

Context

- 1] Daniel & noble youth taken by King Nebuchadnezzar from Jerusalem to Babylon's royal court and rises to prominence (Dan 1)
- 2] c 70 ys later Daniel rediscovered to interpret dream of Neb's grandson (ch5)
- 3] That night, Babylon overrun by Darius the Persian King (5:30)

MP 'Those who trust in the Lord/ serve him continually, will be saved'

KV No wound was found on him (D) because he had trusted in His God' (23b)

The 'offense' (1-5)

- 1] Daniel rediscovered and exalted (1- 3)
- 3 Daniel set over the whole kingdom (cf Jesus Mt 28:18) **Jesus**
D. instructed in his youth by Jeremiah of God's faithfulness (Lam 3:22-27)
- * Promotion is God's work in His time*
- Never too old D, over 80. (cf Moses Ex 7:7) (Ps 92:12-15. Is 40:28-31)*

- 2] Daniels opponents (4-5)

a) hostile (4)

nb Share with Jesus - Persecution (Jn15:18-20), hate (15:25; 16:2,33)

To some the smell of death to others the fragrance of life (2Cor2:16

* Persecution is inevitable (2 Tim 3:12)*

b) D blameless (5)

* Be sure beyond reproach - the only fault is to do with God's Law* cf Jesus

4 'Without spot or blemish' (cf Jesus Eph 5:27) **J**

4 False accusations (Matt 26:59) **J**

5 No charge (cf Jesus- Lk 23:4) **J**

The plot (6-15)

- 1] The plan (6-9)

An edict for 30 days – 3/30 total devotion Ex23:14,17/ lack of it (Lk 22:34) **J**

*Cf God is bound by His Word (Heb 6:16) *

- 2] The response (10,11)

a) *The upstairs room (cf Lk 22:12) J*

b) *prayed – eyes on the Lord' cf the Garden of Gethsemane (Lk 22:42) J*

Look wholly to the Lord when up against it

- with thanksgiving (Phil 4:6)

- prayer from his youth (1:8,9; 2:17,18)

- 3] The 'sting' (11-15)

a) The men went as a group (11)

nb The devil watches for an opportunity (Lk4:13; 1Pet5:6-9)

b) accused Daniel (12,13)

beware being hurried without asking implications of God's honour service

c) **Made every effort** (14)

nb law of M & P unchangeable so appealed to D cf (Lk 23:30) - J

The 'execution' (16 -18)

1] the sentence

Nb D ready to live or die? (Phil 1:19-26)

2] the king's reaction

Nb The king willing deliverance (16; Mark15:30) J

the tomb is sealed cf Jesus' (17; Matt 27:62-66) J

The deliverance (19-24)

1] The approach – anguished (19,20)

Cf At first light (Matt 27:60) J

2] Daniel's response (21,22)

a) peaceful (21)

Nb peace that passes understanding (Phil 4:7,9b)

b) gracious (21)

nb God's grace is exhibited by His people

c) righteous (22)

cf Without sin (Heb 4:15) J

3] Daniel's salvation (23)

nb God saved Daniel (and those who trust in Him)

4] The judgement (24)

nb The wages of sin is death (Rmns 3:23)

Nb Evil will be rooted out – punished to 2nd 3rd 4th generation(Ex 20:5)

The king's pronouncement (25-28)

1] Universal (25) *cf Nebuchadnezzar's profession (4:34,35)*

**The call to revere God is universal **

2] Obligatory(26a)

Cf every knee must bow (Phil2:10)

3] Acknowledging

a) 26 *God is the living God (26b) all powerful, eternal (26c)*

b) *He saves completely (27a) cf J (Heb 7:25)*

Conclusion:

1] Trust in God **completely**

2] Anticipate Jesus – the Saviour of the World