

Live Different

THE BOOK OF DANIEL



YEAR OF
Biblical Literacy

Live Different

CHALLENGE

- What did you do to 'live different' this week?
- How did it go?
- read my Bible at work
- give someone a book by a Christian author
- buy a stranger's coffee/tea
- prefer someone else in some way
- offer to meet someone's need
- publicly honour and encourage someone in front of others
- invite a person to a church event



Y E A R O F
Biblical Literacy

The Story So Far...

OLD TESTAMENT →

Act I & II



Creation &
Rebellion



~2165 BC

The
Patriarchs



~1446 BC

Exodus & The
Promised Land

Act III



~ 1000 BC

Israel's Kingdom



587 BC

Exile



538 BC

Return
from Exile

SILENCE
~400 BC

NEW TESTAMENT →

Act IV



4-33 AD

Jesus

Act V



33-62 AD

Early
Church

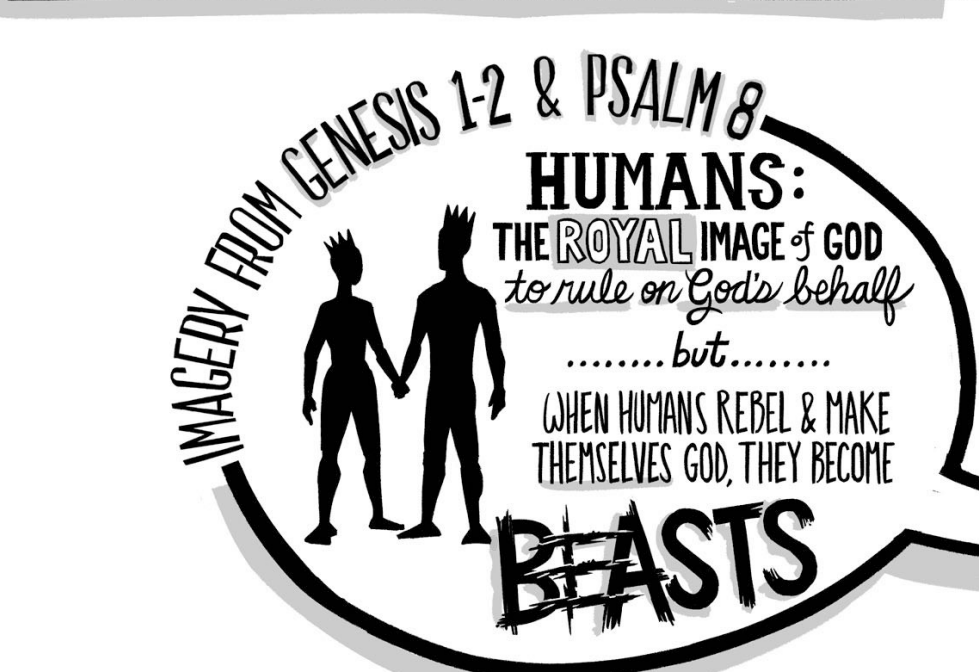


Future
Hope



Jeremiah 29.4–7

4. This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel, says to all those I carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon:
5. “Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce.
6. Marry and have sons and daughters; find wives for your sons and give your daughters in marriage, so that they too may have sons and daughters. Increase in number there; do not decrease.
7. Also, seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”



