

DANIEL

HIS ENTIRE
PROPHECY

CHAPTER SIX

The Lions' Den



The
FBI CLASS

1 It pleased Darius to set over **the kingdom** an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom;

NEW KING.

NEW EMPIRE.

DARIUS

**MEDO-
PERSIAN**

1 It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom **an hundred and twenty princes**, which should be over the whole kingdom;

SATRAPS

2 And over these three presidents; **of whom Daniel was first**: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage.

THREE PRESIDENTS:
DANIEL WAS THE “FIRST”

2 And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have **no damage**.

MONETARY LOSS.

WATCH OUT FOR CORRUPTION.

3 Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because **an excellent spirit** was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm.

AN EXCELLENT SPIRIT

JOSEPH

Genesis 41:37-40

37 And the thing was good in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of all his servants.

38 And Pharaoh said unto his servants, Can we find such a one as this is, a man in whom the Spirit of God is?

JOSEPH

Genesis 41:37-40

39 And Pharaoh said unto Joseph, Forasmuch as God hath shewed thee all this, there is none so discreet and wise as thou art:

40 Thou shalt be over my house, and according unto thy word shall all my people be ruled: only in the throne will I be greater than thou.

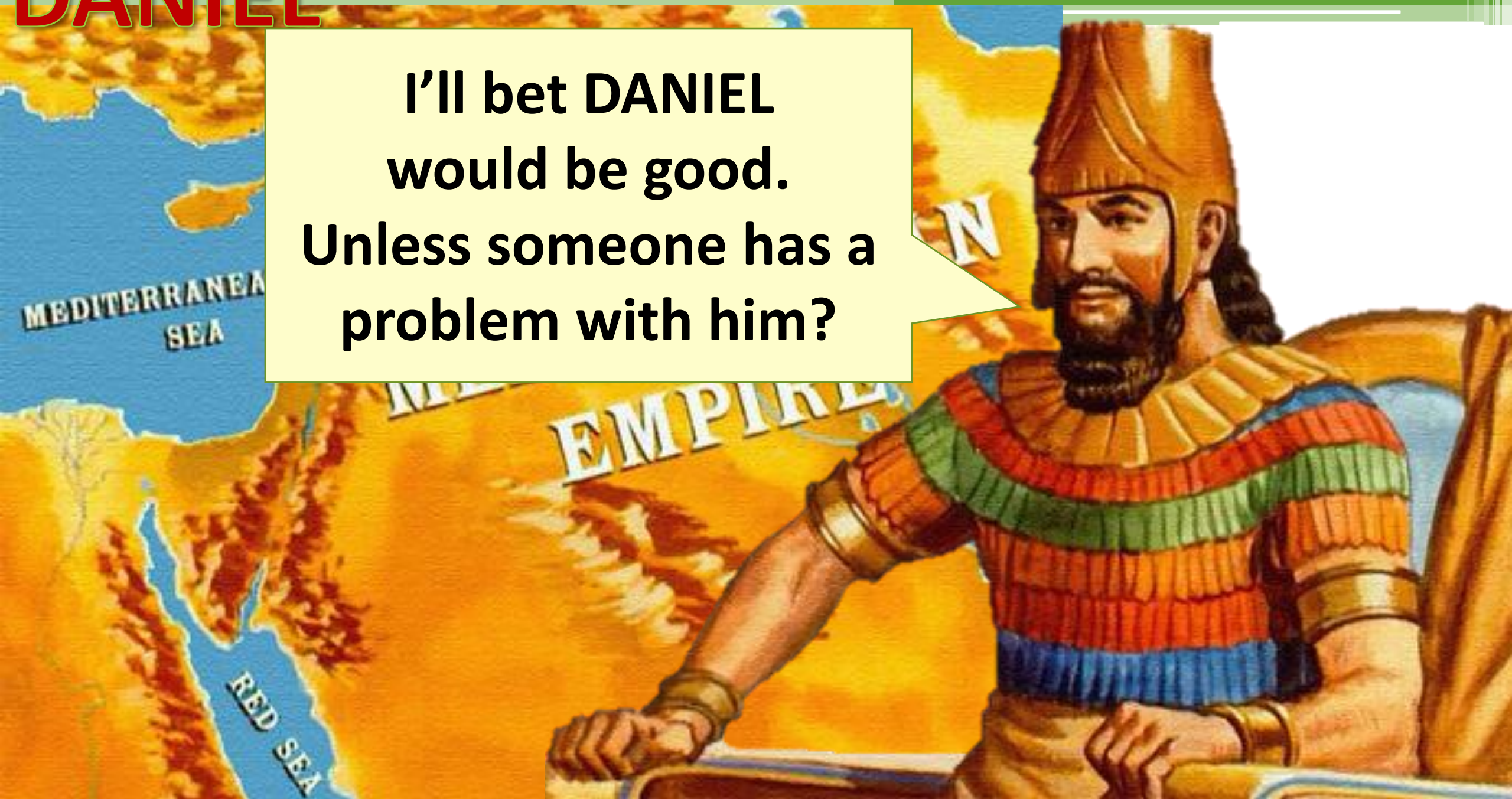
4 Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.

