

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

Dan 6:1-2 It seemed good to Darius to appoint 120 *sā-traps* over the kingdom, that they should be in charge of the whole kingdom.

Sa-trap was a *provincial* governor with Absolute civil authority— with his own court!

Sa-trap speaking with advisors



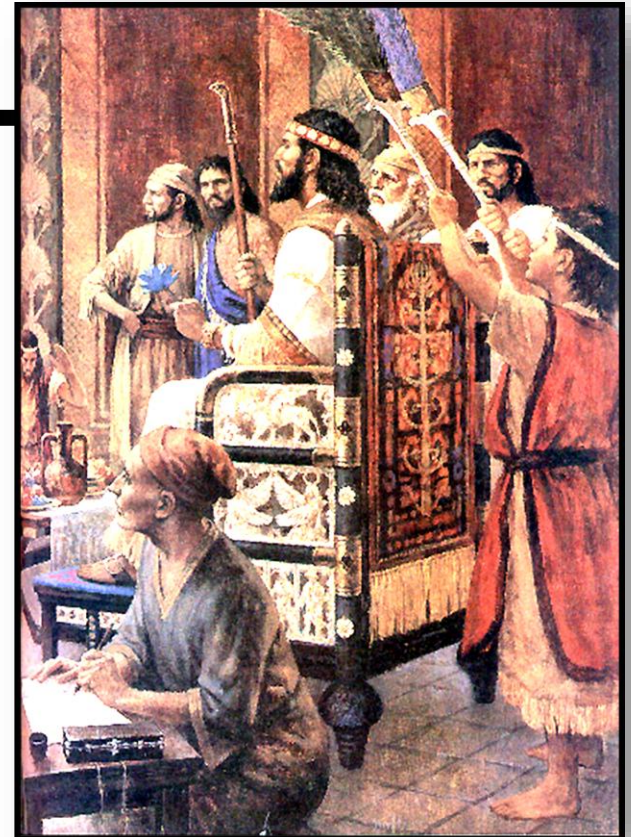
To unsure his loyalty, other officials worked along side him: *CFO* to collect taxes; *Secretary* to handle all official letters & a *Commander* of armed forces. Above officials answered directly to the KING ! Plus, *Inspectors* as *eyes of the king* could appear anytime.

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

Dan 6:2 and over them **three commissioners** (of whom Daniel was one), that these sā-traps might be accountable to them, and that *the king might not suffer loss.*

Every empire had Tax collectors, B.L.M. & Port Commissioners: the Egyptian, Assyrian, Babylonian, Medo-Persian, Greek & Roman.

Later civilizations do the same: British & American.



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Dan 6:3 *Then this Daniel began distinguishing himself* among the commissioners and s̄a-traps because he possessed an extraordinary spirit, and the king planned to appoint him over the entire kingdom.



Becoming distinguished ought to be true of *Christians* also. (Col. 3:23)

Be a great office worker, song-leader, deacon, manager, mom, dad, student, athlete, or friend--all to God's honor!

Yet know, that people may display envy as a result of it.

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Dan 6:4 Then the commissioners and s̄a-traps *began trying to find a ground of accusation* against Daniel in regard to *government affairs..* but they could find no ground of accusation ... inasmuch as he was faithful, & *no negligence or corruption was to be found in him.*



What a endorsement,
and that by enemies!

*Display diligence & ethics
in our life, our jobs, family,
honesty & morality! May
we live in honor as Daniel.*

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

Dan 6:5 Then these men said, "We shall not find any ground of accusation against this Daniel *unless we find it against him with regard to the law of his God.*"



v.7-9 The conspiracy against Daniel had *to be related to his religion!*

Plutarch (100 AD) said: *"Persians worshipped their kings among their gods."* Prophecy of Daniel; Young, p.134

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

Dan 6:6 Then these *commissioners and satraps* came by agreement to the king and spoke to him as follows: "King Darius, live forever!"



Dan 6:7a *All the commissioners of the kingdom, the prefects and the satraps, the high officials & the governors* have consulted together that the king should establish a statute & enforce an injunction...

Their statement may be partially true, but perhaps *not totally true*. Daniel wouldn't have agreed!

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

6:7b “That *anyone who makes a petition to any god or man besides you, O king, for thirty days, shall be cast into the lions' den.*”



How would the enemies
“Sell” this bill of goods?

