Never allow our circumstances to determine our behavior
  - 1. Daniel didn't allow his circumstances to determine his behavior. He always lived the same (Acts 5:29).
  - 2. If who we are in public is different from who we are in private, then we are people who allow our circumstances to determine our behavior.
- C. Spend more time on our knees in prayer
  - 1. Daniel was on his knees three times a day, and he probably prayed even more often than that.
  - 2. A person who isn't praying is usually a person who is straying (Matt. 26:41; Lk. 5:16).

### **CONCLUSION:**

- A. Our challenge is to be people who live consistently in obedience in all that we do.
- B. We cannot attract people to a new life in Christ if we, as God's people, are not living new lives.
- C. Let's learn from Daniel what we need to do in order to live a more consistent life of obedience.