**1/12/2020 Daniel In The Lion’s Den Daniel 6 Teague Bible Church**

**How most deal with big problems using just the resources of the world, compared to**

**how Daniel dealt with his big problem.**

**1.** Look at the problem for a long time**. (Dan =” A luxury I do not have.”)**

**2.** Know every detail of the problem. **(Dan = “Why? Makes no difference.”)**

**3.** Evaluate if you have the natural or financial resources to overcome the problem.

**( Dan= “No!”)**

**4.** If not avoid the problem. **(Dan= “ I have no natural power to avoid the inevitable.” )**

**5.** If we can’t avoid it, then live in fear of the problem. **( Dan= “Why? Would that help? No.”)**

**6.** Start networking with associates, just talking will make us all feel so much better. “ Synegy!”

**( Dan= “No power in that!” )**

**7.** Read positive literature, listen to mood music, get a comfort pet. Get Dale Carnage book, “How to win friends and influence people.” **( Dan=” I have this one thing I always do whether I live or whether I die”) ??? ( more on this later)**

**8.** Keep repeating positive slogans, “Yes we can!” or “ Go confidently in the direction of your dreams! Live the life you have imagined!” **( Dan= “I am depending on a person, not a slogan. I don’t need a self-focused dream.” )**

**9.** **Develop a winning attitude;**

The winner is always a part of the answer;

The loser is always a part of the problem

The winner always has a program;

The loser always has an excuse

The winner sees an answer for every problem;

The loser sees a problem in every answer

The winner says, ”It may be difficult but it’s possible!”

The loser says, “It may be possible but it’s too difficult!”

**( Dan= “You are about to make me throw up my kosher food.”)**

**10.** If your life is in danger, or you might suffer a set-back, instead of following timeless truths that honor God as you have been doing, you should fold up like a lawn chair and compromise your very soul if necessary. **( Dan= You are definitely “Clueless In Babylon.”)**

**11.** Remember you only live once, there is nothing more to come, so what could be more important than your physical life? **(Dan= “ Eternity and being faithful to God, in this life and the next.” )**

**Daniel’s problem has no natural solution:** Deep, large feeding pit of about 15 Asian lions. 4’ teeth; bone crushing strength of 1000 lbs. per square inch! Most kings hunted lions and had a park to do so. You could pin them up at feeding time in one end of the park . You threw the food in from the top. Daniel was to be the next meal.

**QUESTION**: Will any of the suggested methods, by the world, help him? NO!

**Ex.** “The kingdom of God does not consist in words, but in power” I Cor. 4:20

**What Daniel is about to experience is one eternal kingdom rolling over a temporal one !**

And that is just as much our experience today as then. We live by the power of a future kingdom in present time. Otherwise we are just here teaching moral lessons, and earth-bound knowledge and nothing more.

***Daniel glanced at his problems and gazed long at God. He did that by prayer.***

***He put first things first ( knowing , serving ,and loving God; enjoying His company) and got second things thrown in for free.***

***He lived a disciplined life, which means he did things on a daily basis, as a daily good habit, that seemed small at the time of doing , but prepared him for a big event.***

***Too many times we dream of being part of something big. Or to have some great moment in our life, but are too prideful to do the little things it takes to be ready for the big things.***

**Ex.** East Lakes Baptist Church- 1st year, 15 people. A man and wife said they liked it ,and they would come back and help us when we became larger and could make a bigger impact on the community. I am glad they never came back. They would have been useless to serve!

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**Text: Background**: Darius “received the kingdom,” **not** , “became the king.” It was given to him to rule this area for less than two years. It was given to him by the Persian king; Cyrus. Cyrus was off on a mission and came back to be officially crowned later. It was a political move to put a Mead in a leadership position. In 549 B.C. , (before conquering the Babylonians in 539 B.C.), Cyrus had defeated the Meads and added them to his kingdom. It was a family thing, since grandpa was ruling over the Meads at the time and Cyrus was very kind to grandpa. More like a civil war; never considered fully separate kingdoms. Usually the Meads and the Persians are considered one kingdom.

**Daniel 6:1-4 READ**

**V.1** **Satraps**= “kingdom protectors” - Their job? Put down uprisings and made sure people

pay their taxes

**V. 4** **“no ground of accusation against him”**

I wonder if he goofed off texting his friends while he was supposed to be working; or came in late and left early; or stole a few company items here and there; or complained about his boss; or gossiped and whined about his co-workers; or was jealous when he did something but somebody else got the credit?

God honored Daniel **because Daniel did the little things.** Many times they seemed so boring and insignificant at the moment they were done, but those actions and attitudes paid big dividends later when the big moment came.

**You ,are at this very moment** doing something that may not seem big now, but you will really need today,,, sometime in the future. Those who missed today may be missing out on a critical experience that will be life-changing later.

**Daniel 6:5-11 READ**

**V. 10 A supernatural, winning habit! A great discipline of prayer!**

**“ as he had been doing previously”**

In fact, it was so precious to him , he was willing to give up his life for the sake of his time with God. He considered it the most important thing to be doing, in his life!

Would 30 days without prayer rip your heart to pieces? It would have destroyed Daniel!

**I challenge you to come up with a better reason to live this life than to love and honor God! Nothing else makes any sense!**

**To prove it?** Assume there is no God. Now; just name an activity and then ask, “Why?”

**Ex.** Why go to work? To get money. Why get money? To buy things. Why? It all eventually goes in a circle meaning nothing if there is no God!

**Daniel 6: 12-22 READ “constantly serve”** ( vs. 16 and 22)

We all have problems being steady in prayer in a world demanding instant gratification.

**Daniel 6:22 READ**

“ and also toward you , Oh king, I have committed no crime”

**Galatians 5: 22-23** “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there are no laws.”

What person in his right mind would not want Daniel working for them? Or you,,,I hope?

**FINAL: \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**QUESTION: What made Daniel so different and so steadfast to pray?**

**Daniel 6:3 says, “He possessed an extraordinary spirit’**

Do we have less available to us today? NO! We have the Holy Spirit of God ready to do His work in us, and through us, and outward toward others.

**POINT: But we have to take the first step to surrender often to do His will.**

**Daniel 6: 24-28**

**Darius said it well but did not know the depth of what he said; Daniel lived the reality well; every monotonous day. Therefore every day was transformed.**