It brings more *prestige*
to the king !

It roots out the
rebellious in the nation.

It makes the present officials look more *loyal*.
[Shhhhh] it gets rid of that ‘*goody-two shoes*’ Daniel.

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Dan 6:10 Now **when Daniel KNEW** that the document was signed, he entered his house..

(In his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); & he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying & giving thanks before his God, **as he had been doing previously.**

Dan 6:11 **Then these men came by agreement** and found Daniel making petition and supplication before his God.

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

Patterns of life are set in our younger days.

Daniel: courageous and spiritually minded.



Saul: fearful
and brooding.

Death row didn't
stop his prayer.

Prayed toward Jerusalem.

And the temple has been **gone 70 yrs!**

Yet, he prayed toward this city. (Cf 1 Ki 8:48 -53)

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

Dan 6:12 Then they approached and spoke before the king *about the king's injunction...*

"*Did you not sign an injunction* that any man who makes a petition to any god or man besides you, O king, for thirty days, is to be cast into the lions' den?"



***The king answered* and said, "The statement is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, *which may not be revoked.*"**

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

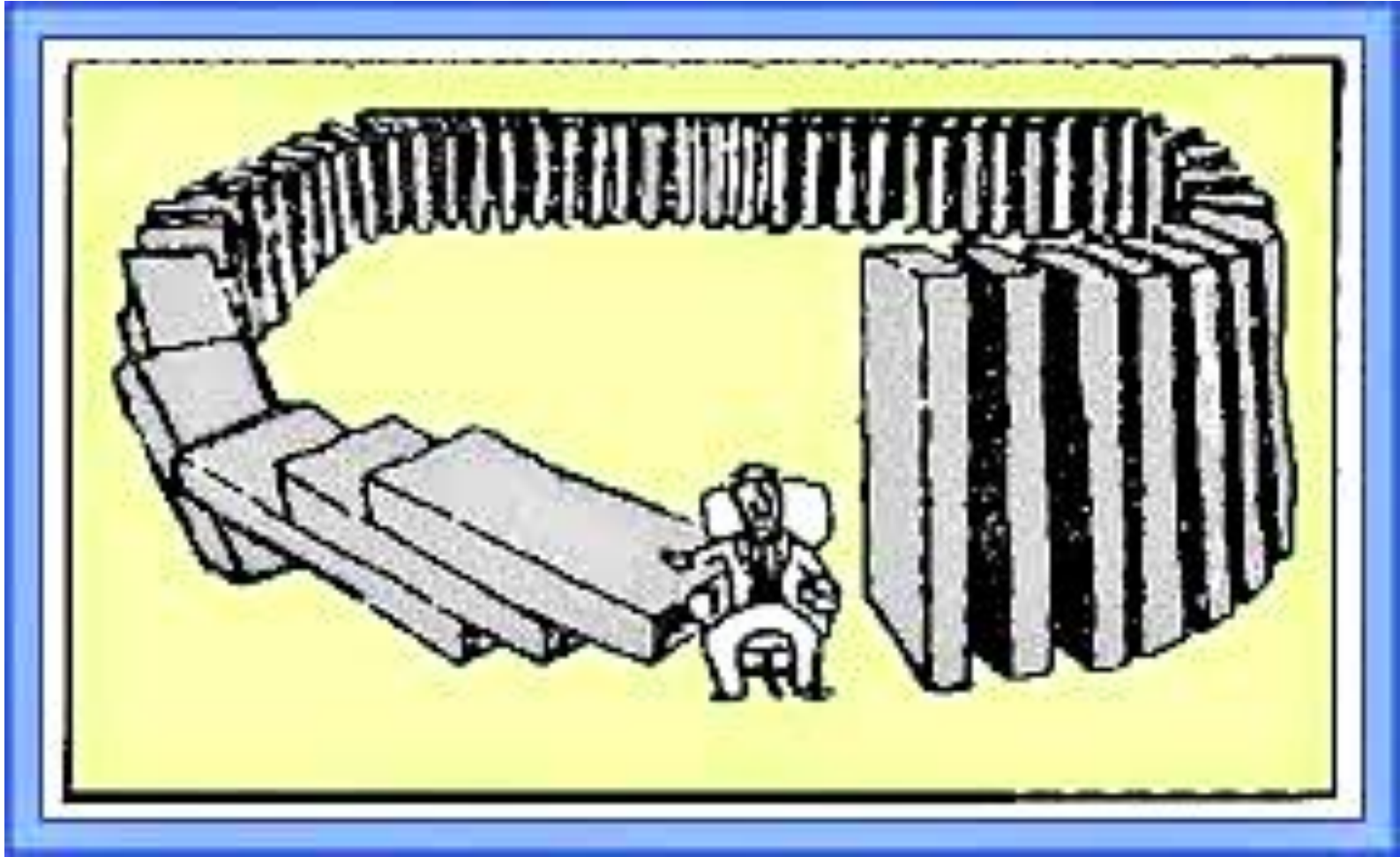
Dan 6:13 Then they ...spoke before the king, "Daniel, *who is one of the exiles from Judah*, *pays no attention to you, O king*, or to the injunction which you signed, but keeps making his petition three times a day."



