

I. INTRODUCTION.

A. Scripture text: **Daniel 6:1-4.**

It seemed good to Darius to appoint 120 satraps over the kingdom, that they should be in charge of the whole kingdom, [2] and over them three commissioners (of whom Daniel was one), that these satraps might be accountable to them, and that the king might not suffer loss. [3] Then this Daniel began distinguishing himself among the commissioners and satraps because he possessed an extraordinary spirit, and the king planned to appoint him over the entire kingdom. [4] Then the commissioners and satraps began trying to find a ground of accusation against Daniel in regard to government affairs; but they could find no ground of accusation or *evidence of corruption*, inasmuch as he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was *to be* found in him.

B. Webster defines the word 'integrity' as: of sound moral principle, upright, honest, and sincere.

C. Our character analysis this morning is to look at a man of great integrity; Daniel.

D. May each of us examine our life in light of his and become people of integrity.

II. INTEGRITY IN HIS **ATTITUDE.**

A. See Dan. 6:3.

Then this Daniel began distinguishing himself among the commissioners and satraps because he possessed an extraordinary spirit, and the king planned to appoint him over the entire kingdom.

B. Attitude is so important. It governs everything else!

C. When the attitude is right hard jobs become easier, mountains become molehills. A spirit of cooperation can accomplish everything! (Gen. 11:6; Neh. 4:6).

(**Gen 11:6**) And the LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them.

(**Neh 4:6**) So we built the wall and the whole wall was joined together to half its *height*, for the people had a mind to work.

D. Our text says that Daniel possessed "an extraordinary spirit" (exceptional qualities, NIV). It was unlike those around him. He stood out because of his attitude alone!

E. Joy comes from renewing the mind (see Mt. 5:38-45). Notice the following scriptures:

1. Transforming the mind (Rom. 12:2).

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.

2. Dwell on good things (Phil. 4:8).

Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell on these things.

3. Gird your mind for action (1Pet. 1:13).

Therefore, gird your minds for action, keep sober *in spirit*, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

F. Want to be a person of integrity? Then get a new attitude!!

III. INTEGRITY IN HIS **WORK.**

A. See Dan. 6:4.

Then the commissioners and satraps began trying to find a ground of accusation against Daniel in regard to government affairs; but they could find no ground of accusation or *evidence of corruption*, inasmuch as he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was *to be* found in him.

B. The relationship between master (boss) and slave (employee) is an important one.

C. Paul talked about how we are to act toward those whom we work (Eph. 6:5-8; Col. 3:22-24).

(**Eph 6:5-8**) Slaves, be obedient to those who are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in the sincerity of your heart, as to Christ; [6] not by way of eyeservice, as men-pleasers, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart. [7] With good will render service, as to the Lord, and not to men, [8] knowing that whatever good thing each one does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether slave or free.

(Col 3:22-24) Slaves, in all things obey those who are your masters on earth, not with external service, as those who *merely* please men, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord. [23] Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men; [24] knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance. It is the Lord Christ whom you serve.

- D. Notice how Daniel's accusers could not find anything in which to use to accuse Daniel of wrong doing! Daniel was faithful in his work. We don't normally associate the word "faithful" with work, but that is exactly what Daniel was.
- E. Want to be a person of integrity? Then be faithful in your work.

IV. INTEGRITY IN HIS LIFE.

- A. See Dan. 6:5.
Then these men said, "We shall not find any ground of accusation against this Daniel unless we find it against him with regard to the law of his God."
- B. There are two tests of one's integrity in life. The test of adversity and the test of prosperity.
- C. The test of adversity.
When we encounter trouble, calamity, and loss we quickly learn the depth of our stability (Prov. 24:10).
If you are slack in the day of distress, Your strength is limited.
This kind of test will reveal what you are truly made of.
- D. The test of prosperity.
This is a different kind of test, because when we live very prosperously it tests our spiritual integrity. Remember how the Israelites so often forgot God when the "going got good." Prosperity will reveal what our true value system really is (Prov. 27:21).
The crucible is for silver and the furnace for gold, And a man is tested by the praise accorded him.
- E. Want to be a person of integrity? Then learn to be spiritual in adversity and in prosperity.

V. INTEGRITY IN HIS SPIRITUALITY.

- A. See Dan. 6:10.
Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously.
- B. Daniel was a spiritual person. He knew where his blessings and strength came from--God. So when trouble hit he did something very strange in deed--he didn't change a thing!
- C. Notice again the last phrase of 6:10. When Daniel got the bad news about the new law, he went in to pray to God about "as he had been doing previously." Daniel did not turn to pray in a panic, but in a quiet confidence that God would work this problem out.
- D. Daniel's spiritual integrity was so strong that he kept right doing what he had always been doing--praying to and serving God.
- E. Want to be a person of integrity? Then have a strong, consistent walk with God.

VI. CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. Daniel stood out from his peers, and was continually blessed by God because he did nothing out of the ordinary, nothing to draw attention to himself, but rather lived a life of integrity before God and man.
- B. God will richly bless those who do His will, even if they don't "make the headlines." God loves people of integrity; those who are moral, upright, honest, and sincere.
- C. May we all resolve to be people of integrity by following after JC.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians, erring Xians.