

Lesson 6: The Living God intervenes at the lion’s den when all must worship (?) Darius (Dan. chap 6)

I. Introduction to Chap. 6

A. Medo-Persian Empire in 539 BC (East of dotted line) compared w/Babylonian Empire (outlined in red):



B. Cyrus the Persian/Darius the Mede (5:31, 6:1, also 1:21, 6:28, 9:1, 10:1)

C. Law of Medes & Persians:

D. Lions:

E. Daniel:

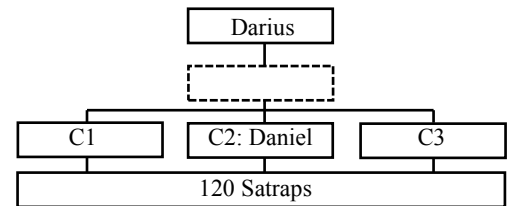
II. Summary of the Text

A. Plot contrived (1-9)

B. Daniel’s arrest (10-15)

C. The Living God’s deliverance (16-24)

D. Darius’ decree to the nations (25-28)



III. Comparison and Contrast with Chapter 3 Deliverance from Fiery Furnace

A. **The Book of Daniel** is a carefully ordered collection of _____ and _____ truths about the God of Israel, His people, and the nations of the world from Daniel’s era until the time of the end. It contains intentional _____, combined with interspersions of _____ information, helping the reader to gradually grow in understanding, trust, and obedience toward the one and only God who owns and controls the future. A question to ask in any of its chapters is, “What previously-revealed or ____ information is being conveyed and/or enlarged upon?”

$x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$; if $x + 2 = 5$, then $x = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ if $2x = 6$, then $x = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ if $x^2 = 9$, then $x = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

B. **Similarities** (to confirm and reinforce previously-expressed truth):

Theme	Chapter 3	Chapter 6
Royal Edict	Nebu’s idol to be worshipped	All petitions must go to/through Darius
Malicious Antagonists	Chaldeans against SM&A	Government administrators ag. Daniel
Execution Implement(s)	Fiery Furnace	Lions
Implement(s)’ Authenticity	Soldiers burnt up in furnace	Accusers crushed by lions
Agent of God’s Deliverance	Angel	Angel
Servants of God Described	SM&A trust God in disregard of king’s command (vs. 28)	Daniel not injured because he trusted in his God (vs. 23)
Aftermath	Nebu promotes SM&A	Daniel enjoys success under Darius/Cyrus

Reinforced Truth: The God of the Jews _____ His servants as they _____ in Him.

Caveat (Heb 11:32-38)

C. **Additional Information in Chapter 6** (to provide a fuller perspective)

God:



His Servant’s Habitual ‘Orientation’:



Reputation:

Additional info: The _____ God is demonstrated to the world through His loyal servants who _____ reflect aspects of His _____ in society as a natural _____ of daily fellowship in His _____.

IV. Closing Thoughts:

- A. Ongoing personal struggle with “_____”
- as new convert and later at seminary:
 - my present view:
 - my aim:

B. If Daniel cherished his 3x/day with the LORD so much that:

C. Summer versus the rest of the year:

Would you please read Daniel 7 for next Sunday? This chapter parallels topics introduced in Chapter 2’s dream of a 4-part statue. Besides the different imagery, what new information does chapter 7 convey?