Daniel - Commentaries by Paul J. Pascoe

CareLines: Volume 3, Dedication

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DECEMBER 3

I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: and I prayed.

Daniel 9:3,4

This is dedication and determination in earnest prayer. This is REAL humility. Israel as a nation had sinned and gotten away from God. Daniel took that sin as if he had done it and confessed it to God. “Daniel was a man of prayer,” we often sing. He was also extremely dedicated to the Lord.

CareLines: Volume 7, Choice

Then the king . . . was sore displeased with himself . . . and passed the night fasting.

Daniel 6:14-18

King Darius had signed a law that made him look and feel good. But it backfired because it condemned to death his most trusted advisor, Daniel. The king was extremely upset but there was nothing that he could do. Be careful, young Christian, that in the excitement of the moment you don’t make the biggest mistake of your life. Be careful that you don’t do something that brings benefit to you but destroys someone else. You may spend more than just one night pacing the floor!

CareLines: Volume 3, Excellence

NOVEMBER 21

Daniel was preferred . . . because an excellent spirit was in him.

Daniel 6:3

Daniel had every reason to feel discouraged, and unwanted, and mistreated. But he didn’t let any of his circumstances get him down. He had a quiet confidence in God, took all his circumstances from Him, talked to Him on a regular basis, and the result was that Daniel was well-liked and had a wonderful attitude towards life. And he started being this way when he was quite a young boy. Don’t let the difficulties and frustrations of life make you bitter. Pray often, leave the problem with Jesus, and you can face life with an excellent spirit.

CareLines: Volume 2, Faithfulness: 2

DAN 6:4

Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel . . . but they could find none occasion nor fault.

Dan. 6:4

Daniel lived a blameless life. (Wouldn’t that be nice!) His enemies tried hard to find something against him but they couldn’t. They couldn’t even find one fault. What a tremendous example for us. What was Daniel’s secret? He put the Lord first in everything. No matter what, God got first place. If we do the same, then try as they might, the world will never be able to find anything against us.

CareLines: Volume 7, Judgment

Fingers of a man’s hand . . . wrote . . . upon . . . the wall.

Daniel 5:5

In the middle of a big drinking party, Nebuchadnezzar’s grandson Belshazzar saw, to his horror, the fingers of a man writing a message on the banquet hall wall. He was terrified. Daniel was called to interpret because the message was not in the local language. Part of the message was, “You are weighed in the balances and found wanting.” That night Belshazzar died in a surprise attack on his palace. God is not mocked.

Nebuchadnezzar had been warned not to leave God out of his life. He had repented and turned to God. But his son had carried on in debauchery and God took his life. “Vengeance is Mine; I will repay,” says the Lord.

CareLines: Volume 7, Praise

How great are His signs! and how mighty are His wonders!

Daniel 4:3

King Nebuchadnezzar, the mightiest Gentile monarch, praised God after He restored his sanity. God brought the world’s most powerful dictator to his knees, making him live and eat like an animal for seven years until he acknowledged that God was above all and deserved all praise and glory. Before this verse was written, Nebuchadnezzar bragged about himself and his accomplishments. After his breakdown, he praised God. There’s a big lesson here for each of us.

CareLines: Volume 2, Worship: DAN 3:18

DAN 3:18

We will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up.

Dan. 3:18

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego where close friends of Daniel. Here in this chapter of Daniel’s book we find the three friends facing the greatest challenge of their young lives. Would they, or would they not bow and worship a man-made image of gold? Their decision was immovable. No matter what the consequences they refused to bow and worship! What a tremendous example for each of us. Are we prepared to stand against everyone else because of our love for the Lord? You say, “But we don’t have idols that we’re forced to bow down to!” No, but there are many idols that we voluntarily bow down to. There are so many things that come between us and the Lord. Be careful what you worship.

CareLines: Volume 3, Encouragement

DECEMBER 15

O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee; be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened.

Daniel 10:19

Daniel was encouraged by his heavenly visitor. In times of stress and discouragement may we each feel the touch of God’s hand. (Verse 10 says, “An hand touched me.” And verse 18, “There came again and touched me.”) God loves personal fellowship. He wants to be with us and lift us up when we’re down. “Fear not,” He says. “Peace be to thee.”

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