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Bible Doctrine Presented in Q&A Format

DANIEL GOES TO THE LION'S DEN

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INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

1) This material is designed for one session or six sessions.

2) The SET OF COMPREHENSIVE QUESTIONS is designed for one session.

3) You can stretch the lesson into six sessions with the other sets of questions.

4) It is recommended that the teacher is well prepared before class.

5) It is recommended that the students come to class with their answers written out.

6) Answers can be written on the back of the questions page.

7) The teacher can choose a select number of questions or all of them.

SET OF COMPREHENSIVE QUESTIONS (Daniel 6)

1. What is the fear and some of the thought patterns of those in power? ^{A1}	21. Can man be blameless even though born in sin? (Philippians 2:15)
2. What happens when jealousy is your motive to hurt someone? ^{A2}	22. Can you think of another situation where God intervened? (Acts 5:17-19)
3. Where does faithfulness start, in the secular or the spiritual world? (Luke 16:11)	23. Could Daniel have run to another city or hid from the high officials and satraps?
4. What are some key factors in obeying God? (Deut 6:2; Psalm 1:2; 119:2; Prov 1:23)	24. What other character in the OT had respect for the head of state? (1 Samuel 26:7-12)
5. How did Daniel apply I Peter 2:12-15? (6:4-5)	25. What would the results be would Jesus teach on how to walk on water in a full series?
6. Can the lost man distinguish between an honest man and a dishonest man?	26. Do you think that Daniel forced this line in Daniel 6:21, or was he rubbing it in?
7. Was Daniel afraid of losing his income or his position? Was Daniel afraid of the lions?	27. What does such a line say about Daniel's spiritual state?
8. How does living in the era of human rights affect our thinking when reading the Bible?	28. What would you have said had you been in Daniel's shoes?
9. How do you explain Daniel's actions in his day in time in light of Matthew 6:6?	29. Was Daniel simply following protocol by saying such a line?
10. Could Daniel have kept the windows shut or prayed at another spot?	30. Why do you think that Christians have been ripped apart by lions?
11. Did Daniel's strong prayer life have anything to do with his success in life?	31. Can you name some sources on falling into the very pit one dug for someone else? ^{A3}
12. Do we need to face Jerusalem today? Do we need to pray three times a day?	32. How was Psalm 76:10 verse applied in this account?
13. How did Daniel, as a high official, have time to pray three times a day? (Psa 55:17)	33. Did their families have anything to do with actions of the perpetrators? (6:24)
14. What is the difference between punishing out of vengeance or out of righteousness?	34. What is the proper motive when engaging in civil disobedience? (Acts 5:29)
15. Can you name a punishment that was due to personal vengeance? (Genesis 39:12-20)	35. Did Achan's entire family witness him bury the stolen goods? (Josh 7:22-25)
16. Is there a green checkmark from heaven saying that you are blameless?	36. What is the difference between the living God and a false god? (Psalm 115:3-9)
17. Was it by design we only have one story of Daniel in the Bible?	37. What is the main challenge on being faithful to God and trying to please man?
18. If you are faithful today, would you be protected from a punishment by lions?	38. Is it possible that Daniel sinned a big sin earlier in life and simply learned his lesson?
19. Did Daniel receive protection because he was a prophet? (Psa 105:15)	39. Why was John the Baptist not protected from the sword?
20. What does the text say saved Daniel? (See Daniel 6:22-23 & Hebrews 11:33.)	40. How would we teach and apply civil disobedience in the 21st century?

^{A1}See Exodus 14:5, I Sam 15:24, Prov 29:25, Luke 22:2, John 11:48, and John 12:42.

^{A3}See Psalm 7:15, Psalm 57:6, Proverbs 26:27 and Proverbs 28:10.

^{A2}See Genesis 37:11, I Samuel 18:7-11, Acts 5:17-18, I Corinthians 3:3, James 3:16, and I John 3:12.

