

1. Last week I taught Daniel 6:10, 11 and 12. When time ran out I was in the process of giving you several principles relating to Daniel 6:13.
2. Before continuing with our study of verse ten I want to give you an expanded translation of Dan 6:1-12.

Dan 6:1 Darius, at the urging of Cyrus, decided to divide the Kingdom into 120 provinces with a troika of Regional Managers.

Dan 6:2 Daniel was a member of the triumvirate. The purpose of the Regional Managers was to make sure the King was not cheated out of that which he considered to be his just "due" i.e. taxes and/or tribute.

Dan 6:3 Daniel so distinguished himself as a loyal and effective administrator that Darius let it be known he planned on promoting his Jewish friend to Vice President of the entire Empire, second only to the King himself.

Dan 6:4 Then the other high ranking appointees, motivated by jealousy sought to destroy Daniel by either finding or conjuring some error in him; they carefully critiqued with a fine tooth comb all of his decisions and associations but could find nothing deserving of criticism. As a loyal man of doctrine he was impeccable consistently displaying expertise far and away ahead of his contemporaries; in fact the reports returning to his peers revealed we can find no fault in him whatsoever.

Dan 6:5 Having carefully scrutinized all of Daniel's activities and decisions, one of the conspirators said, "We have been unable to find anything against this Daniel; there is only one hope and that is to use his religion against him.

Dan 6:6 Then these Regional Managers and governors of the respective provinces came together in an official convocation before the king and they greeted him with the words, "King Darius, live forever."

Dan 6:7 Lying, they said, "All the officers of the kingdom as well as the administrative and military leaders, have consulted together to establish a royal law and make a decree that anyone who shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions as punishment.

Dan 6:8 Now, O King establish the decree and sign the writing so that it cannot be changed; according to the royal law of the Medes and Persians, your decree O King cannot be altered by anyone.

Dan 6:9 Accordingly King Darius, consumed by approbation lust, signed and recorded the royal law.

Dan 6:10 Now when Daniel read the law, he went into his house for privacy; the window of his chamber being opened toward Jerusalem, he knelt upon his knees and prayed three times a day, just as God's Word demanded; he prayed intensively for himself and his people just as he had done for some sixty-eight years.

Dan 6:11 Then the conspiratorial heroes sent several of their servants to Daniel's house in order to spy on him, there they found Daniel praying for deliverance.

Dan 6:12 Armed with this information, the plotters assembled before Darius where they spoke to the king concerning the royal decree: "Have you not signed a decree that every man who shall ask a petition of any God or man shall be cast into the den of lions?" The king answered and said, "This is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, the promulgation had been made and cannot be changed.

Now let's resume our study of Dan 6:13:

1. The patriotism of Daniel will now be assaulted; the gloves have been taken off and I am sure at this point King Darius sees the true nature of this situation.

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Dan 6:13 Then answered they and said before the king, That Daniel, which is of the children of the captivity of Judah, regardeth not thee, O king, nor the decree that thou hast signed, but maketh his petition three times a day.

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Dan 6:13 Then they said to the king, "Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, O king, or to the decree you put in writing. He still prays three times a day."

1. In contempt they referred to Daniel, not as a fellow member of the Triumvirate, but as "THAT Daniel."

2. Not the slightest reticence did they display in bringing a charge against someone from their own high echelon, but instead they described Daniel with the scornful phrase, the children of the captivity.

3. This reminder to the King and his court that Daniel was a foreigner was designed to cast aspersion on his patriotism, even though Daniel had proved his loyalty in the sixty-eight or so years since he was taken from Jerusalem.

4. During this time he had been appointed to the highest offices in the Chaldean Empire and most recently he was about to be made the second in command of the Persian Empire under Darius.

5. Yet none of these accomplishments were discussed; only the fact that at one time he was a captured hostage from the Land of the Jews.

5.1 By this clever distortion of events, the plotters hoped to imply that Daniel was in revolt against the king.

6. In the phrase "regardeth not thee," there is a not so subtle innuendo:

6.1 "Your prime minister's achievements have whetted his ambitious appetite; obviously, he has disdained the authority of the King by defying his orders; therefore, he is a danger to the empire!"

7. The unjust charges were supported by a score of witnesses who eagerly swore that Daniel had indeed petitioned his own God three times daily.

8. It is interesting to speculate whether they had watched him an entire day in order to ascertain whether he defied the king three times, or whether they had based their statement on Daniel's past habits.

9. Verse 11 recall states only that they found him praying.

Dan 6:11 Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help.

10. Regardless of the veracity of their testimony, the charge had been embellished and these princes and regional managers must have congratulated themselves on the success of their efforts.

