

## What does the BIBLE say?

As you read this study, I encourage you to study the corresponding scriptures for yourself so you can develop a personal, confident understanding of biblical truth. Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. Study like the Bereans, who listened to Paul but did not take his word for it. They studied the scriptures for themselves so they would know for sure.

Acts 17:11 “These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so.” I ask that you do the same with this study. Please pray before you begin.

### **Power for Living Power in Christ (Daniel 6)**

Today, we will study a practical guide to living for Jesus in the last days. Let's turn to our Bibles to Daniel 6 for our study.

Today, we will explore the well-known story of Daniel in the lion's den. Many see it as a simple bedtime story for children, but its significance goes much deeper. The story teaches us how to live during the last days. The PROPHECIES of Daniel reveal WHEN the last days will come, while the STORIES show us HOW to live through them. From today's study, we will discover how to stay faithful to God despite any temptations.

In Dan. 6:1-3, Daniel is about 84 years old and is King Darius's favorite among his three presidents in the Persian Empire. Darius plans to appoint Daniel as his chief counselor, which sparks jealousy among the other presidents and princes, who then look for ways to discredit him.

Dan. 6:4 shows that Daniel's enemies couldn't find any fault or careless behavior to accuse him of, despite their efforts. Similarly, in today's world, the devil employs the same tactics to harm Christians—tempting individuals into secret sins and then stirring others to reveal them. The ensuing controversy is used as a tool for destruction. This highlights the critical need to live with unwavering integrity.

We can avoid these secret sins by remembering that God sees everything we do. It also helps to keep in mind that each sin we commit influences our character (2 Cor. 3:18). Over time, hidden sin can damage our godly character. God's remedy for sin is to turn away from it (Prov. 28:13).

**Dan. 6:5-9 illustrates that the only method to remove Daniel was to create a law making prayer to God illegal unless done through the king first. They substituted the authority of the civil government for that of God. How would Daniel respond?**

**In Dan. 6:10, 11. Daniel was aware that the law was meant to trap him. While some might think it's best to pray in secret quietly, Daniel understood that doing so would weaken his faith in God. Praying to the king was not an option. Why didn't Daniel consider praying to the king for just one month? (See Exodus 20:3.) That would be sinning against God, as the Ten Commandments prohibit it. Daniel's faith was being tested. It showed how much he loved and trusted God. Would he obey God no matter what? When we face tests, what should our response be?**

**The Bible states in Acts 5:29, "We ought to obey God rather than man." When human laws conflict with divine commandments, we must prioritize God's law. Ignoring this indicates a lack of trust in His love to see us through difficult times. In the last days, believers will encounter similar pressures and temptations.**

**Rev. 13:15 indicates that in the last days, there will be a similar test. Despite challenging circumstances, God will have a faithful people who obey Him because they trust in Jesus.**

**See Rev. 14:12. I want to be among these faithful ones. Don't you? Let's revisit the story to see what happens next.**

**In Dan. 6:12-17, Daniel's accusers have him thrown into the lion's den. The king, realizing he's been deceived, feels compelled to follow his law since it is unchangeable. Before sentencing Daniel, he admits that his God will save him. Isn't this a beautiful testimony? When we remain faithful to God, it often encourages others to have faith and trust in Him.**

**Dan. 6:18-23 shows how God saves Daniel due to his faith and obedience. When we trust and follow God, He also honors us. The story is familiar, but let's review it.**

**In Dan. 6:24-28. Daniel's enemies are thrown into the lions' den. God uses this event to spread His truth throughout Persia. The same can happen today. When we trust God enough to obey Him despite the potential cost, He will deliver us and help His truth prevail. I don't know about you, but I don't naturally have that kind of courage. I want to stay loyal to God if I face a similar challenge, don't you? Let's explore Daniel's secret to strength and bravery.**

**Daniel remained faithful because he had a strong connection with God, rooted in his devotional routines. To develop a vibrant devotional life, you should allocate quality,**

sufficient, and consistent time for God. Recognizing this, Satan targets the times we set aside for worship, as seen with the Sabbath and in daily routines. We must stand against Satan's interference in these moments. In closing, let's look at how Daniel fostered his bond with God. Verse 10 highlights the importance of prayer as a source of strength.

See Daniel 6:10 "He went into his house... in his chamber." Daniel had a specific PLACE designated for prayer. We should also have a quiet, private PLACE to pray where we won't be interrupted. "He knelt upon his knees." Daniel used a particular POSITION for prayer. Many different POSITIONS are suitable—standing, lying down, walking, etc. However, it is beneficial to set aside a dedicated time each day to kneel and confess to the Almighty, acknowledging our need for Him in our lives.

"Three times a day, and prayed." Daniel scheduled specific times for prayer. We should also set aside time each day for reading God's Word and praying. The morning is ideal for seeking God's guidance and wisdom, while the evening is perfect for reviewing the day with Him. "And gave thanks before his God." Daniel had a clear prayer PLAN: he expressed gratitude. Our prayers become more meaningful when we follow a structured plan. I recommend a plan that has worked well for me, summarized by the acronym ACTS, where each letter represents a key component.

- A** Is for Adoration. Begin your prayer by praising God for His attributes. Tell Him what you adore about Him.
- C** Is for Confession. Confess your sins and your need for God.
- T** Is for Thanksgiving. Thank Him for forgiving you and for His Son's shed blood. Thank Him for specific blessings and trials in your life.
- S** Is for Supplication. This is when you present your requests to God. Ask Him to lead you into all truth, to give you a heart that loves Him supremely, to give you faith to obey His leadings, and for the needs of your family, etc.

We live in no less challenging times than Daniel did. We, too, must guard our time with God so that we can have a relationship with Him that does not compromise His truth. I encourage you to tell God that you want to spend quality and quantity time with Him to develop a strong relationship and walk with Him.

As you prayerfully consider this topic, I want you to know that we are here to help answer any questions you might have. If you have questions, please get in touch with us at <https://freechristianbooks.us>.