1. ISSUING THE PROCLAMATION (Daniel 6:1-9)

1. Was Daniel in a high position in King Darius' kingdom? (6:1-2)	21. Would a Christian organization to issue an unbiblical policy, how would you respond?
2. What is the fear and some of the thought patterns of those in power? ^{B1}	22. Will people have the option not to take the mark of the beast? (Revelation 13:15-16)
3. How was King Darius planning on promoting Daniel? (6:3)	23. What part of the mark of the beast will be made law? (Revelation 13:15-16)
4. Do you think the other high officials knew the King was going to promote Daniel? (6:4)	24. Did Daniel as a foreigner have anything to do with making the locals jealous of him?
5. What happens when jealousy is your motive to hurt someone? ^{B2}	25. Did Daniel as a Jew have anything to do with making the locals jealous of him?
6. Was Daniel's faithfulness referring to secular matters or spiritual matters? (6:4)	26. Can the lost man distinguish between an honest man and a dishonest man?
7. Where does faithfulness start, in the secular or the spiritual world? (Luke 16:11)	27. Can the lost man distinguish between a faithful man and an unfaithful man?
8. What is one of the main factors that Jesus will use when judging us? (Matt 25:23)	28. How do you think God prepared Daniel for this account?
9. What are some key factors in obeying God? (Deut 6:2; Psalm 1:2; 119:2; Prov 1:23)	29. Is Daniel's case in Daniel 6 a case for civil disobedience?
10. How did the high officials and satraps know how to find a fault in Daniel? (6:5)	30. Although his colleagues could find nothing in him, was Daniel still a sinner?
11. What kept Daniel without fault? (6:4) Was Daniel without sin? (Ecc 7:20)	31. Was King Darius aware of Daniel's testimony? (6:18-19)
12. Was Darius motivated by vain motives? (6:7) Did peer pressure influence him?	32. Who was behind the establishing the ordinance to whom to pray?
13. What does it say for Daniel that the only way to get him was via the law of his God?	33. Who was behind inflicting such a cruel punishment?
14. How did Daniel apply I Peter 2:12-15? (6:4-5)	34. Did Darius come up with any of this new law or the punishment?
15. How did Daniel's work ethic in the work place play a role in this account? (6:4)	35. How come Darius came over as a pushover?
16. How did Daniel's integrity play a role in this account? (6:4-5)	36. Is it a good thing when the lost man acknowledges a believer's character?
17. What kind of culture allows high officials and satraps to undo an old man?	37. Does the lost man hold the believer to a higher standard?
18. With Darius' having plans for Daniel's future, what does this say for Daniel's health?	38. What are some things you can do to improve your testimony?
19. What character trait did they play on when convincing Dairus to sign the document?	39. Should we waller in regret for past mistakes regarding our testimony?
20. Is God concerned about laws enacted by man? (Romans 13:1-2)	40. How should a believer apply God's Word in a secular workplace?

^{B1}See Exodus 14:5, I Sam 15:24, Prov 29:25, Luke 22:2, John 11:48, and John 12:42.

^{B2}See Genesis 37:11, I Samuel 18:7-11, Acts 5:17-18, I Corinthians 3:3, James 3:16, and I John 3:12.