HEBREW

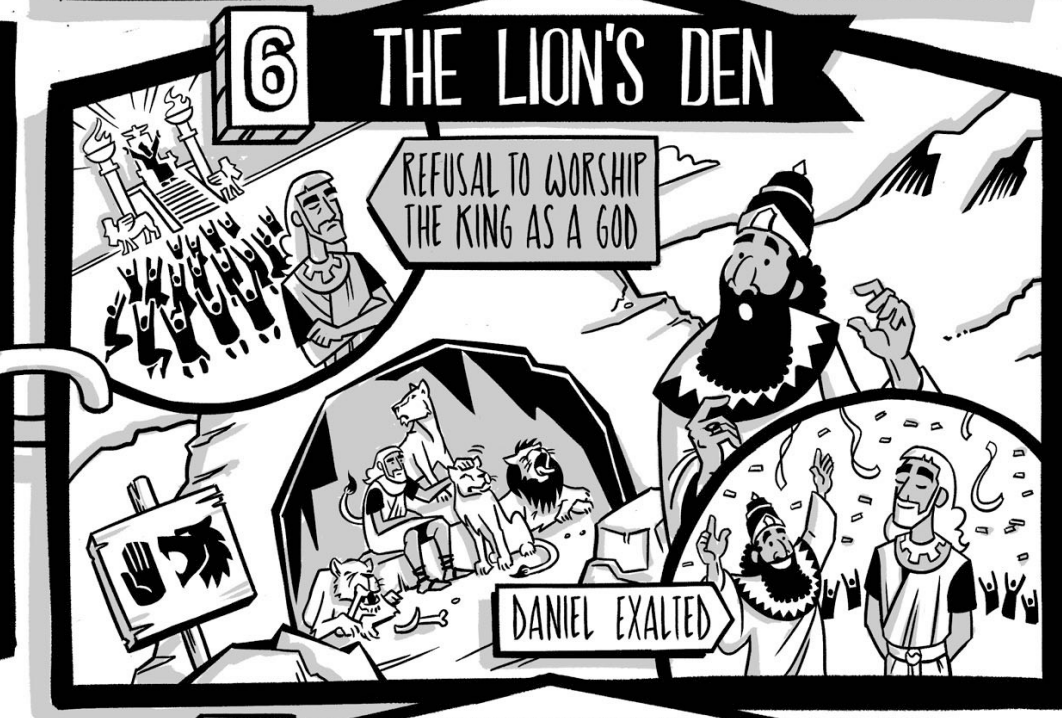
ch.1-6
STORIES ABOUT
DANIEL & HIS FRIENDS
VISIONS OF
DANIEL
ch.7-12



