



THE STORY *continues...*

*Join us each week as God weaves His Story into the fabric
of our daily lives.*

Chapter 18 Daniel in Exile

Listen to *The Story*

*Read **Chapter 18** of The Story*

The story of Daniel is amazing. Daniel is a very loyal and righteous man of God who serves the king of Babylon with the utmost integrity.

What other “exiled” follower of God does Daniel remind you of?

What is the significance of Daniel’s role in Babylon?

Learn *The Story*

*Look for ways in which God’s story and your story
connect this week.*

Daniel’s story is in many ways not at all about Daniel. It is a story of how God brings about His will in the foreign world of Babylon and how God’s people find favor with kings and powers that are not their own people.

How is Daniel’s life story similar to every Christian’s life in the world?

How is Daniel Christ-like?

Discuss with those in your family or Bible study group how Daniel’s story is challenging to every Christian as we learn to love, serve and work alongside those who do not fear God.

Love *The Story*

Intentionally take a step forward in faith.

Angels play a significant role in the story of Daniel. Look up the following verses and have a discussion with others regarding God’s special messengers.

Exodus 14:19-20

Judges 6:12-22

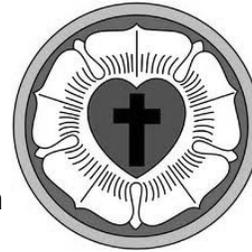
Matthew 2:13-20

Luther's Explanation

While in exile from their homeland, Daniel and three friends persist in their faith despite threats created by several foreign rulers whom they serve with dedication. The God they confess will be the one who will deliver the faithful throughout history, no matter how evil forces rage.

Even in exile, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, and Daniel let the future be in God's hands. This unusual prophet's story encourages faithful persistence to God in the face of any kind of persecution.

It's sometimes tempting to become cynical about all the cruelty in the world's history. We could simply accommodate ourselves to evil and only do what we have to do in order to survive in the short term. But as Christians, we have the hope of the women on Easter morning who knew, as Daniel glimpsed earlier, that everything had changed, fearful as that may be. The kingdom of God was at hand. This realization is frightening, because it brings us into the kingdom and the future God will make. In knowing that God has broken the power of evil and will transform the world, we know that such transformation will include our transformation, for we too participate in the evil of the world.



“Daniel’s life is nothing but a fine, clear mirror. In it we see the conflict and victory of faith, which, by the grace of God, triumphs over all men and devils; we see, too, the great fruit and use of faith, which it produces through patience and cross-bearing, before both God and the world.” (Luther’s Works 35: 298-99)

PROMISE

This week, cling to God’s promise for you:
I am God Almighty. Great is my power, so trust me.

The EXTRA Mile



Google *Daniel and the Lions* and look at the many artists’ images depicting this Biblical event. What paintings do you like and why?