CARING HEART FELLOWSHIP (CHF) Friday, 12th November 2021

TOPIC:PEOPLE JUST LIKE US – THE LIFE OF DANIELTHEME:DANIEL, THE FAITHFIUL SERVANT OF GOD PART IITEXT:EZEKIEL 14:14; DANIEL 6:1–28

INTRODUCTION

The Book of Daniel which record the life and ministry of the Prophet Daniel is a book in which God clearly demonstrates His sovereignty.

Even though Daniel's life generally gives us several positive character qualities, one which stands out throughout his life is his faithfulness.

Because of his closeness to God and his total devotion to Him, Daniel was always careful to maintain his faithfulness, purity and integrity. In which areas do we see the faithfulness of Daniel and what lessons can we learn from it?

DISCUSSION

II. DANIEL WAS ABSOLUTELY FAITHFUL IN HIS PRAYER LIFE (Daniel 6:5-18)

 Daniel's faithfulness in prayer is seen in this: (Vs. 10) "Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done be-fore." (See Psalm 55:16-17)

Q: Where do you go when you don't know what else to do? (Psalm 61:2)

2. As expected, Daniel contravened (breached) the law and had to be punished. (Vs. 13) "The men told the king, the Jew named Daniel, who was brought here as a captive, refuses to obey you or the law that you ordered to be written. And he still prays to his god three times a day." (See Esther 3:8-9)

Q: What should our attitude be in the place of prayer when confronted with taking a stand against an ungodly rule; decision at work or a government policy that affects us as believers?

3. Contrary to the king's will, Daniel had to be punished by being thrown into the lion's den. (Vs. 16-18) "So Darius ordered Daniel to be brought out and thrown into a pit of lions ... All night long the king could not sleep..."

Q: How do we remain faithful in the face of adversity after we have prayed and waited on the Lord and yet the initial outcome is contrary to what we are trusting God for? (1 Corinthians 15:58)

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III. DANIEL WAS ABSOLUTELY FAITHFUL EVEN WHEN HE WAS PUNISHED FOR BELIEVING IN HIS GOD (Daniel 6:19-28)

4. Without accusing either the king or the jealous administrators and satraps, Daniel was thrown into the lion's pit for his faithfulness and commitment to prayer and his God.

Q: What should our response be to the people who are clearly been used by the enemy to oppose, attack or persecute us?

5. God miraculously delivered Daniel from the lion's den to the amazement of the king. (Vs. 22) "My God knew that I was innocent, and He sent an angel to keep the lions from eating me. Your majesty, I have never done anything to hurt you." (See Psalm 91:11-13)

Q: How important is the word of God in the process of standing against all odds. On another note who are we really wrestling with as believers?

6. Thereafter, the destruction the enemies planned for Daniel went back to them. (Vs. 24) "And the king ordered the men who had brought charges against Daniel to be thrown into the pit, together with their wives and children". (See Esther 7:3-10)

Q: What should our attitude be in the face of adversity knowing that it will end in our favour at the very end? (Romans 8:28)

CONCLUSION

Daniel was confronted with a test of loyalties. He was a loyal subject of his king, yet he knew that the King of Kings deserved a higher loyalty. Daniel refused to give to the government the measure of obedience that belonged to God alone.

Daniel was preserved through faith. Though his cause was righteous and he was unjustly accused, those things alone did not protect him before the lions. Daniel needed a living, abiding faith in God, even in the most difficult circumstances.

God is always faithful to those who are faithful! When He finds us faithful wherever He places us, and we on the other hand maintain this faithfulness in our relationship with Him.

He also shows us that He is a faithful God who is always ready to sustain us with His omnipotent power!

Let us praise the Lord that He is absolutely faithful!

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