2. DETERMINED TO SERVE GOD (Daniel 6:10-11)

1. Was Daniel afraid of losing his income? Was Daniel afraid of the lions?	21. Did Daniel continue to pray openly out of spite or out of a desire to be obedient?
2. Was Daniel afraid of losing his position of power? Was Daniel afraid of persecution?	22. Are missionaries expected to operate on the same public level as Daniel?
3. Did Daniel love the Lord with all his heart, soul and mind? (Matt 22:36-37)	23. How do you explain Daniel's actions in his day in time in light of Matthew 6:6?
4. How do you know if you love the Lord with all your heart, soul and mind?	24. What did adding the element of thanksgiving say about Daniel? (6:10)
5. How would you apply Matthew 6:6 into Daniel's situation?	25. Do you think that Daniel was hoping not to get caught praying towards Jerusalem?
6. Was Daniel purposely defying the king's order by praying in the window?	26. What was the significance of Daniel praying towards Jerusalem?
7. Because praying in the window was already his practice, were his actions warranted?	27. Did Daniel have to pray openly towards Jerusalem?
8. Is it easier to engage in civil disobedience by yourself or in a group?	28. Can you cite some verses that support Daniel praying towards Jerusalem? ^{C1}
9. Which would be easier, getting persecuted by yourself or with a million other people?	29. How did Daniel, as a high official, have time to pray three times a day? (Psa 55:17)
10. What is the proper motive when engaging in civil disobedience? (Acts 5:29)	30. Is it necessary to pray three times a day in the 21st century?
11. Do you think that Daniel consulted with any other Jews in his civil disobedience?	31. Is it recommended to pray three times a day in the 21st century?
12. What was their motive in seeking to kill Jesus? (Luke 22:2)	32. Do you have any recommendations on how to establish a strong prayer life?
13. Would it have been wrong for Daniel to simply pray at another spot?	33. Did Daniel's strong prayer life have anything to do with his success in life?
14. What would have been wrong with Daniel keeping the windows shut?	34. Does a shallow prayer life increase the likelihood to mess up your testimony?
15. Do you think that Daniel thought since his life was about over, what's the use?	35. How much time should a believer devote in prayer daily?
16. Can Daniel be blamed for keeping the windows open?	36. What are some obstacles in the free world that seems to inhibit service to God?
17. How did the high officials and satraps know of Daniel's practice of prayer?	37. What are some obstacles in the free world that seems to inhibit faithfulness to God?
18. Would you be embarrassed to have your prayer time be seen in public? (6:10)	38. Did Daniel have the right to give himself any credit? (Psalm 7:8)
19. What does Daniel chapter 6 say about Daniel's previous practices?	39. In principle, what kind of scenarios could be likened to being in the lion's den?
20. Did the men catch anyone else, or were they just concerned about Daniel?	40. Do we need to face Jerusalem today? Do we need to pray three times a day?

3. METING OUT THE PUNISHMENT (Daniel 6:12-16)

1. What is the difference between punishing out of vengeance or out of righteousness?	21. If you are blameless today, would you be protected by lions at the zoo?
2. How should men in power apply Romans 12:19?	22. If you are faithful today, would you be protected from a punishment by lions?
3. Can you name a punishment that was due to personal vengeance? (Genesis 39:12-20)	23. Why do you think Darius signed the document in the first place?
4. When Jeremiah was put into the pit, was this an abuse of power? (Jeremiah 38:2-6)	24. Do you think there were any other accusations made other than towards Daniel?
5. What should the standard be when deciding on a punishment?	25. Have you ever inflicted an unjust punishment or been on the receiving end?
6. Is it just for someone who has never heard the gospel to go to hell? (Luke 12:48)	26. Did faith play a role in Daniel receiving protection from the lions?
7. Did Daniel know what the punishment was going to be? (6:10)	27. Was Peter employing a spiritual gift or faith when he walked on water?
8. Do you think Daniel knew his life wasn't over?	28. Is it possible for us to walk on water today?
9. Was Daniel applying Esther's attitude? (Esther 4:16)	29. How does Jesus' statement on man doing greater things play into this story?
10. How was Daniel prepared for this moment?	30. What was the reason for Jesus' first advent? What about the Millennium?
11. Did his understanding of visions and dreams affect Daniel's confidence?	31. What are the differences in Jesus' regional ministry and his global ministry?
12. What part of their accusations was true, and what part was false? (6:13)	32. Have you ever been falsely accused? Have you ever been rightly accused?
13. How should you handle the situation when you are in the middle of a bad vow?	33. What would you have done had you been in Daniel's situation?
14. Do you think that King Darius had already regretted enacting this law? (Dan 6:16)	34. Is there a green checkmark from heaven saying that you are blameless?
15. What was the specific reason Daniel was thrown into the lions den? (6:10-12)	35. Is there a green checkmark from God indicating that you keep the commandments?
16. Was Daniel supposed to ask for a lawyer? Could Daniel have put up a fight?	36. Have you had an experience where you were struck with fear for an entire night?
17. Do you think King Darius felt done in by the high officials and satraps?	37. Was it by design we only have one story of Daniel in the Bible?
18. Did Darius have an aim to destroy Daniel? Did Darius try to deliver Daniel? (6:14)	38. Have you ever participated in civil disobedience in obeying God?
19. Was Daniel obligated to accept the punishment inflicted upon him? (Dan 6:16)	39. What is an example when you hanker after power and vain glory? (3 John 1:9)
20. What is one challenging aspect in serving God? (6:16)	40. How can God say that his kingdom will never be destroyed when Israel was toppled?

