



# In the Lions' Den

## Daniel 6

# “Darius”

1. Darius the Mede is literary fiction.
2. Darius is Gubaru (Gobryas), the governor of Babylon (mentioned in the Nabonidus Chronicle and other ancient texts)
  - Cyrus appointed him as governor of Babylon after the city was taken.
  - Gubaru installed sub-governors in Babylon (cf. 6:1-2).
  - The phrase in 5:31 “received the kingdom” may mean from a superior.
  - The expression in 9:1 that Darius was “made ruler” may mean by a superior.
  - Darius could have legitimately been called “king,” if he oversaw all the previous Babylonian empire under Cyrus.
  - 5:31 says Darius was 62, and Gubaru is called “a man well advanced in years.”



# “Darius”

3. Darius is actually a title for Cyrus, the first ruler of the Medo-Persian Empire.
  - It was not uncommon for rulers to have dual titles.
  - Dual titles fit the book of Daniel.
    - Written in two languages; Daniel and his friends all had two names.
  - Cyrus would have been about 62.
  - Cyrus stayed in Babylon during the winter.
  - 6:28 can be translated: “Daniel enjoyed success in the reign of Darius, even in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.”
  - In 11:1, two ancient Jewish sources, the LXX and Theodotion, replace *Darius* in the Hebrew text with the name *Cyrus*.

# In the Lion's Den (Pt. 1)

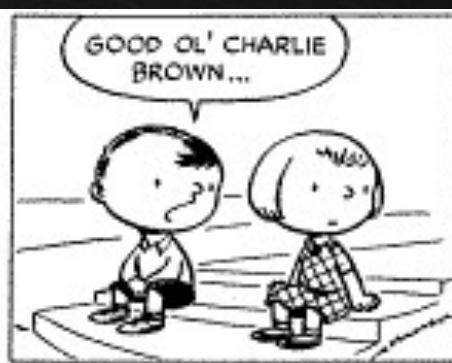
- I. Two Common Causes of Judicial Persecution (1-5)
  - A. Jealousy over the Success of God's People (1-4a)
  - B. Resentment over the Integrity of God's People (4b-5)

# In the Lion's Den (Pt. 1)

- I. Two Common Causes of Judicial Persecution (1-5)
- II. The Malicious Use of Judicial Persecution (6-9)
- III. The Believer's Response to Judicial Persecution (10)
- IV. The Relentless Enforcement of Judicial Persecution  
(11-15)

# “The World Hates You”

1. Because it's the nature of unredeemed sinners to hate.
  - Titus 3:3 - we also once were foolish ourselves, disobedient, deceived, enslaved to various lusts and pleasures, spending our life in malice and envy, hateful, hating one another.





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2. Because it's the nature of unredeemed sinners to hate the righteous.
  - John 15:18-19 - "If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, because of this the world hates you.
  - 1 John 3:12 - Cain, who was of the evil one and slew his brother. And for what reason did he slay him? Because his deeds were evil, and his brother's were righteous.



# Babylon





# The Ishtar Gate









# The Winged Persian Lion





# A Pride of Asiatic Lions





# Male Asiatic Lions

- Average length: 6.5 ft. body, with 3 ft. tail
- Average height: almost 4 ft. at the shoulder
- Average weight: 350-420 lbs.