ARAMAIC

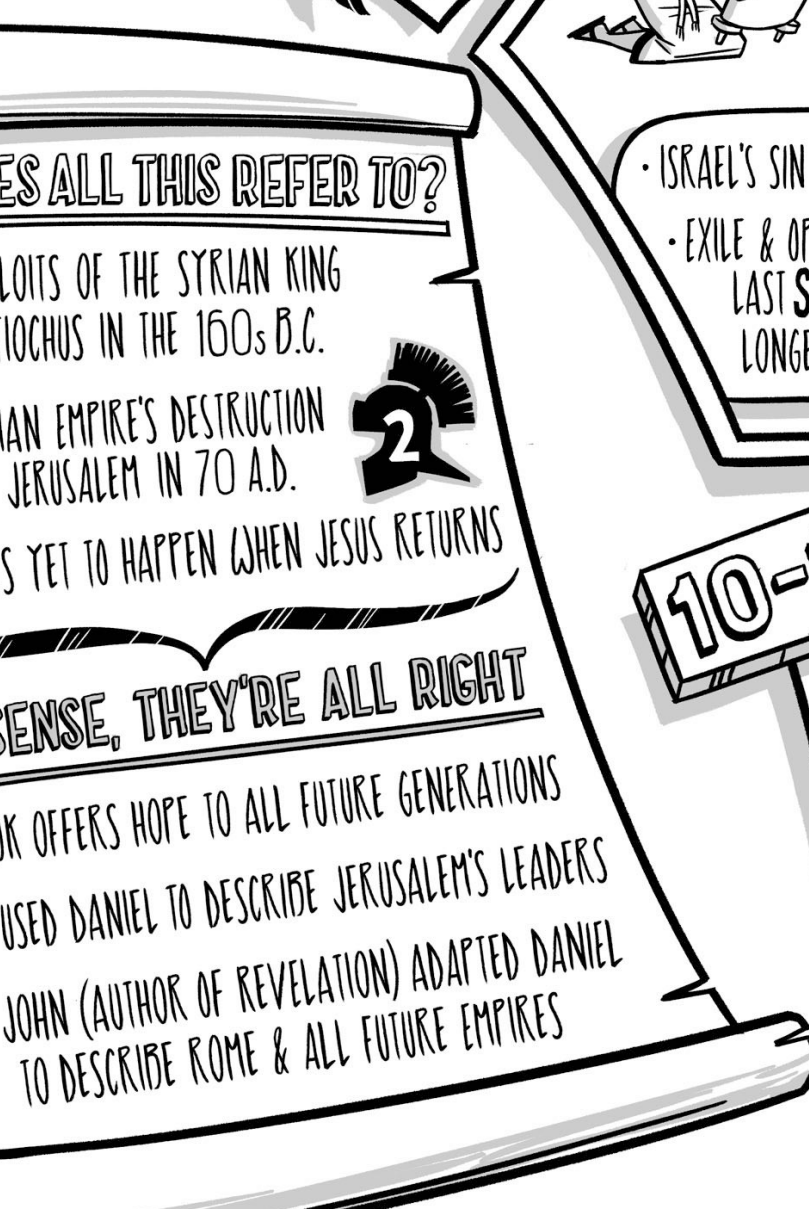
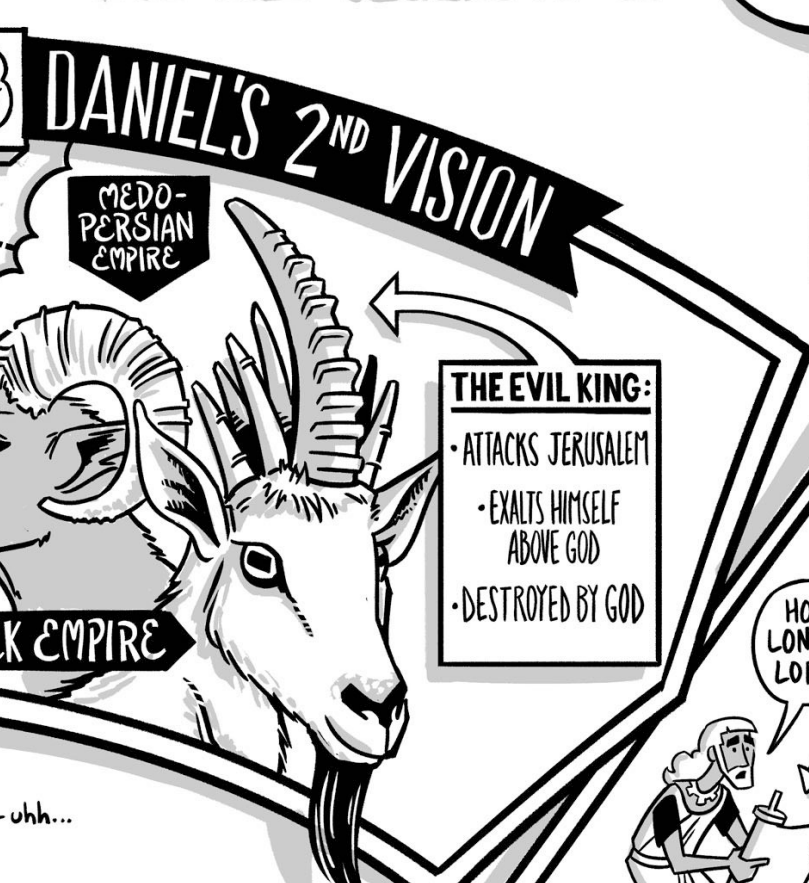
DANIEL

HOPE THAT MOTIVATES FAITHFULNESS



HEBREW

THE POINT OF DANIEL:
*a Pattern
& a Promise*
FOR ALL GENERATIONS



HEBREW

HUMAN BEINGS BECOME
BEASTS
WHEN THEY DON'T ACKNOWLEDGE GOD'S KINGDOM.