4. CARRYING OUT THE SENTENCE (Daniel 6:17-23)

1. Do you think this was a walk in the park for Daniel?	21. What would the results be would Jesus teach on how to walk on water in a full series?
2. Do you think this was Daniel's longest night ever?	22. With reference to persecution, what is the difference between the OT and the NT?
3. Did the prophet factor have anything to do with him receiving protection? (Psa 105:15)	23. Since Daniel went to the lion's den by law, by what law did he come back out?
4. What does the text say saved Daniel? (See Daniel 6:22-23 & Hebrews 11:33.)	24. How did Daniel know it was an angel who helped him? Did Daniel see him? (6:22)
5. How did Daniel know that he was blameless? (6:22)	25. How do angel's work in the earth today? (Heb 1:14; 13:2)
6. Are you blameless? By whose standards are you blameless?	26. Do angels operate the same in the 21st century as they did in Bible times? (Gal 3:19)
7. Can man be blameless even though born in sin? (Philippians 2:15)	27. How did the author of Hebrews credit Daniel in his time in the lion's den? (Heb 11:33)
8. When the Bible speaks of being blameless, does this refer to saved people only? ^{E1}	28. Can a 21st centrian enter the lion's cage in a zoo to test his level of faith? (Matt 4:6-7)
9. Can you think of another situation where God intervened? (Acts 5:17-19)	29. Can you attain this type of protection today simply by trusting in God?
10. Do you think the angel physically touched the lions? (Numbers 22:27, 33)	30. What was Daniel blameless of, secular laws or biblical laws? (6:4-5)
11. To which god was Darius fasting? (6:18)	31. Do you keep the commandments?
12. How do we know Daniel went into the lion's den with confidence? (6:22-23)	32. What do you think the men thought when they found out that Daniel was still alive?
13. What aspect proved that there was a supernatural force at work? (6:22, 24)	33. Since Daniel was a prophet, do you think God told him of the coming protection?
14. Could Daniel have run to another city or hid from the high officials and satraps?	34. Why do you think there is only one account of lions' mouths being shut?
15. What other character in the Old Testament had respect for the head of state? ^{E2}	35. Was it cultural norms that kept Darius on course to throw Daniel in the lion's den?
16. Did the account of his friends in the fiery furnace strengthen Daniel for the lion's den?	36. Was there any indication beforehand that he would be delivered from the lions?
17. Did Daniel expect to be delivered from the mouths of the lions? ^{E3}	37. How could Daniel give himself any credit on the outcome? (6:22)
18. During this time, do you think Daniel prayed continually, slept at all, or feared at all?	38. Did Darius go against the law by committing the perpetrators to the lions?
19. Do you think that Daniel kept his eyes on the lions the whole time?	39. What scriptures corroborate Daniel's level of blamelessness and righteousness? ^{E4}
20. Why are we not told more about what he did during his time in the lion's den?	40. Did Daniel think it common run to see the mouths of the lions be shut?

^{E1}See Philippians 2:15, I Timothy 3:10, and 2 Peter 3:14.

^{E2}See Daniel 6:21 and I Samuel 26:7-12.

^{E3}See Daniel 3:28 and Daniel 6:22.

^{E4}See Ezekiel 14:14 and Ezekiel 14:20.

