

*Biblical Drama based on Daniel 6:1-28**Character Parts: Narrators-8, King Darius, Advisor, Governor, Supervisor, Daniel*

Narrator 1: In the days when God's people had been conquered and carried off into exile, some were given places in the government by Darius, the king. One of God's people was Daniel, who was made a supervisor of the governors who ruled the kingdom. Daniel worked hard.

King Darius: Have you seen my servant Daniel? He's doing a better job than all my governors and supervisors put together! I think it would be good to appoint Daniel as supervisor over the whole kingdom!

Narrator 2: Hearing this made the other officials in the kingdom envious and upset.

Governor: I'm sick of Daniel getting all the credit for everything. We work hard, too!

Supervisor: Now King Darius is going to give Daniel *our* jobs!

Governor: We've got to find something bad about Daniel, so the king won't like him anymore.

Supervisor: But what can we do? Daniel never does anything wrong! He's too honest.

Advisor: Remember, Daniel's a Hebrew; he worships a different God. If we want to find grounds for a complaint against Daniel, we will have to find it in connection with the law of his God.

Narrator 3: So they came to the king with a plan to get rid of Daniel.

Advisor: O King Darius, live forever! We all think that you should make a new law that says whoever prays to anyone other than you, O King, shall be thrown into a den of lions.

Supervisor: Yes, and sign the document yourself, O King, so that it cannot be changed.

King Darius: Very well. I see nothing wrong with a law like that.

Narrator 4: King Darius signed the document and made the new law. But even though Daniel knew about it, he continued to pray to the LORD God, just as he had done before.

Daniel: LORD God, I give you thanks that you have protected me this day from all danger and harm. Guard and guide your people as we live in this foreign land.

Narrator 5: Meanwhile, the officials were waiting for their chance. They came to Daniel's house and found him praying to his God. So they approached the king to tell on Daniel.

Advisor: O King! Did you not sign a law saying that any person who prays to anyone, except to you, shall be thrown into a den of lions?

King Darius: Yes, that was my order. The law was made permanent according to the laws of our people, and it cannot be revoked.

Supervisor: Well, you should know that Daniel pays no attention to your law, O King. He continues to pray to his own God every day!

Narrator 6: When the king heard this, he was worried, because he liked Daniel. But the law was the law; there was nothing he could do. Daniel was arrested by the royal soldiers and thrown into the den of lions.

King Darius: Daniel, may your God, whom you faithfully serve, deliver you!

Daniel: I know my God is with me, O King.

Narrator 7: A stone was brought and laid at the mouth of the den. King Darius was so worried about Daniel that he ate no food and wasn't able to sleep all night. At the break of day, the king got up and hurried to the den of lions.

King Darius: O Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God delivered you from the lions?

Daniel: O King, live forever! My God sent his angel and shut the lions' mouths so that they would not hurt me, because I was found blameless before him. I have done nothing wrong.

Narrator 8: The king was very relieved and pleased.

King Darius: Daniel has served his sentence. Now get him out of there!