“Law of Unintended consequences”

Dan 6:14 Then, as soon as the king heard this statement, he was *deeply distressed* and *set his mind on delivering Daniel*; and even until sunset he kept exerting himself to rescue him.

Daniel 6 ***The Lions' Den***

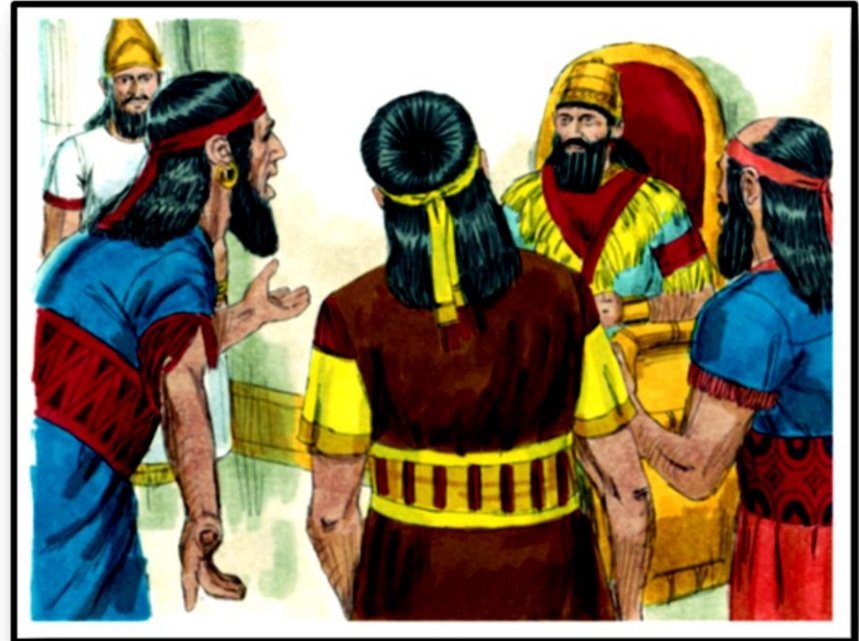


Law of Unintended Consequences

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

Dan 6:15 "Then these men *came by agreement* to the king and said to the king..."

"Recognize, O king, that it is a law of the Medes and Persians that *no injunction or statute which the king establishes may be changed.*"



They had heard Darius was trying to *free Daniel* and their plot was about to go down the tube.

Daniel 6 ***The Lions' Den***

Dan 6:16 “Then the ***king gave orders***, and Daniel was brought in and cast into the lions' den.



***The king spoke
.. to Daniel,
"Your God
whom you
constantly
serve will
Himself
deliver you."***

Daniel 6 *The Lions' Den*

Dan 6:17 And a stone was brought and laid over the mouth of the den; *and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the signet rings of his nobles*, so that nothing might be changed in regard to Daniel.



18 Then the king went off to his palace *& spent the night fasting*, & no entertainment was brought before him; and his *sleep fled from him.*

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Dan 6:19 “Then the king arose with the dawn,
at the break of day, and went in haste to
the lions' den.



20 And when he had come near the den
to Daniel, he cried out
with *a troubled voice*.

The king spoke
& said to Daniel,
"Daniel, *servant
of the living God*..

