

Daniel 31 – Proudful Lions of Satan

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Daniel 6:16-28

Prologue – Penalty: Death in the Lion's Den

- False Dilemma Fallacy – Lies (Jn 8:44)
- Appeal to Majority Fallacy: Conspirators in agreement; implied bureaucracy also agreed
- Darius under Cyrus' authority
- If Darius broke the law for Daniel (Apodast); then conspirators would appeal to Cyrus (Protasis)
- Darius isolated and politically naive
- Daniel learned of the edict: Pray to God – Die in the Lion's Den



Fallacy of Independence: Governments & Leaders – Dependent

- Daniel details how governments and leaders are dependent on others to form internal-external systems of control: Economic; Resource management; Military; and other nations in various degrees
 - Darius discovered his dependence on the bureaucracy to keep power as part of a larger system: Darius – Suzerain answerable to Cyrus – Alpha King
 - Nebuchadnezzar, though king, needed the bureaucracy to administer his power
 - Nebuchadnezzar's vision depicted not just chronology of succeeding empires but dependence on preceding empires for expansion (v12)
 - Governmental systems dependent on masses to control & project control (v12)
 - Even Satan needs human intermediaries for rule (Control); Antichrist and false Prophet are examples of his weakness: Also, Darius, etc. (v13)

Satan's Control Follows God's Plan: Accomplishes God's Will

- From the beginning of Satan's sin, he was accomplishing God's will without intention; seeking his own power produced his own destruction
 - Pharaoh gained socialism D/T monopoly of grains because God worked through Joseph to protect fledgling Israel until his time (Ex 2:23-35)
 - Satan used Nebuchadnezzar to destroy Judah to prevent Messiah's coming; however, God used Nebuchadnezzar to protect faithful Judah while preparing the World for Messiah's coming; and Satan's (Sinners') inevitable judgment (Job 1)
 - Satan used Cyrus to replace Nebuchadnezzar after he was saved; yet, God used Cyrus to return Jews to Judah preparing for Messiah's coming (Is 45:1-7)
 - As Satan seeks to harm God's plan and people, he insures his own judgment (Isa 30:15-21; Ps 138:21)
 - While Satan used Darius for evil, God used Darius to cause his salvation, for good

Satan Chooses His Own Metaphor: Imitates Christ's Symbol as His Own

- God via Jacob gives Messiah image of Lion which overshadows Scripture (Gen 49:9-10; Rev 5)
 - Satan, as all sinners, is a created being and cannot originate anything; he can only imitate and pervert what God has created; asebeia (Job 1:9-11; Rev 1:18:26)
 - God gives Christ mission of being King, Priest and Prophet with a body; Satan cannot create so he indwells men to copyish Christ; Antichrist and False Prophet (Rev 1:1; Is 1:26-32; Ps 2:14-18; Rev 17:1-18)
 - Satan is the father, quintessential image of all sinners; Angels and Man (Jn 8:44)
 - Satan as a roaring lion seeks to devour and all sinners are also lions seeking to devour but God restrains according to His will for His harvest (Noah's Cataclysm) (Isa 43:3; Mt 13:31-32; 25:23-32; Ps 54:11)
 - Satan through the wise men sought to kill Daniel by lions, metaphor of themselves destroying God's man; metaphor of them attacking God's people through time

Factual Events: Reluctant King; Frustrated Lions

- Darius demonstrates his powerlessness to do right by condemning Daniel to the lions' pit reluctantly; picture of conviction via Spirit leading to salvation
 - Without his law, Daniel would not have been condemned; it was the law that proved its power over even its enactor (Ps 77:6)
 - Darius set his seal, as did his local governors, making him equal to or under their power lest he become their prey; power of Satan behind the scenes
 - Daniel was in the pit all night with the lions; his entire life had been spent in the presence of the lions of Satan in the darkness of Chaldean idolatry
 - God sent an angel to close the lions' mouths demonstrating powerlessness of Satan and his minions against His plan (Is 3:1; Rev 8:2)
 - Daniel was saved because of his faithfulness; he was saved because of God's plan; i.e., revelation of Himself to the Gentiles via Daniel (Isa 2:15-18; Ps 41:11; Rev 1:1)