The King had not put Daniel over the others yet.

He had just given thought to doing it.

This may mean that he announced his plans to set Daniel up in this position at a future time.

**I'll bet DANIEL
would be good.
Unless someone has a
problem with him?**



**ACTUAL PICTURE
OF THE 120
SATRAPS
AND TWO
PRESIDENTS
CONSPIRING
AGAINST DANIEL**



THE CONSPIRATORS THOUGHT THERE WAS
SOMETHING IN DANIEL'S "RELIGION"
THEY COULD USE AGAINST HIM.

THEY WERE RIGHT.

**WE COME UPON AN EXTREMELY
INTERESTING QUESTION.**

**CONSIDER: WHAT DID THEY CHOOSE TO USE
AGAINST DANIEL?**

HIS PRAYER LIFE.

**COULD YOU BE CONVICTED
ON YOUR PRAYER LIFE?**



**“HOW ARE
GOING TO
GET RID OF
THIS GUY?”**

6 Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever.

7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.

8 Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.

9 Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree.

**“All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors,
and the princes...”**

THESE MEN WERE:

HIGH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

GREATLY PRIVILEGED

LIARS

“These presidents and princes assembled together to the king”

**THIS WAS
A MOB.**

SAFETY IN NUMBERS.

“whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king...”

THIS WAS RELIGIOUS PETITION, CERTAINLY.

“O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing,
that it be not changed, according to the law of the
Medes and Persians, which altereth not.”

ONCE SIGNED, EVEN THE SIGNER (THE KING)
COULD NOT CONTRAVENE IT.

“O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.”

Deodars of Sicily reports the case of a man put to death under Darius III (336–330 BC), even though he was known to be perfectly innocent because of this strict policy.

10 Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

**DANIEL WASN'T MAKING A SOCIAL JUSTICE PROTEST.
HE WASN'T LOBBYING FOR RELIGIOUS RIGHTS.
HE WASN'T SHOWING OFF HOW RIGHTEOUS HE WAS.**

**HE WAS SIMPLY DOING
AS HE HAD ALWAYS DONE.**

**DANIEL PRAYED TOWARD JERUSALEM
WITH HIS WINDOWS OPEN.**

**MAYBE HE HAD BEEN READING
I KINGS 8:35-36?**

35 When heaven is shut up, and there is no rain, because they have sinned against thee; if they pray toward this place, and confess thy name, and turn from their sin, when thou afflictest them:

36 Then hear thou in heaven, and forgive the sin of thy servants, and of thy people Israel, that thou teach them the good way wherein they should walk, and give rain upon thy land, which thou hast given to thy people for an inheritance.