GOD WILL ONE DAY CONFRONT THE
BEAST
AND RESCUE HIS WORLD.

created by
the Bible Project



HEBREW

The background is a detailed black and white line drawing of the biblical story of Daniel 6. It depicts King Belshazzar on the right, a crowd of people in the center, and Daniel in the lion's den at the bottom. Various signs and symbols are scattered throughout, including a large number '6' in a box, a sign that reads 'REFUSAL TO WORSHIP THE KING AS A GOD', and another that says 'DANIEL EXALTED'. The overall style is reminiscent of a comic book or a graphic novel.

Daniel 6

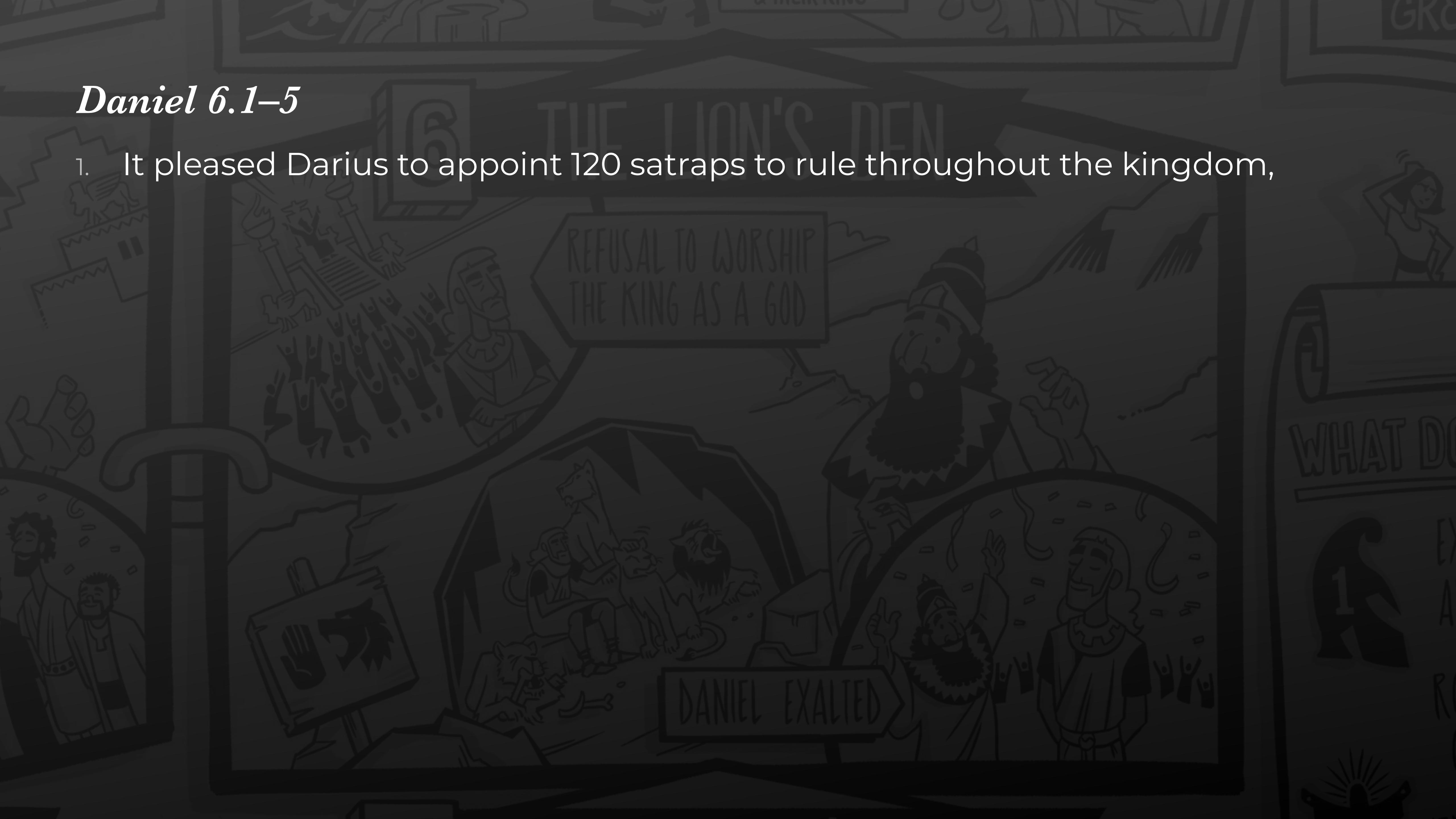
DANIEL & THE LION'S DEN



YEAR OF
Biblical Literacy

Daniel 6.1–5

1. It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom,





BLACK SEA

CASPIAN SEA

THRACE

ARMENIA

LYDIA

ASSYRIA

MEDIA

SYRIA

BABYLON

SUSA

PERSIA

JUDEA

ARABIA

RED SEA

EGYPT

MEDITERRANEAN SEA

GREECE

INDIA

ARABIAN SEA

N



Daniel 6.1–5

1. It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom,
2. with three chief ministers over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss.
3. Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the chief ministers and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.
4. At this, the chief ministers and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent.
5. Finally these men said, 'We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God.'

Daniel 6.6–9

6. So these chief ministers and satraps went as a group to the king and said: 'May King Darius live for ever!'
7. The royal ministers, prefects, satraps, advisors and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any god or human being during the next thirty days, except to you, Your Majesty, shall be thrown into the lions' den.
8. Now, Your Majesty, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered – in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed.'
9. So King Darius put the decree in writing.

Daniel 6.10–12

10. Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened towards Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.
11. Then these men went as a group and found Daniel praying and asking God for help.
12. So they went to the king and spoke to him about his royal decree: 'Did you not publish a decree that during the next thirty days anyone who prays to any god or human being except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the lions' den?'

