

DR. JOE K. TAYLOR, SENIOR PASTOR, SOUTH RENO BAPTIST CHURCH, RENO, NV • SEPTEMBER 11, 2016 All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • Pew Bible: Page 819-820. In the STUDY VERSE SECTION, God's Word is printed in bold faced text with Pastor Joe's commentary in the lighter faced text.

aniel determined that he would not defile himself ...

- Daniel 1:8, HCSB

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The Story of Daniel and the Lion's Den

1. In public, ______ should be your testimony.

Daniel 6:3–5, HCSB - ³ Daniel distinguished himself above the administrators and satraps [a governor of an area] because he had an extraordinary spirit, so the king planned to set him over the whole realm.⁴ The administrators and satraps, therefore, kept trying to find a charge against Daniel regarding the kingdom. But they could find no charge or corruption, for he was trustworthy, and no negligence or corruption was found in him.⁵ Then these men said, "We will never find any charge against this Daniel unless we find something against him concerning the law of his God."

A. Stand pure—whatever the situation.

"...no corruption..."

B. Stay positive—whatever your circumstances. "...exceptional spirit."

C. Show integrity—whatever the task. "...trustworthy..."

2. In private, ______ should be your habit.

Daniel 6:10-11, HCSB - ¹⁰ When Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went into his house. The windows in its upper room opened toward Jerusalem, and three times a day he got down on his knees, prayed, and gave thanks to his God, just as he had done before. ¹¹ Then these men went as a group and found Daniel petitioning and

imploring his God.

A. A specific place "...home...upstairs..."

B. A specific period "...three times a day..."

C. A specific posture "...he got down on his knees..."

D. A specific practice "...just as he had done before."

will be 3. Under pressure, God's your protection.

Daniel 6:20–23, HCSB - ²⁰ When he reached the den, he cried out in anguish to Daniel. "Daniel, servant of the living God," the king said, "has your God whom you serve continually been able to rescue you from the lions?"...²² My God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths. They haven't hurt me, for I was found innocent before Him. Also, I have not committed a crime against you my king."²³ The king was overjoyed and gave orders to take Daniel out of the den. So Daniel was taken out of the den, uninjured, for he trusted in his God.

A. There will always be lions among you.

1 Peter 5:8, NLT -⁸ Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

B. There will always be His presence in the pit.

Revelation 5:5, NAS, -⁵ ... and one of the elders said to me, "Stop weeping; behold, the Lion that is from the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has overcome so as to open the book and its seven seals."

C. Jesus is still taming lions today!

2 Timothy 4:17–18, NIV - ¹⁷ But the Lord stood at my side and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed...And I was delivered from the lion's mouth.¹⁸ The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom.

We must trust God in the same way.

Answers to "Living Among Lions" Message Dr. Joe K. Taylor, Senior Pastor, South Reno Baptist Church, Reno, NV • September 11, 2016

1. Purity

2. Prayer

3. Presence