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**WE ARE LEARNING SOMETHING
REALLY, REALLY IMPORTANT IN THIS CHAPTER.**

**DANIEL WAS A MAN OF
PRAYER**

HE PRAYED REGULARLY.

HE PRAYED THREE TIMES A DAY.

HE PRAYED FOR HIS NATION.

HE PRAYED FOR “RIGHT NOW” THINGS.

HE PRAYED WHETHER ANYONE LIKED IT OR NOT.

**“GOD, PLEASE MAKE ME THE PERSON
WHOSE PRAYERS YOU DELIGHT TO ANSWER.”**

**WE STILL WORSHIP AND SERVE
THE SAME GOD THAT WILL
PRESERVE PEOPLE THOUGH FIRE.
STOP THE MOUTHS OF LIONS.
GIVE GREAT VISIONS.
RAISE AND DEPOSE KINGS.**

WE HAVE ACCESS TO HIS THRONE.

“Let us therefore come boldly unto
THE THRONE OF GRACE, that we may obtain mercy,
and find grace to help in time of need.”

Hebrews 4:16

CRIMINAL!

**THIS GANG OF
POLITICAL
THUGS
ALL GOT
TOGETHER,
AND FOUND
DANIEL
PRAYING.**



12 Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king's decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.



**“WE CAUGHT
HIM PRAYING
TO SOMEONE
BESIDES YOU!**

HE MUST DIE!”

**DARIUS HAD NOT CONSIDERED
THE CONSEQUENCES OF SIGNING
THE DECLARATION HE'D BEEN COERCED INTO.**

**“The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes
and Persians, which altereth not.”**

**DARIUS HAD JUST CONDEMNED
THE SECOND MAN IN THE EMPIRE
TO DEATH.**

THE MAN WITH “THE EXCELLENT SPIRIT”



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.



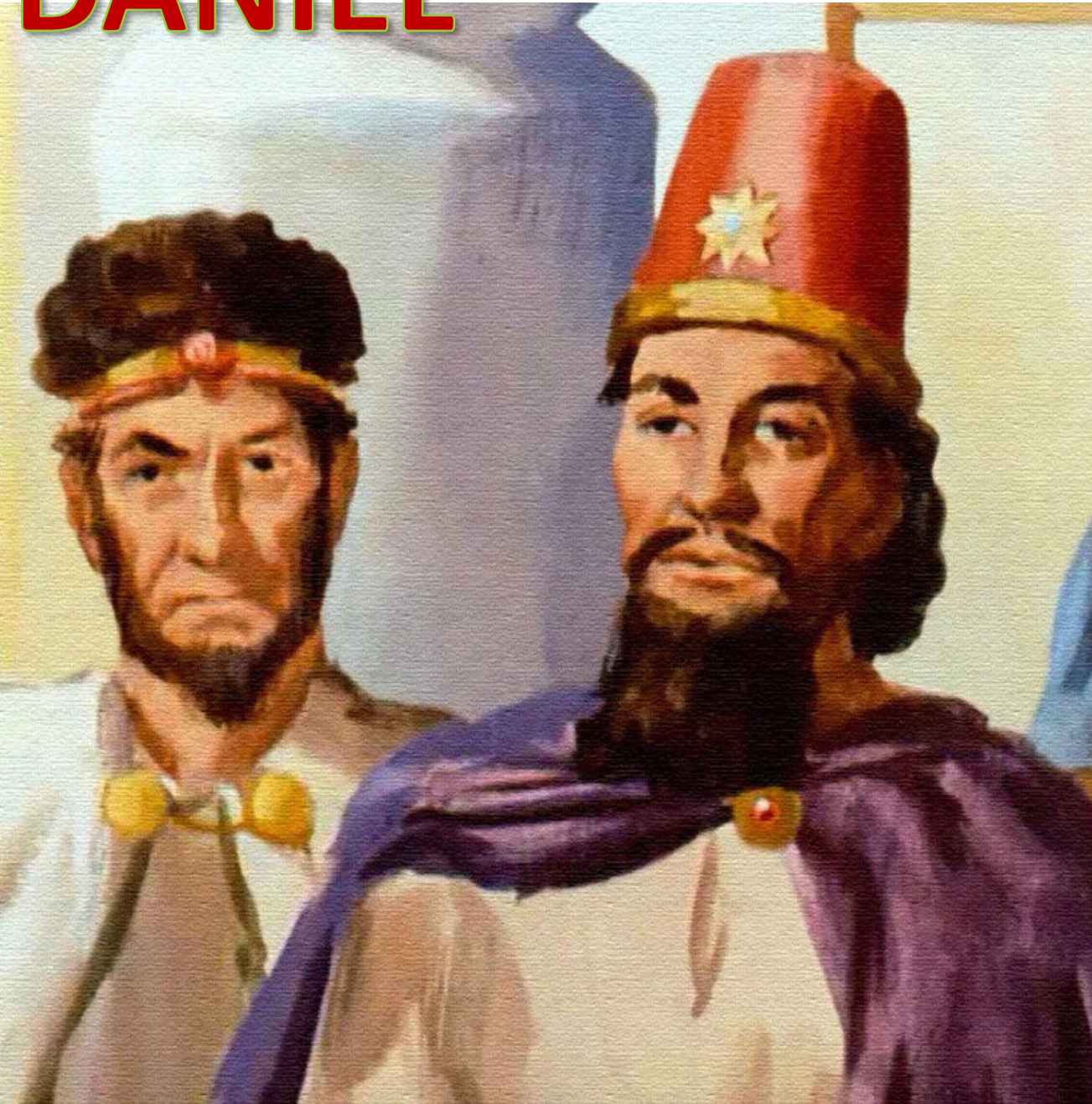
14 Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.