The king answered, 'The decree stands – in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed.'

Daniel 6.13–16

13. Then they said to the king, 'Daniel, who is one of the exiles from Judah, pays no attention to you, Your Majesty, or to the decree you put in writing. He still prays three times a day.'
14. When the king heard this, he was greatly distressed; he was determined to rescue Daniel and made every effort until sunset to save him.
15. Then the men went as a group to King Darius and said to him, 'Remember, Your Majesty, that according to the law of the Medes and Persians no decree or edict that the king issues can be changed.'
16. So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions' den. The king said to Daniel, 'May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you!'

Daniel 6.17–20

17. A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den, and the king sealed it with his own signet ring and with the rings of his nobles, so that Daniel's situation might not be changed.
18. Then the king returned to his palace and spent the night without eating and without any entertainment being brought to him. And he could not sleep.
19. At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den.
20. When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, 'Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?'
21. Daniel answered, 'May the king live for ever!'

Daniel 6.22–25

22. 'My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, Your Majesty.'
23. The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the den. And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in his God.
24. At the king's command, the men who had falsely accused Daniel were brought in and thrown into the lions' den, along with their wives and children. And before they reached the floor of the den, the lions overpowered them and crushed all their bones.
25. Then King Darius wrote to all the nations and peoples of every language in all the earth:
'May you prosper greatly!'

Daniel 6.26–28

26. 'I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel.

'For he is the living God
and he endures for ever;
his kingdom will not be destroyed,
his dominion will never end.

27. He rescues and he saves;
he performs signs and wonders
in the heavens and on the earth.
He has rescued Daniel
from the power of the lions.'

