



Timeless lives from the God-Story **DANIEL: HEART OF A LION**

Daniel 1-12

Imagine the claustrophobic smells, the feelings of fear, and all the other emotions of being thrown into a lion's den! Daniel's devotion (and Satan's opposition) is what got Daniel into hot water...it was God who brought him through. Daniel lived his lifetime over the span of several kings and dynasties. He lived in a foreign land and represented God before the Jewish captives as well as other people's and their kings. He was given insight into dreams, the future, and the depths of people's lives.

Daniel 1-2

How do you see God's hand in these four young men's lives? Why was Daniel so stubborn and wouldn't it have been better to have blended in with the other young men? From where did Daniel derive his dream interpreting abilities? Why did he ask for Arioch to spare the other wise men of Babylon? What was Nebuchadnezzar's response?

Daniel 3

Why did Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego draw a line where they did? Why was Nebuchadnezzar so enraged? Who was the fourth man in the fire? Where was Daniel during this fiery furnace situation? What do you think God is trying to accomplish in the King's life?

Daniel 4

Notice the transition from verse 3 to verse 4. What is it? What do you know about Nebuchadnezzar from an historical perspective? Why is this such an amazing story? What does this king seem to learn over his years of experiences with Daniel and his God?

Daniel 5-6

How would it have felt to be Belshazzar? What emotions would he have been experiencing? Why was God so harsh with this king? What was Daniel's reputation in the kingdom? What kind of influence did he have? What was going on politically at the time? With each change of kingship there were new challenges for Daniel. What conditions led to Daniel being thrown into the lion's den? What was the immediate result? The long term result?

Daniel 7-12

These chapters record visions that Daniel received and give of keys to "end of the age." Just as there was a beginning there will be an end, and Daniel paints a picture of this end with a very broad brush. What do you learn about Daniel's relationship with God from these visions? What other insights do you get into what his life was like? Look for what he did, what he saw, what he felt, and what he did!

There is a bravery based upon principle that shines from Daniel's life, His path was certainly not easy or picture perfect, but he meets change and challenges with faith toward God and grace toward others. This is the true heart of a lion!

My conclusions from this study...