Has your God, whom you constantly
serve, been *able to deliver you from the lions?*”

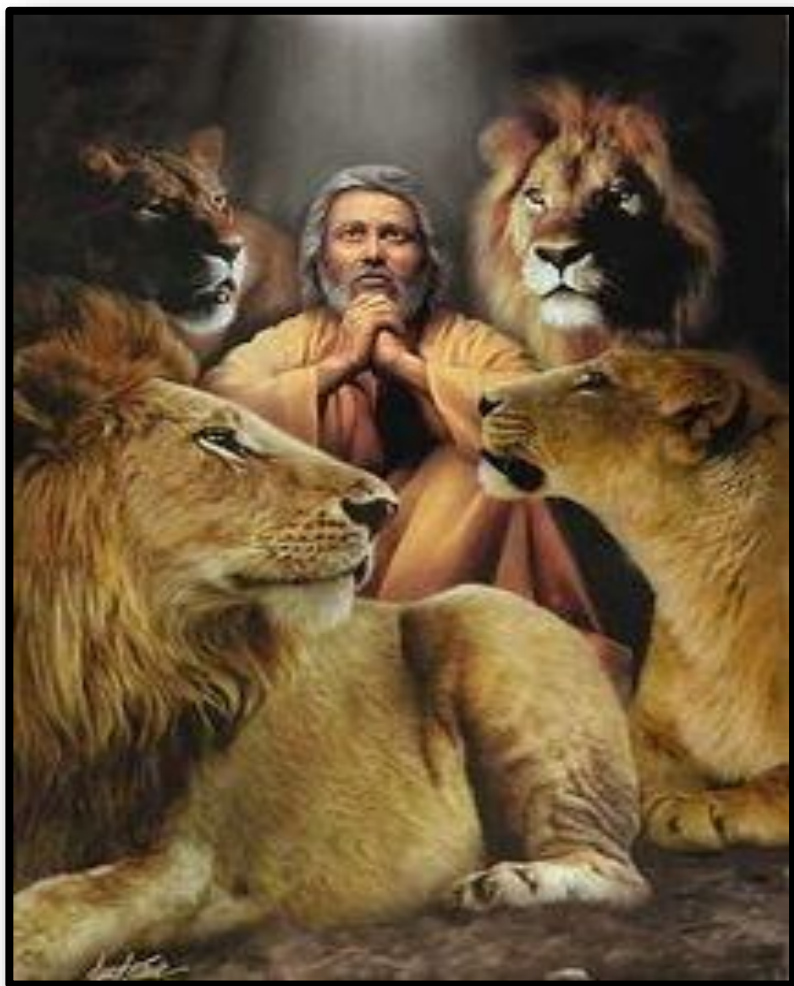
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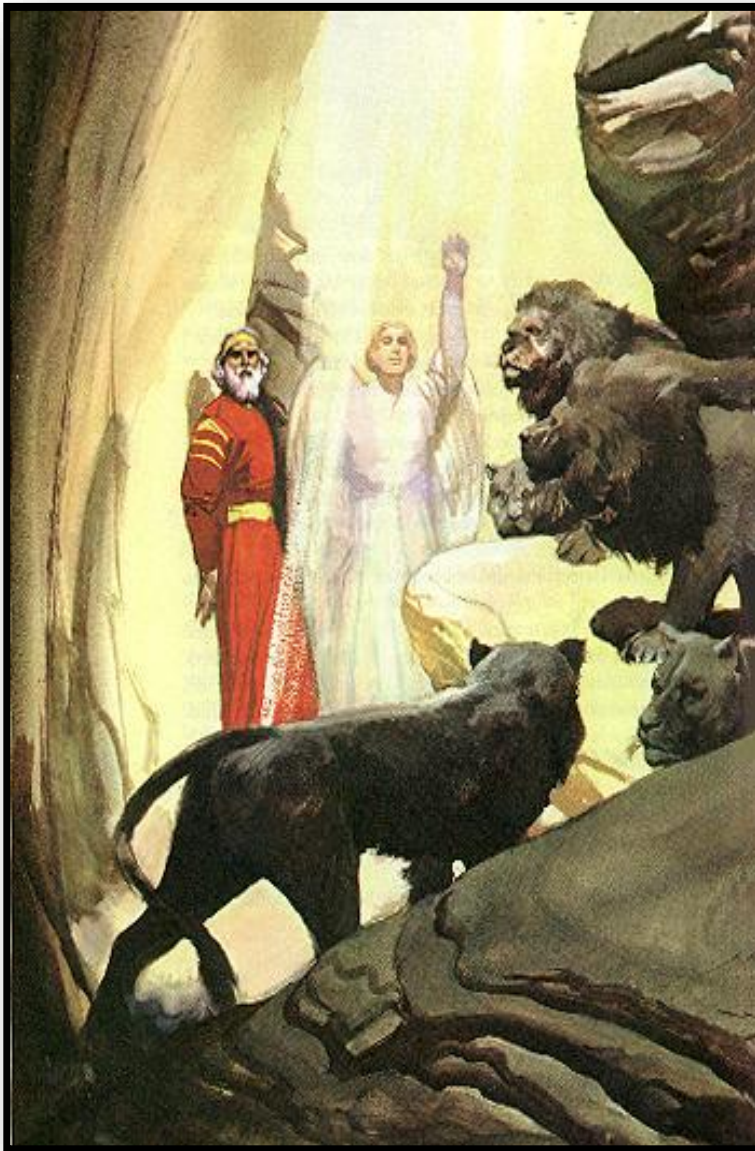
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v.23 Daniel taken up without injury.

