

Scriptures: Daniel 5:5, 10-12; 6:1-5 / Proverbs 3:1-5

Daniel 5:5

Suddenly the fingers of a man's hand emerged and began writing opposite the lampstand on the plaster of the wall of the king's palace, and the king saw the back of the hand that did the writing.

Daniel 5:10

The queen entered the banquet hall because of the words of the king and his nobles; the queen spoke and said, "O king, live forever! Do not let your thoughts alarm you or your face be pale. 11 "There is a man in your kingdom in whom is a spirit of the holy gods; and in the days of your father, illumination, insight and wisdom like the wisdom of the gods were found in him. And King Nebuchadnezzar, your father, your father the king, appointed him chief of the magicians, conjurers, Chaldeans and diviners. 12 " This was because an extraordinary spirit, knowledge and insight, interpretation of dreams, explanation of enigmas and solving of difficult problems were found in this Daniel, whom the king named Belshazzar. Let Daniel now be summoned and he will declare the interpretation."

Daniel 6:1

It seemed good to Darius to appoint 120 satraps over the kingdom, that they would be in charge of the whole kingdom, 2 and over them three commissioners (of whom Daniel was one), that these satraps might be accountable to them, and that the king might not suffer loss. 3 Then this Daniel began distinguishing himself among the commissioners and satraps because he possessed an extraordinary spirit, and the king planned to appoint him over the entire kingdom. 4 Then the commissioners and satraps began trying to find a ground of accusation against Daniel in regard to government affairs; but they could find no ground of accusation or evidence of corruption, inasmuch as he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was to be found in him. 5 Then these men said, "We will not find any ground of accusation against this Daniel unless we find it against him with regard to the law of his God."

Proverbs 3:1

My son, do not forget my teaching, But let your heart keep my commandments; 2 For length of days and years of life And peace they will add to you. 3 Do not let kindness and truth leave you; Bind them around your neck, Write them on the tablet of your heart. 4 So you will find favor and good repute In the sight of God and man. 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

The words used to describe Daniel are consistent. Extraordinary, excellent, Spirit of God inside him, explains and gives insight, has understanding. And while these terms may seem quite common to you please remember that they were not spoken by his kinsmen, other Israelites or priests. They were only spoken by the heathen, the lost and those who did not know his God. All of his leadership positions were appointed by unbelievers and they always asked him to lead them.

Continued Proverbs 3:1

Now is the time for the church to step up and be the church! The entire world is in waiting for change and you may not know it but the church is being placed in the spot light. The desperation of people is making the church a viable answer. Not only is there talk of a renaissance of faith based initiatives being supported by our government, more importantly there are people who need what the church is doing.

Why are we crying like those who have no hope, this is the moment we've all been waiting for.

Proverbs 21:1

The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns it wherever He wishes. NASU

Daniel 2:21-22

21 And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise And knowledge to those who have understanding. 22 He reveals deep and secret things; He knows what is in the darkness, And light dwells with Him. NKJV

We can become so caught up in who would be king we forgot about who would be the king's "Daniel". You see if Daniel doesn't show up it doesn't even matter who's king. Can't interpret the dream, take a stand against the idolatry or make it through the lion's den. You can't withstand the fire, refuse the food or revive leadership to the nation if Daniel doesn't show up.

REVIEW BELOW

REVIEW

- **It is God that gives authority to men**
- **It is God that controls the hearts of leaders**
- **It is God that blesses His church**

When Daniel shows up this is what he will need to lead in times of transition.

1. The desire to remain faithful – Commitment 1.8

Proverbs 3:1 My son, do not forget my teaching, But let your heart keep my commandments;

- King's way of life was pleasure and not purpose
- He lived to eat, Daniel ate to live
- Daniel had a prescribed way to live that was applicable even in a royal position

2. The skills to contribute – Competence 1.18-21

Proverbs 3:5 5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. NASU

- Not better at praying better at total understanding
- Not just good for Israelites but good period.
- Not just good but ten times better

3. The heart to serve – Courage 3.8

Proverbs 3:6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight.

- They refused to bow and lose their influence
- They were willing to die at the hands of those they served
- They quickly forgave and continued to serve

4. The love to meet needs – Compassion 4.19-37

Proverbs 3:3 Do not let kindness and truth leave you; Bind them around your neck,

- It hurt Daniel to tell the king of God's judgment!
- Daniel so wanted this word to fail (4.27)
- The king completely turned to God (4.37)

5. The ingenuity to change – Creativity 6.1

- Daniel was wise enough to embrace new leadership
- Daniel was excellent enough to get automatic respect
- Daniel was hated because he was loved by the new administration
- Darius immediately placed him over a third of the kingdom but had plans to place him over the entire kingdom.

Proverbs 3:5-10 5

Trust in the LORD with all your heart And do not lean on your own understanding. 6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He will make your paths straight. 7 Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the LORD and turn away from evil. 8 It will be healing to your body And refreshment to your bones. 9 Honor the LORD from your wealth and from the first of all your produce; 10 So your barns will be filled with plenty And your vats will overflow with new wine. NASU