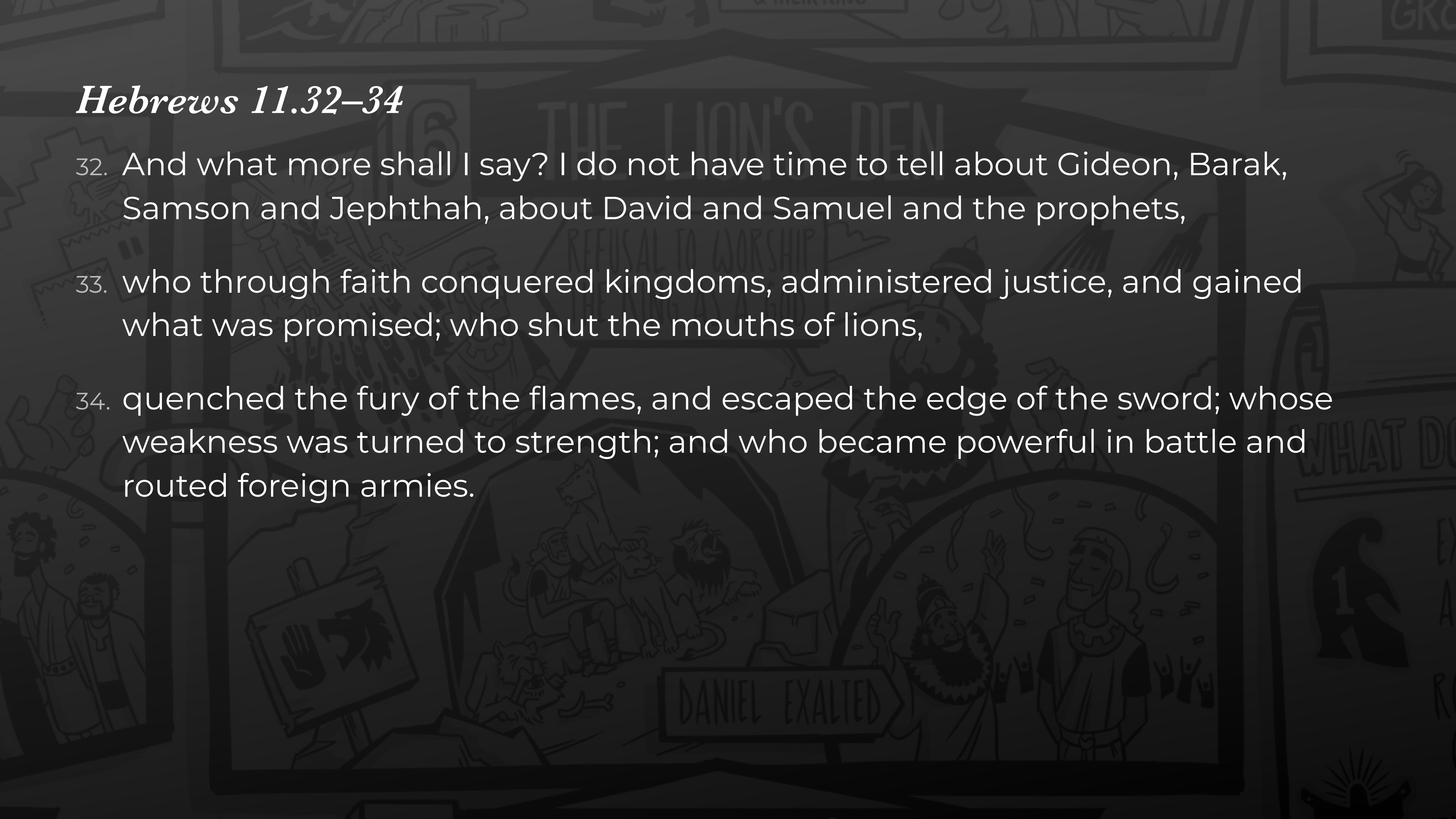
28. So Daniel prospered during the reign of Darius and the reign of Cyrus the Persian.



Cyrus the Great

Hebrews 11.32–34

32. And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets,
33. who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions,
34. quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.







1 Kings 8.33–36

33. 'When your people Israel have been defeated by an enemy because they have sinned against you, and when they turn back to you and give praise to your name, praying and making supplication to you in this temple,
34. then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your people Israel and bring them back to the land you gave to their ancestors.
35. 'When the heavens are shut up and there is no rain because your people have sinned against you, and when they pray towards this place and give praise to your name and turn from their sin because you have afflicted them,
36. then hear from heaven and forgive the sin of your servants, your people Israel. Teach them the right way to live, and send rain on the land you gave your people for an inheritance.