v.24 Enemies & families thrown in—hungry lions.

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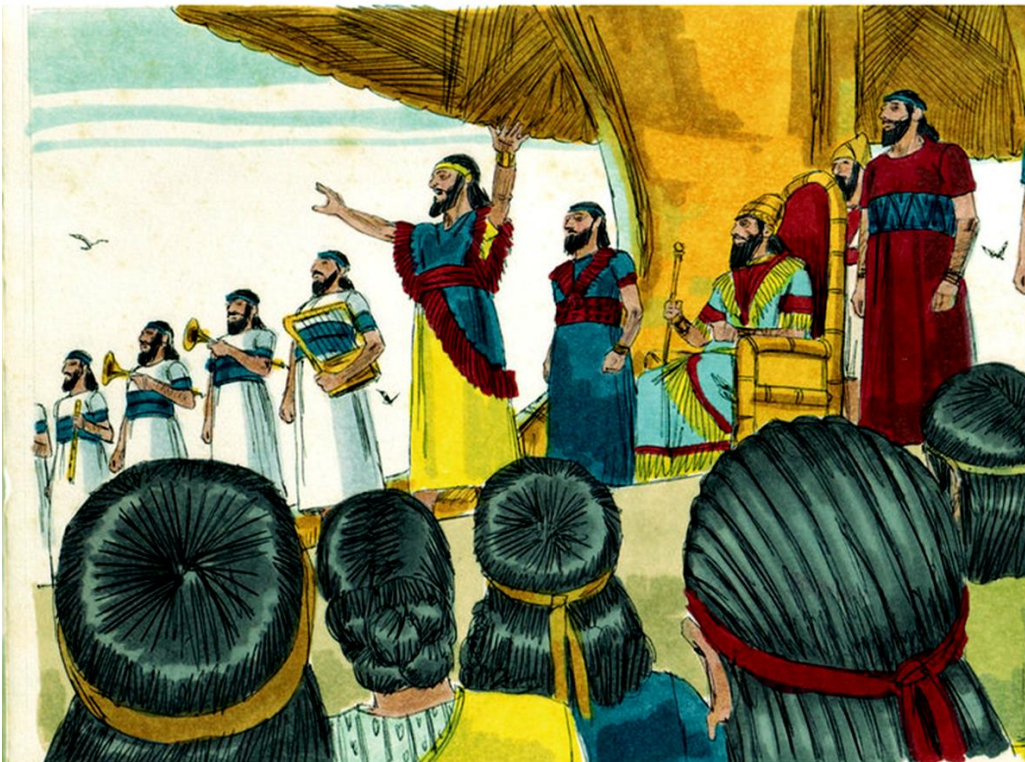


Dan 6:21 Then Daniel spoke to the king,
"O king, live forever!"

22 ***"My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths,*** and they have not harmed me, inasmuch as I was found innocent before Him; and also toward you, O king, I have committed no crime."

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Dan 6:25 Then Darius the king wrote to all the peoples, nations, & men of every language who were living in all the land:
"May your peace abound!"



**I decree that...
Men are to fear
and tremble
before the God
of Daniel...**

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He is the living God and enduring forever.

His kingdom is one will not be destroyed.

His dominion will be forever.

He delivers & rescues and performs signs.

**God is the protector of captives;
The Revealer of the future;
The Humbler of the proud;
The Lord of the Fire; and
The Avenger on earth.**