

## Daring to Pray Like Daniel

### Daniel 6:1-23

Intro: I love cross references in the Bible. Daniel, of course, is mentioned in the book that bears his name. He is also referred to by Jesus in Matthew 24:15, and by the LORD in Ezekiel 14:14, 20 and 28:3. Those are good references!

#### I. Daniel's righteousness

- a. His kosher diet (Dan. 1:8-16)
- b. His God-given wisdom and tact (Dan. 1:17; 2:14)
- c. His devotion to prayer (Dan. 6:10; Col. 4:2)

#### II. The persecution against Daniel for his righteousness

- a. 500 yrs. later, Jesus declared Daniel blessed (Mt. 5:10)
- b. "They could find no corruption in him..." (Dan. 6:4)
- c. The conspirators' jealousy and their unsuspecting king

#### III. When Daniel learned of the decree, he prayed...

- a. In his upstairs room, on his knees
- b. Giving thanks, and asking God for help
- c. Into his enemies' hands, and into the lions' den

Close: In Ephesians 6:11, the Apostle Paul says we are to "Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes."

After describing the armor of God piece by piece, Paul says, "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions." And then he says to "keep on praying," and to pray, and to pray.

Daniel did not face his greatest challenge in the lions' den; he faced it in his upstairs room, on his knees, giving thanks to God.