1 Kings 8.33–36

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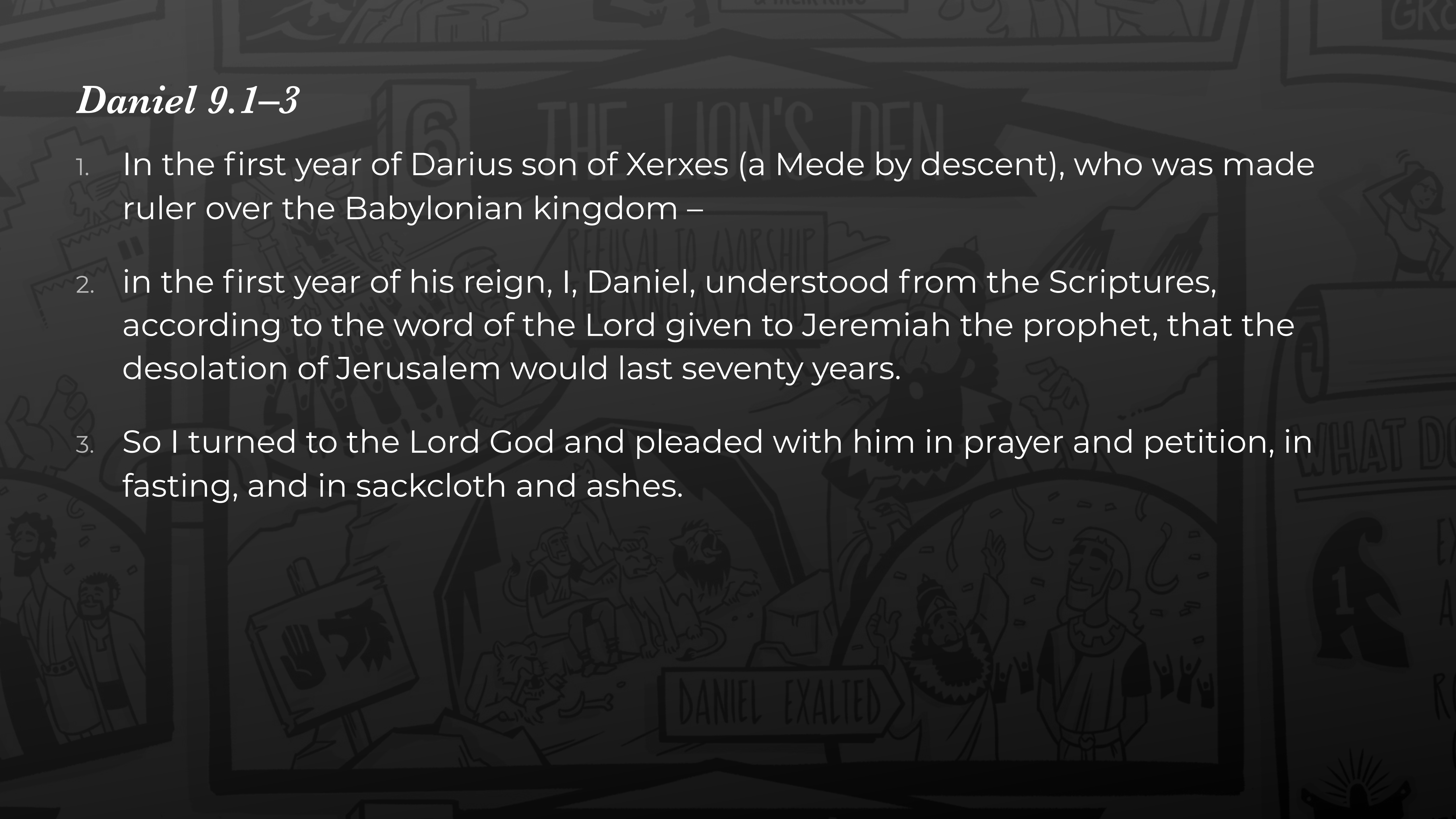