11. Daniel stood accused unfairly, yet justly, as stated under the present contrived statute.

12. The repeated reference to "the decree" demands that we discuss in detail the true purpose of legislation in a national entity.

13. The concept of nationalism was set up by God as a divine institution for the protection and perpetuation of the human race.

Let's take a quick look the Doctrine of the *Divine Institutions*.

1. The four divine institutions are volition, marriage, family and nationalism- governments must protect these if they are to prosper.

2. If a nation wants to be successful, the nation will promote and protect the four divine institutions.

2.1 Annually the Wall Street Journal publishes a report which correlates freedom with economic prosperity. Each year they rediscover that nations with maximum freedom have maximum prosperity.

3. In the case of volition a nation must support and maximize freedom. Freedom to succeed and freedom to fail and thus a minimum amount of Government will maximize freedom, promote volition and provide economic prosperity.

4. If a nation wants to have stability and good citizens the nation will support marriage between a man and a woman where the man is the leader in the home and the woman is his subordinate and help-meet.

4.1 This is marriage and not shacking up as was the custom in the formative years of our baby "boomers", a practice so common and justified under the mistaken premise that the Bible didn't require a piece of paper just sincerity.

4.1.1 Many a woman learned sincerity was rather short lived.

4.2 Well you and I know the Bible in both the Old and the New Testament has always taught marriage.

4.2.1 There is a Greek word **Gamos** meaning the civil ceremony of marriage and Christ often used the analogy of Himself as the Groom and the believers of the Church Age as the Bride of Christ.

4.2.2 We will look at some of these marriage Scriptures later.

5. The Family is the basic unit in the Scripture going back as far as the period of the Patriarchs when the family head was to teach the members of the family.

5.1 It was the job of the Patriarch to see to it that the family attended first the service at the Tabernacle and later the Temple and then much later the synagogue.

5.1.1 The family was and is the fabric upon which the ensign of civility is woven.

5.2 The man is to lead and support the woman and the two of them are to demand obedience from the children and the children must be disciplined: "For what Father does not discipline his children" says the Scripture.

6. And then of course nationalism is the foundation upon which good limited government should be built.

6.1 Americans should love and support the United States of America and desire its prosperity with undying loyalty. We must show no loyalty to any other organization be it the U.N. or some foreign power.

6.2 We also however should want other people in other nations to love their country with a nationalistic fervor.

6.3 Good Bible believing Americans should want other nations to be independent and prosperous but never at the expense of the United States of America. We must never give up our Sovereignty.

6.4 This is God's program and God's plan and remember Isa 14:12 tells us it is Satan who desires to weaken the nations.

6.4.1 Satan's first incompetent attempt at internationalism was the tower of Babel and with the League of Nations and United Nations he has been trying ever since to render impotent the fifth of God's divine institutions-nationalism.

## 7. Concept

### 7.1 Divine Institutions:

7.1.1 Volition: This institution was instituted in the garden as the mechanism for resolving the Angelic Conflict. God could have made us all believers but He didn't.

Joh 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Joh 3:17 For God sent His Son into the world not to condemn the world but that the world through Him might be saved.

Joh 3:18 Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

Joh 1:12 Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God--

Act 16:31 They replied, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved--you and your household."

Eph 2:8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith--and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God--

Eph 2:9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

7.1.2 Marriage: This institution is designed to protect the weaker vessel and the children of the marriage.

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her

Eph 5:31 "For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh."

Psa 128:3 Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your sons will be like olive shoots around your table.

Psa 128:4 Thus is the man blessed who fears the LORD.

Heb 13:4 Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.

7.1.3 Family: The family is an organization and the husband is the Chairman of the Board and the wife is the President and Chief Operating Officer. Children are precious assets worthy of discipline, training, love and protection.

Deu 6:6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts.

Deu 6:7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Exo 20:12 "Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you.

1Ti 5:8 If anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for his immediate family, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

1Ti 5:4 But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God.

7.1.4 Nationalism is an institution provided by God to protect people within certain geographical boundaries.

7.1.5 The borders uniquely were established according to the Scripture for the needs of Israel:

Gen 10:5 By these were the borders of the nations divided in their lands; everyone after his tongue after families in their nations.

Gen 11:5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the men were building.

Gen 11:6 The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them.

Gen 11:7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

Isa 14:12 How you have fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who weakened the nations!

Deu 32:8 When the Most High gave the nations their inheritance, when he divided all mankind he set up boundaries for the peoples according to the number of the sons of Israel.

End Lesson Taught 11-4-2001