Darius “set his heart on Daniel to deliver him.”

- HE WAS GREATLY DISPLEASED WITH HIMSELF.
- HE WAS SURELY ANGRY WITH THE ACCUSERS.
- HE PAID NO ATTENTION TO THEIR CRITICISM OF DANIEL.
- HE WORKED TILL DARK TO FIND A SOLUTION.



DARIUS FAILED.



15 Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.



16 Then the king commanded, **and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions.** Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.



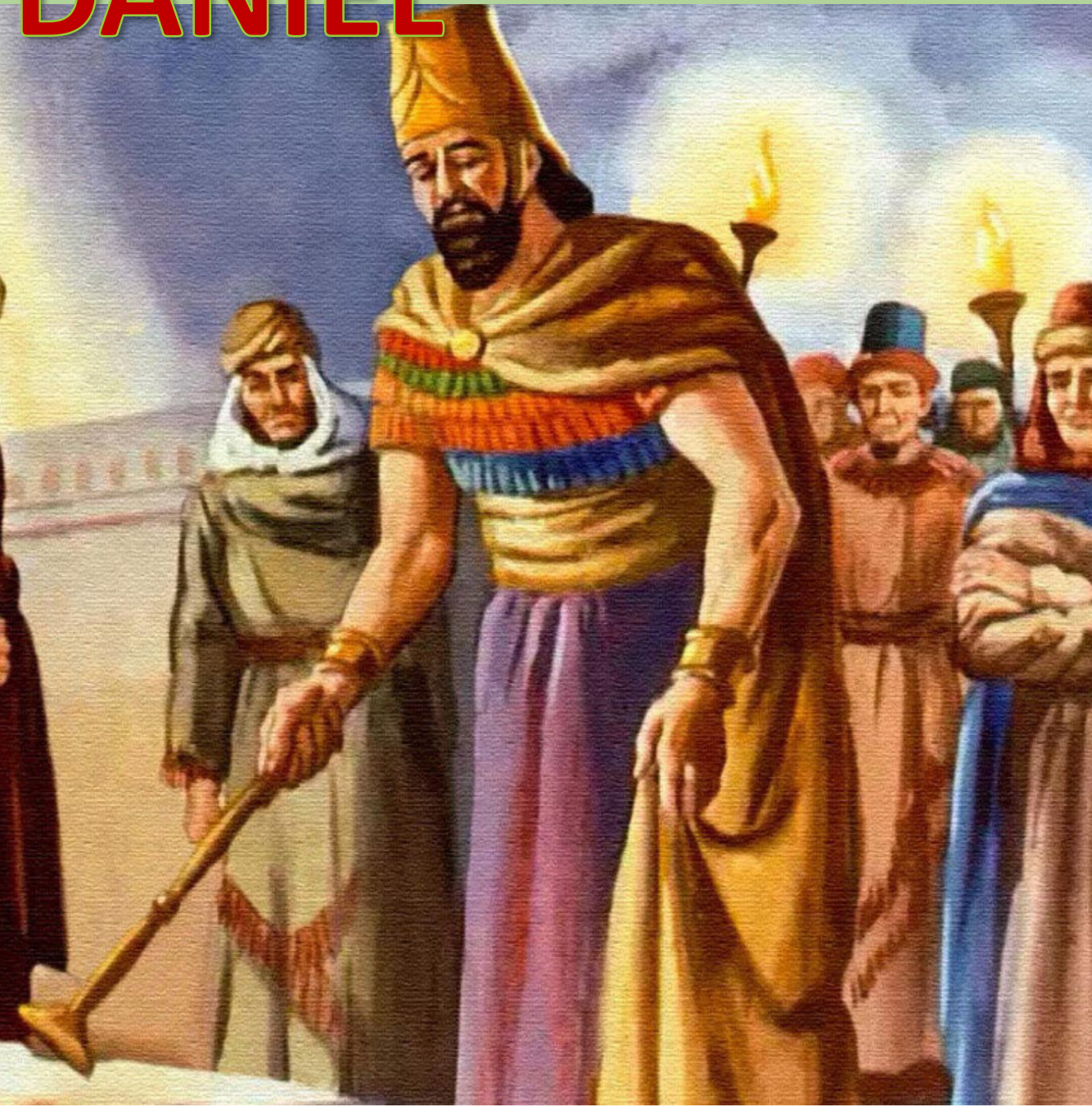
16 Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee.

**DARIUS DOES WHAT HE THINKS HE HAS TO DO.
HE ORDERS DANIEL TO BE CAST
INTO THE DEN OF LIONS.**

**WHY DID DARIUS HAVE SUCH CONFIDENCE IN
DANIEL'S GOD?**

WHY DID DARIUS HAVE SUCH CONFIDENCE IN DANIEL'S GOD?

“Thy God whom thou
servest continually,
he will deliver thee.”