5. ON DANIEL'S LINE IN DANIEL 6:21

1. Do you think that Daniel forced this line?	21. Could Daniel have gotten away with not saying the line?
2. Was he being sarcastic or rubbing it in?	22. According to the book of Daniel, how many other times did Daniel say this line?
3. After the king's injunction, why do you think Daniel still said such a line?	23. Should Daniel have rebuked the king instead?
4. What does such a line say about Daniel's spiritual state?	24. Did Daniel make any overt mistakes during this cut in time?
5. Does such a line make Daniel look like a pushover?	25. Had the roles been reversed, do you think Darius would have said such a line?
6. What was Daniel thinking that he said such a line?	26. Should Daniel have said such a line?
7. Do you think that Daniel was planning on saying such a line?	27. What else could he have said?
8. Did Daniel do the right thing by saying such a line?	28. Do you think Darius noticed what Daniel said, or was he caught up in the moment?
9. Did Daniel's strong prayer life have anything to do with saying such a line?	29. What is the difference between meaning it and not meaning it?
10. Was Daniel simply following protocol?	30. What is the difference between being a fraud and being respectful?
11. Was Daniel super spiritual by saying such a line?	31. How does Matthew 12:34 manifest itself in this line?
12. Was Daniel currying favor with the king by saying such a line?	32. Do you think that Darius felt sheepish after Daniel said his line?
13. Was he trying to keep his original position?	33. Do you think that Darius felt relieved after Daniel said his line?
14. Was Daniel trying to be a smart aleck in the process?	34. Did Daniel look forward to meeting the king after his historic night?
15. Was Daniel actually wishing for the king to live long or forever?	35. If someone deliberately tried to murder you, could you say such a line?
16. How would you have handled the situation?	36. If someone indirectly tried to murder you, could you say such a line?
17. What would you have said had you been in Daniel's shoes?	37. Had murder been Darius' original motive, would Daniel still have said this line?
18. Did Daniel have a right to be disrespectful to the king after his ordeal?	38. What are your thoughts on Daniel's line?
19. What else could he have said?	39. What can we learn from Daniel's line?
20. Is it possible that he didn't mean it, and he simply had rehearsed this line?	40. Does Daniel being listed in the most righteous list have anything to do with the line?

6. CELEBRATING THE VICTORY (Daniel 6:24-28)

1. Why do you think that Christians have been ripped apart by lions?	21. Were the high officials and satraps supposed to be familiar with the law of Moses?
2. Why does God not always protect against persecution?	22. Had Israel been issuing decrees, would this have changed their accountability level? ^{G4}
3. Can you name some scriptures on falling into the very pit one dug for someone else? ^{G1}	23. Are there any other examples where the trap setter fell into his own trap? ^{G5}
4. How was Psalm 76:10 verse applied in this account?	24. Was the perpetrators' punishment according to the law or due to straight vengeance?
5. Can you name the seven nations and the reason for their complete annihilation? ^{G2}	25. Did the lions not eat Daniel due to sickness or some ailment on their part? (6:24)
6. Did the wives and children have anything to do with actions of the perpetrators? (6:24)	26. Is it possible that Daniel sinned a big sin earlier in life and simply learned his lesson?
7. Did God or Daniel approve of their entire families being ripped apart by the lions? ^{G3}	27. Is there a cloud of ignorance on how God chastises and punishes in the 21st century?
8. How does living in the day of human rights affect our thinking when reading the Bible?	28. Had the lions eaten Daniel, would he still have been one of the hero's of the faith?
9. Did Achan's entire family witness him bury the stolen goods? (Josh 7:22-25)	29. How does the death of John the Baptist play into this story?
10. Had Achan's family snitched on Achan, would they have been spared?	30. Why was John the Baptist not protected from the sword?
11. Were the high officials and satraps part of the seven nations in Deuteronomy 7:1?	31. What is the key to making the impossible possible in the 21st century?
12. On what basis could they feed the high officials and satraps to the lions?	32. When it is your fault, could that be considered an experience in the lion's den?
13. Did they have to go through the law to feed the high officials and satraps to the lions?	33. Was Daniel thrown into a real den where there were real lions?
14. What is the difference between the living God and a false god? (Psalm 115:3-9)	34. How do you think Daniel would have handled it had he been devoured by the lions?
15. How does living in a free society affect our thinking when reading the Bible?	35. Are the early Christians heroes for being eaten up by lions?
16. Did those living in Bible days live in a free society?	36. What role do value & belief systems in place during your time play in your life?
17. What do you think God was thinking that Daniel did not become a martyr?	37. Have you ever been in the lion's den?
18. What is the main challenge on being faithful to God and trying to please man?	38. How would we teach and apply civil disobedience in the 21st century?
19. Would there be similar situations where the outcome would have been martyrdom?	39. Would you know the outcome is the lion's den, would you still obey God?
20. Were the high officials and satraps on the same level of accountability as Daniel?	40. Why can this story not be made into a cookie cutter situation or become common run?

^{G1}See Psalm 7:15, Psalm 57:6, Proverbs 26:27 and Proverbs 28:10.

^{G2}See Deuteronomy 7:1-4.

^{G3}See Numbers 26:11; 31:17-18 and Deuteronomy 3:6-8, 7:1-4, 24:16.

^{G4}See Jeremiah 12:16-17. ^{G5}See Esther 7:9-10.

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