Compare Abodes: When a House Becomes a Pit

- Paul makes the statement that because of his Haglazo experiences he has learned how to be content regardless of his outward circumstances (Ph 4:11-13)
 - Darius, and his bureaucracy spent their night in comfort; however... (Dan 6:17)
 - Darius was forgoing music and women undergoing his Haglazo process, like Jacob and Job, as he struggled with God (Job 32:4-28; Job 1:2-42:6)
 - Daniel was in a dark, dank, smelly pit with lions smelling of urine and feces and possibly decaying matter from previous meals; his distraction was the food of Christ, doing the will of God (Dan 6:21-24)
 - Darius called out next morning, sign of fledgling faith for he had no expectation for Daniel's survival based on empirical observations
 - Daniel's survival brought Darius to salvation; it also removed the sentence of death from the law as he survived the law's punishment: Type of Resurrection
 - Whereas Christ underwent His ordeal alone; man cannot
 - Christ was with or protecting them due to weakness of flesh

The Pit They Dug: Becomes a Pit for Them

- Sinners constantly plot how to devour those around them; as governments are of man, they also devour those weaker than themselves: Wars (Isa 47:4)
 - Bible frequently warns saved and lost of this fact: Sin devours (Ps 73:14-17)
 - Israel and later Judah tried to emulate the lost nations, lion metaphor, but were overcome by those more sinful than themselves (God's blessing) (Isa 17:1-6)
 - False Jews decreed the death of Messiah via Judas Iscariot, and he met a shameful death without reprieve when they rejected his repentance (Mt 27:19; Ac 1:14-19)
 - False Jews will assist and later be destroyed by Antichrist; being taken in their own trap according to Scripture during latter times – Great Tribulation (Isa 11:8-13)
- Those who sought Daniel's death become lion's food; sin devours everyone
 - Their families followed in death, agreeing with their sinful ways; like Korah (Ex 16:7-10; 17:1-13; De 24:16; Ps 2:12-13)

Darius' Declaration: God is God

- Whereas the wise men sought to kill Daniel due to his relationship with God, under Satan's guidance, God used this to inform the nations of Himself
 - God saves Darius as demonstration of His grace over law's tyranny of death
 - Darius acknowledges that the source of knowledge of God comes through Daniel, Jewish captive; one must go to him and his Scriptures to learn Truth
 - This stands in stark contrast to those Jews who remain entrenched in idolatry and government (Dan 6)
- Just as Christ was to be a light to the Gentiles; those whom he saves also become lights to those in darkness until His day dawns in Millennial Kingdom (Isa 42:7; Mt 5:14; Lk 22:16-32)
 - Daniel remained a light through reigns of Darius and Cyrus until his own death

Epilogue: Concludes this Section of Daniel

- Daniel began with the epilogue of why God used Daniel, faithfulness; this section closes declaring Daniel remained faithful
- Whereas historians label this the Iron Age based on war weapons; God warns that it was a time of preparation:
 - Satan preparing the nations for the time of his coming rule by consistently enlarging his rule over people: Socialism (Satan’s learning curve)
 - Nations rule through violence, coveting what others have and seeking to increase their control at the expense of others (Law Begets Death)
- The Iron Age, the Ancient World, ends with Christ who is always in control lest the world end before salvation comes to all whom God has called; this is also time of mercy as lost see God’s mercy and some are saved: As We (Jo 1:18-22, 8:34)

Government’s Religio-Politico-Social System Promotes Satan’s Goal

- Modern history rife with post-Reformation wars as Christians sought, seek, to force God’s Kingdom morality on earth by merging church and state; even Christ cannot do this in His Millennial Kingdom (Post Millennialism) (Jo 20)
- This was from the error of Replacement Theology, Church replaced Jews, whose mission was to inaugurate God’s kingdom on earth; false churches ignored God’s plan; God will recall True Jews to announce His Millennial Kingdom (Dt 31:1-14, 28:12-13, Re 7:1-12)
- Christians are to proclaim the gospel to individuals as individuals while Satan, in this darkness, prepares for his coming kingdom (Jes 28:18-20; Re 12:7-12)
- Like Daniel, Christians are to submit to governments, to be lights of grace knowing these governments will seek to devour them; Like Daniel (Jo 12:1-7)
- We should not think it strange when sinners devour, cheat, steal, kill to gain their goals; we have committed our souls, not to government, but to Christ looking for His New Earth where His Kingdom will last forever (Jes 6:9-10; 4:13-14; Mt 6:33)



As Satan, Demons, Devour Sinners, and himself
Satan’s instrument, Government, Devours Citizens
Consuming quest for Knowledge does not forestall Death

Ouroboros Metaphor: Sin Devours Sinners

- All turn on each other until none are left; like lions of Daniel’s pit
- Ancient symbol of encircling dragon/snake swallowing its tail
- Outer Dragon is Satan-Demons
- Inner Snake is sinner; All sinners
- Satan-Man traded Tree of Life for tree of Knowing; Be as gods
- Hopelessness: Devoured by sin unless saved by Christ’s death on the stauros – True Knowledge