

## Daniel - A Friend of God, A Man of Prayer (Daniel chapter 6)

### Scene 1 - Intro

Theo: Hello everybody! How are you doing? Are you having fun? Great!

Hey guys, today we are going to see the story of Daniel. Do you remember Daniel?

Daniel is in the Bible, and he wrote a book named...um, ah, um...Do you remember the name of the book Daniel wrote in the Bible? .....oh yeah, Daniel!

Do you remember when Daniel was thrown in a pit with lions? Well, we are going to find out why Daniel was such a good man, and how Jehovah protected him.

Before we can start, let's listen to what the announcer has to say.

Announcer: Welcome to the Theo Theater. We encourage you all to sit back and enjoy the program. However, please listen to the following reminders. The restrooms are located at the rear of the theater. During the program, there will be no talking, no screaming, no pushing, no shoving, no hitting, no making of funny faces, no cell phones and most of all, please do not pick your nose.

Theo: ...Whatever that means. Well, I think we are ready to begin. I'll be backstage to narrate the program. But, I'll see you later. Bye.

### Scene 2 - King Darius' palace

(blowing of trumpet - wrong way)

Neborabi: Whoops! Wrong one. Let me try that again..

(blowing of trumpet - correctly, royal fanfare)

Neborabi: (under breath) Much better.  
All rise for Darius the Mede, the king of Babylon.  
(whispers to the audience) Hey kids, what are you doing sitting down. The king is here.

Darius: It's OK Neborabi. Let the children remain seated.

Neborabi, I would like you to fetch the man my high official named Daniel, the one from among the Israelites. Today I have something very exciting I would like to tell him.

Neborabi: As you wish your highness.

(a pause, and then a door closes)

Daniel: You wanted to see me your highness?

Darius: Yes, Daniel. Please have a seat over there.

Daniel: Thank you.

Darius: You know Daniel, I have been watching how well you work in helping me look after my kingdom. You are one of the best. I really could not have selected a better man for the job.

Daniel: Thank you, your highness.

Darius: That is why I will soon make you the greatest in my kingdom, over everything I am ruling.

Daniel: I, I, I don't know what to say...

Darius: ...Say nothing. I am very proud of you Daniel. Keep up the good work. I will give you more details later. Now, go on and get back to work.

Daniel: Thank you, your highness. I will not let you down.

(Darius fades away)

Daniel: I need to pray and thank Jehovah for his goodness to me.

### Scene 3 - Satrap's rebel

Theo: Meanwhile, other officials and governors called satraps that also worked for King Darius, heard about Daniel. They did not like Daniel because the King wanted Daniel to be leader over everything. They were jealous.

Satrap 1: I don't like Daniel.

Satrap 2: Yeah, me neither.

Satrap 1: He thinks he SO great!

Satrap 2: Yeah, and so does the King.

Satrap 1: Are WE not good enough? What is so great about DANIEL?

Satrap 2: Yeah, but can we do? All the other satraps don't like this idea of Daniel being chief.

Satrap 1: Hmmmm! I know, we have to find something Daniel does wrong, and then tell the King.

Satrap 2: Yeah! Like....like....like....like....Wait a minute! I can't think of anything Daniel does wrong.

Satrap 1: You've got a point. Hmmmm....I have an idea. Daniel likes to pray to that God Jehovah all the time, right?

Satrap 2: Aaha...

Satrap 1: What if we...

### Scene 4 - Satraps at the palace

Theo: And so, the bad men got together with the other satraps and officials and came into Darius' palace to get Daniel into trouble...

(crowd mumbling among selves)

(Trumpet blast - royal fanfare)

Neborabi: (unseen) All rise for Darius the Mede, the king of Babylon.

Darius: All right, all right. What is all this commotion about?

Satrap 1: O Darius the king, live on even for times indefinite. We have agreed, O king, that you should make a law saying that, for 30 days, no one should pray to any god or man except to you, O king. If anyone disobeys, then he should be thrown in with the lions.

Darius: Well, that is true. I am the mighty King of Babylon after all. I don't see why it would be a problem. But, why do you want this law made all of a sudden?

Satrap 1: Oh, nothing. We just think you're the best. Why shouldn't people pray to you, O king?

Darius: I guess you have a point there.

Satrap 1: O King, one more favor.  
Darius: Yes?  
Satrap 1: Can you put the law in writing so that nobody can change it?  
Darius: I guess so.  
Satrap 1: Great! You rock! I mean...peace to you, your highness.  
Darius: To you also.

#### Scene 5 - Daniel caught praying

Theo: And so, King Darius signed the writing into law so that it could not be changed. When Daniel heard about, he immediately ran to his house and started praying to Jehovah, just like he always did three times a day.  
Daniel: (door closes) (out of breath, in prayer) Oh Jehovah, I cannot believe what has happened today. Why would the King make such a law? I do not understand it. He knows how much I love to pray to you Jehovah and that I cannot pray to another man. I am afraid that someone is trying to get me.  
Satrap 2: Look! There's Daniel up in his room. He's praying to that God of his again. Let's go tell the King.

