



The Power to Save

DANIEL

FLOURISHING IN A HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT

Main theme of the narrative in Ch 1-6:

God rules over all kingdoms and nations and sets over them anyone he wishes.

Goals of main theme:

- 1. To show the sovereignty and power of God in uncertain and difficult times*
- 2. To give courage and hope to God's people living in hostile environments*

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So Far in the book of Daniel...

- Babylon is the dominant world power 605 BC
- Daniel & his 3 friends taken to Babylon
- 2 dreams from Nebuchadnezzar emphasizing God's sovereignty over nations and rulers
- The fiery furnace
- Nebuchadnezzar humbled
- The bloodless hand & the fall of Babylon

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Daniel 6

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Daniel 6

John 1:1-5... In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was with God in the beginning. ³ Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. ⁴ In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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Daniel 6

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Daniel 6 – The Lion's Den

Daniel a foreshadow of Jesus

- Scheming enemies looking to trap and destroy
- Arrested while praying
- Weak ruler who wants to save but cannot
- Thrown into den and door sealed – Jesus buried in a tomb and sealed inside
- Come out of den in the morning – resurrection and empty tomb

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How Does This Story Relate to Us?

1. Following Jesus is not easy

- Expect opposition
- Expect that there will be those who want to trip you up and maybe even destroy you
- 2 Timothy 3:12... “Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus, will be persecuted...”

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How Does This Story Relate to Us?

1. Following Jesus is not easy

2. Be Faithful Where You're Planted

- God's sovereignty over nations and rulers enables us to live faithfully where God places us
- Daniel faithfully loves God and serves and loves the kings with whom God put him in relationship with
- Daniel did not whine over his predicament and wonder why God had suddenly abandoned him

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How Does This Story Relate to Us?

1. Following Jesus is not easy
2. Be Faithful Where You're Planted
3. You are Being Watched
 - By those who want to harm you
 - By those who want to know if your faith and your God is real
 - God sees the people who surround you as your mission field

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How Does This Story Relate to Us?

1. Following Jesus is not easy
2. Be Faithful Where You're Planted
3. You are Being Watched
4. You Have an Enemy
 - He is looking to destroy and devour and deceive
 - 1 Pet 5:8... "your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour."
 - Just like God shut the mouth of the lions, God can shut the mouth of our enemy, the great liar
 - His greatest weapon is his mouth – his lies

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How Does This Story Relate to Us?

1. Following Jesus is not easy
2. Be Faithful Where You're Planted
3. You are Being Watched
4. You Have an Enemy
5. Our God Has the Power to Save
 - Over and over God saves
 - Jesus came on a rescue mission to save the lost
 - Jesus gave his life so you could have one
 - Jesus want us to join him on this mission to save
 - No one else can save. Only God can save

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