17 And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel.

SIGNET RINGS

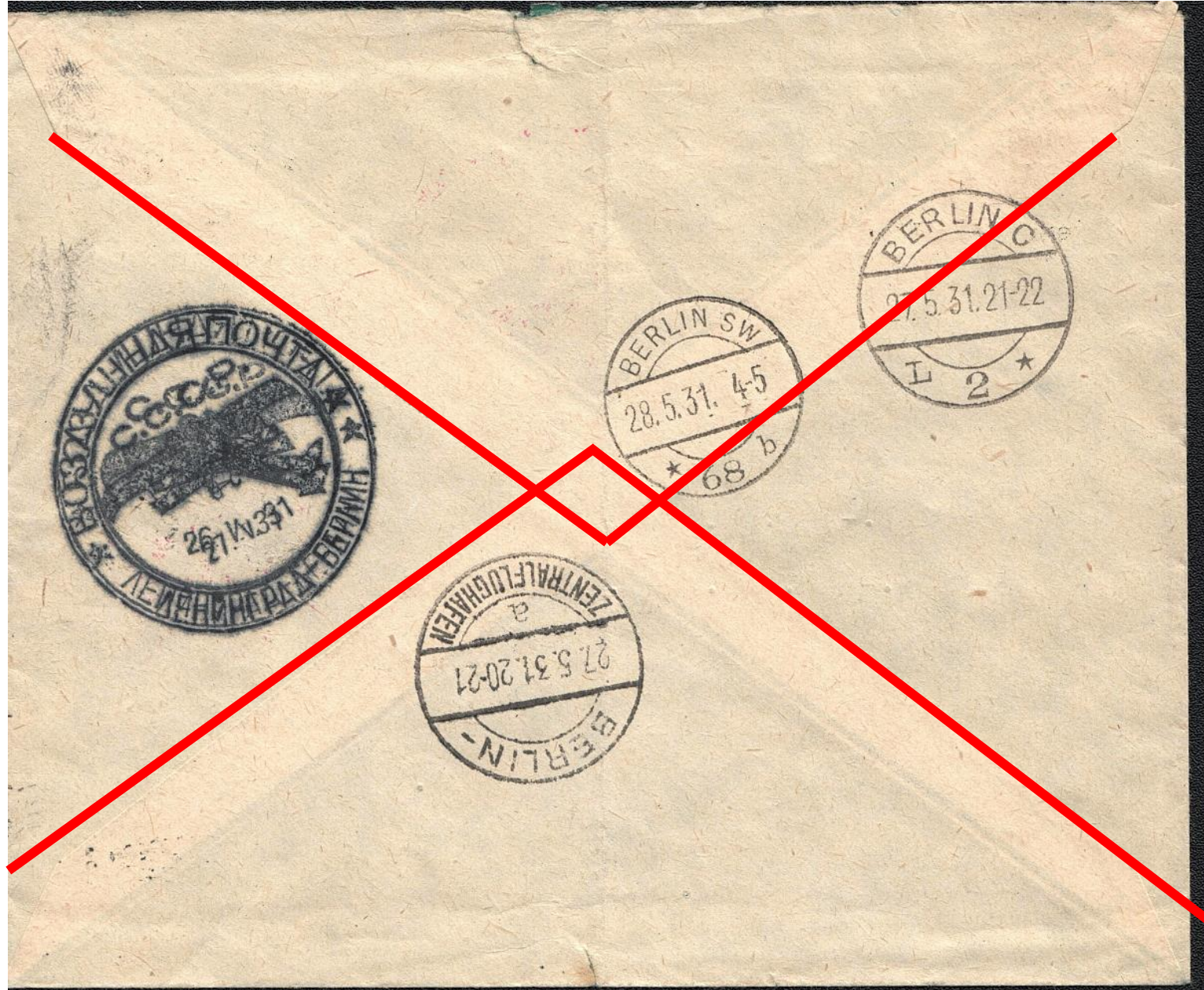


SIGNET RINGS

IMPRINTED ON CLAY



**POSTMARKS
ARE SIMILAR
AND FAMILIAR.**





18 Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him.

19 Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions.

20 And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?

THIS IS AMAZING.

**DARIUS HAD NO REASON TO BELIEVE THAT DANIEL
COULD POSSIBLY BE ALIVE.**

OR DID HE?

THIS IS AMAZING.

**DANIEL'S GODLY LIFE,
HIS PERSONAL RIGHTEOUSNESS,
ALL POINTED TO A LOVING, CARING GOD.**

DARIUS WAS LEARNING WHAT FAITH IN GOD CAN DO.