#### Scene 6 - Daniel accused

(crowd mumbling among selves)

(Trumpet blast - royal fanfare)

Neborabi: All rise for Darius the Mede, the king of Babylon.  
Satrap 1: Good day my majesty.  
Darius: Good day! What is it this time?  
Satrap 1: O King, remember you made that law that nobody should pray to anyone but you for 30 days, or he should be thrown in the lions' pit?  
Darius: Of course I remember. What of it?  
Satrap 1: Well, Daniel is not listening to you King. In fact, he is still praying to his God 3 times a day.  
Darius: (to himself) Daniel, oh Daniel. What have I done?  
(to Satrap) Go away from here. Get back to work.  
Satrap 1: As you wish, O King. (door closes)  
Darius: What can I do? I need to rescue Daniel.

#### Scene 7 - Satraps' reminder

Theo: And King Darius tried for the rest of the day to rescue Daniel, but was unable to. The next day, the satraps came in again to the King.  
Satrap 1: Good morning, King Darius.  
Darius: Now what do you want?

Satrap 1: Remember O King that you put the law into writing. It cannot be changed. That means we MUST throw Daniel into the lions' pit.

I feel so sorry for the old man.

Darius: Oh, please. You cannot fool me. Go away from here you conniving little satrap.

Satrap 1: As you wish, your majesty.

#### Scene 8 - Daniel in the lions' pit

Theo: So, King Darius had Daniel thrown into the lions' pit.

Darius: (Calling out) I hope that your God, whom you serve, will save you.

Daniel: Me too. (lions roar) (Daniel in prayer) Oh Jehovah, please do not leave me here to die among the lions. (more roaring) Please, deliver me so that all may know that you are the true God and your name may become great. (lion roars)

#### Scene 9 - The day after

Theo: And Jehovah protected Daniel for the rest of the day, the night, and on until the next morning when...

Daniel: The lions are not roaring anymore. (Lion purrs) Well hello there little pussy cat. You want me to scratch your head. (Lion purrs) I do not believe it. Jehovah DID save me from the mouth of the lions.

Darius: (shouting) Oh Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God saved you from the lions?

Daniel: Oh King, live on forever. My own God sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I have done nothing wrong.

Darius: (to his men) Get Daniel out the lions' pit! You others, go find those satraps and their families that accused Daniel here.

Daniel are you all right?

Daniel: Well, besides my clothes smelling like cats, I'm fine.

Darius: I am so happy that you are OK. I wanted to rescue you before, but was not able because I signed the law. Can you ever forgive me?

Daniel: Oh King, it was not your fault. This has only made me stronger and more sure of Jehovah's protective power.

I'm going to get cleaned up now. (goes off stage)

#### Scene 10 - Justice for the satraps

Darius: Where are those satraps I asked for?

Satrap 1: Good morning your majesty. You called for us?

Darius: Yes, I did.

It is evident that you made that law just to get Daniel in trouble, when you knew that I trusted Daniel with my entire kingdom. Your jealousy and wicked heart has brought you here today.

Tell me, have you ever been cat food before? (silly trumpet)

#### Scene 11 - The new edict

Theo: And so, all the bad satraps and officials that got Daniel in trouble were thrown into the lions' den. But Jehovah did not protect them from the lions. The lions ate them up.

Darius: Daniel, I'm glad you are OK. I will surely keep my promise to you about giving you the highest station in my kingdom.

Nonetheless, I must also praise your God. He protected you from those lions because you are his friend. I know you pray to him all the time. You trust him, and he has taken care of you. Therefore, I am writing a letter to all those in my kingdom. Would you like to hear it?

Daniel: Please, speak on your highness.

Darius: I command that everyone should respect Daniel's God. He is the living God and lives on forever. He will rule forever. He does great miracles and has saved Daniel from being eaten by the lions.

What do you think?

Daniel: I think it is wonderful. May Jehovah be blessed, may his name live on forever.

Theo: As for Daniel, he became great in the kingdom of Darius. THE END

#### Conclusion - not on CD

So, boys and girls, what did you think of today's drama? Did you like it?

What did we learn from Daniel? Why was Daniel a good man?

How did Jehovah protect Daniel?

So, if you are ever scared or in trouble, remember that Jehovah can protect you too. All you have to do is pray. But, do you remember how many times Daniel prayed every day?

So, we should remember to pray to Jehovah to thank him for the food he gives us, the beautiful things he made, and for our mommies and daddies. He is always there to listen to you. Just like Daniel, you can be Jehovah's friend too by praying to him.