**21 Then said
Daniel unto the
king, O king, live
for ever.**

22 My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions' mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt.

23 Then was the king exceeding glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.

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NOTICE THIS ABOUT DANIEL –

**HE USED EVERY OPPORTUNITY HE HAD TO GLORIFY
GOD.**

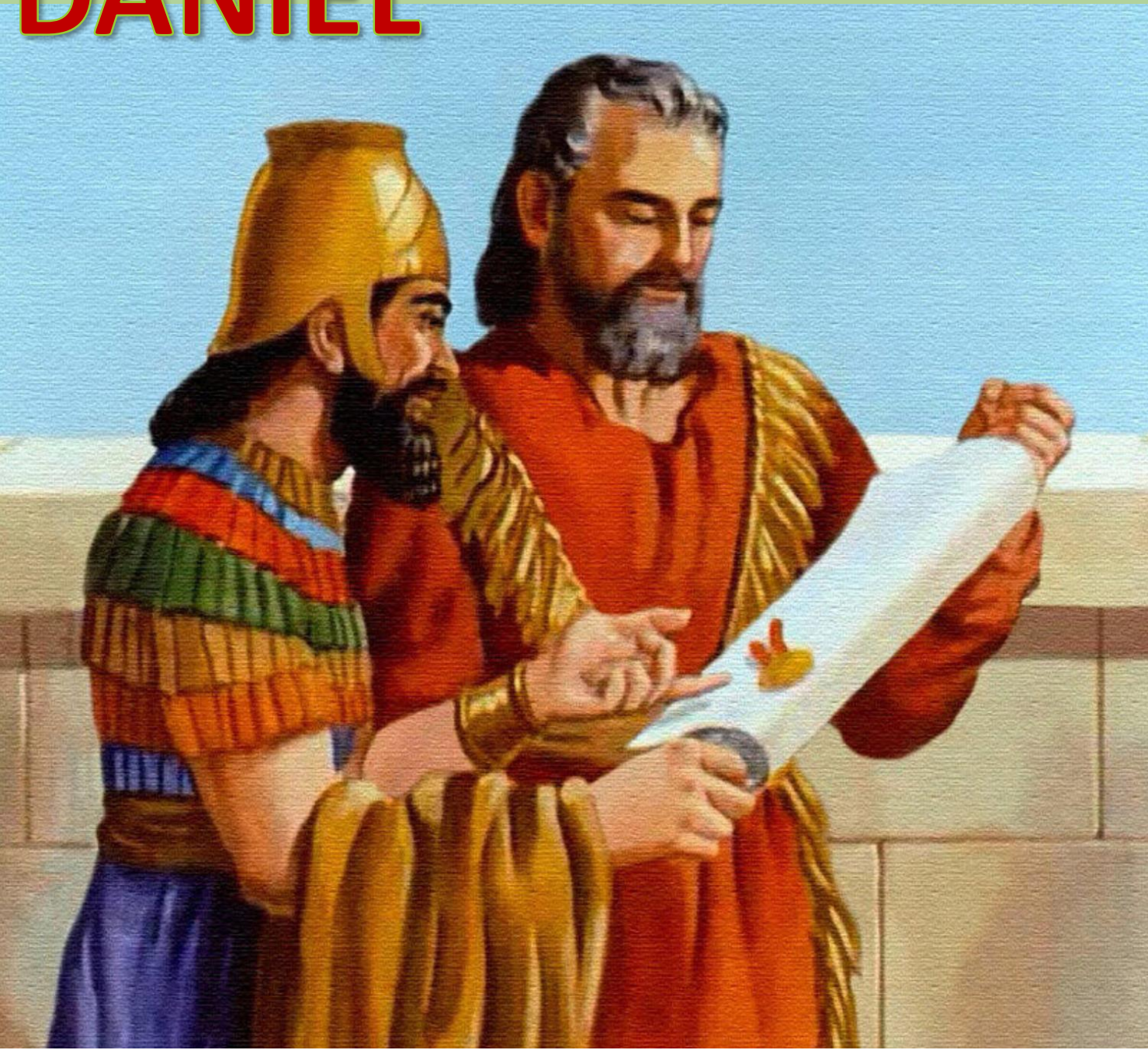
THIS IS GOOD EVANGELISM!

24 And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den.

25 Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you.

26 I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.

27 He delivereth and rescueth, and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, who hath delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.



28 So this Daniel prospered in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.



**NEXT
LESSON:**

**THE
PROPHECY
OF THE FOUR
BEASTS**

CHAPTER 7