striving from shame

encouragement without courage

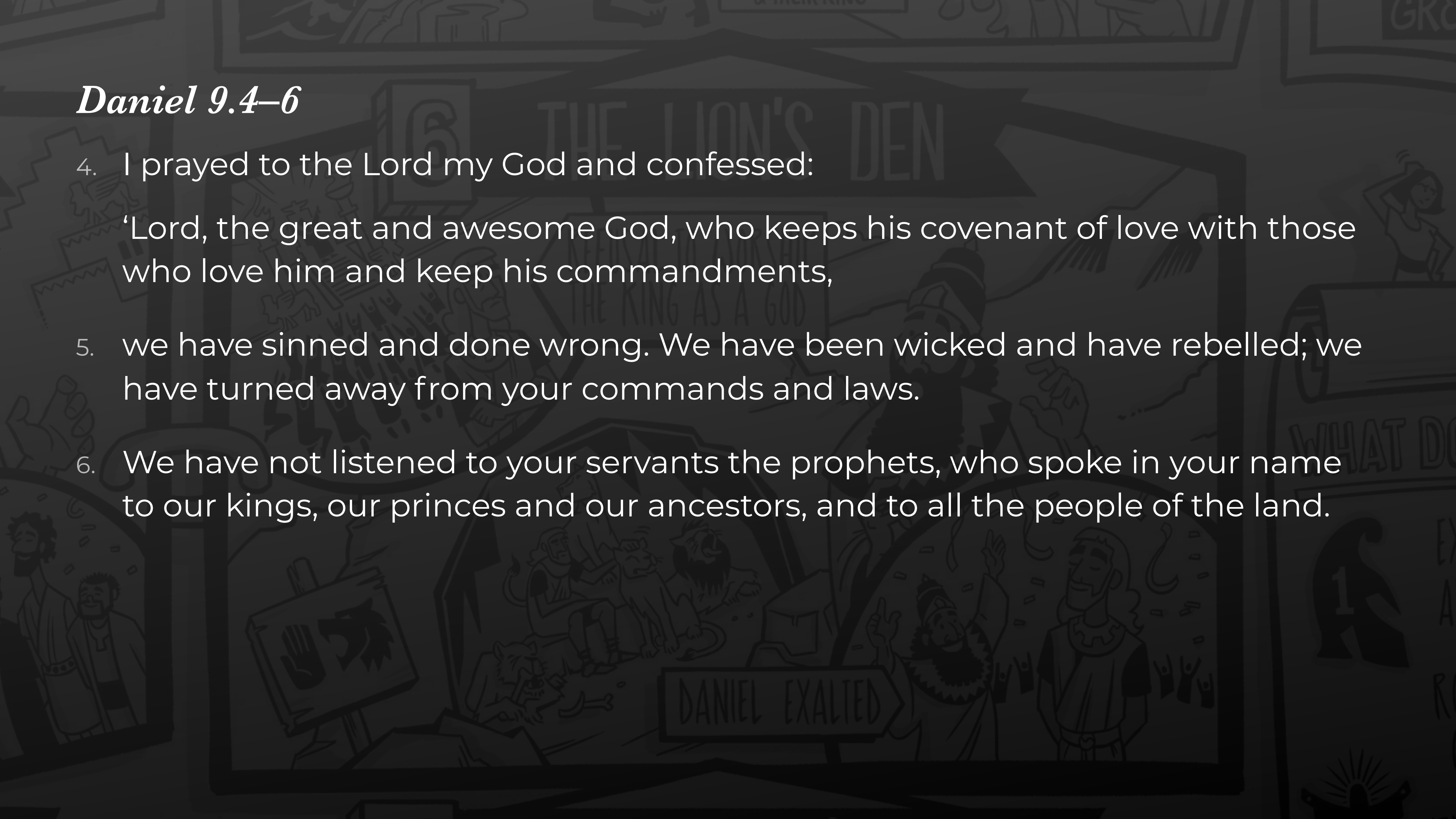
Daniel 9.1–3

1. In the first year of Darius son of Xerxes (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom –
2. in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the Lord given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years.
3. So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.



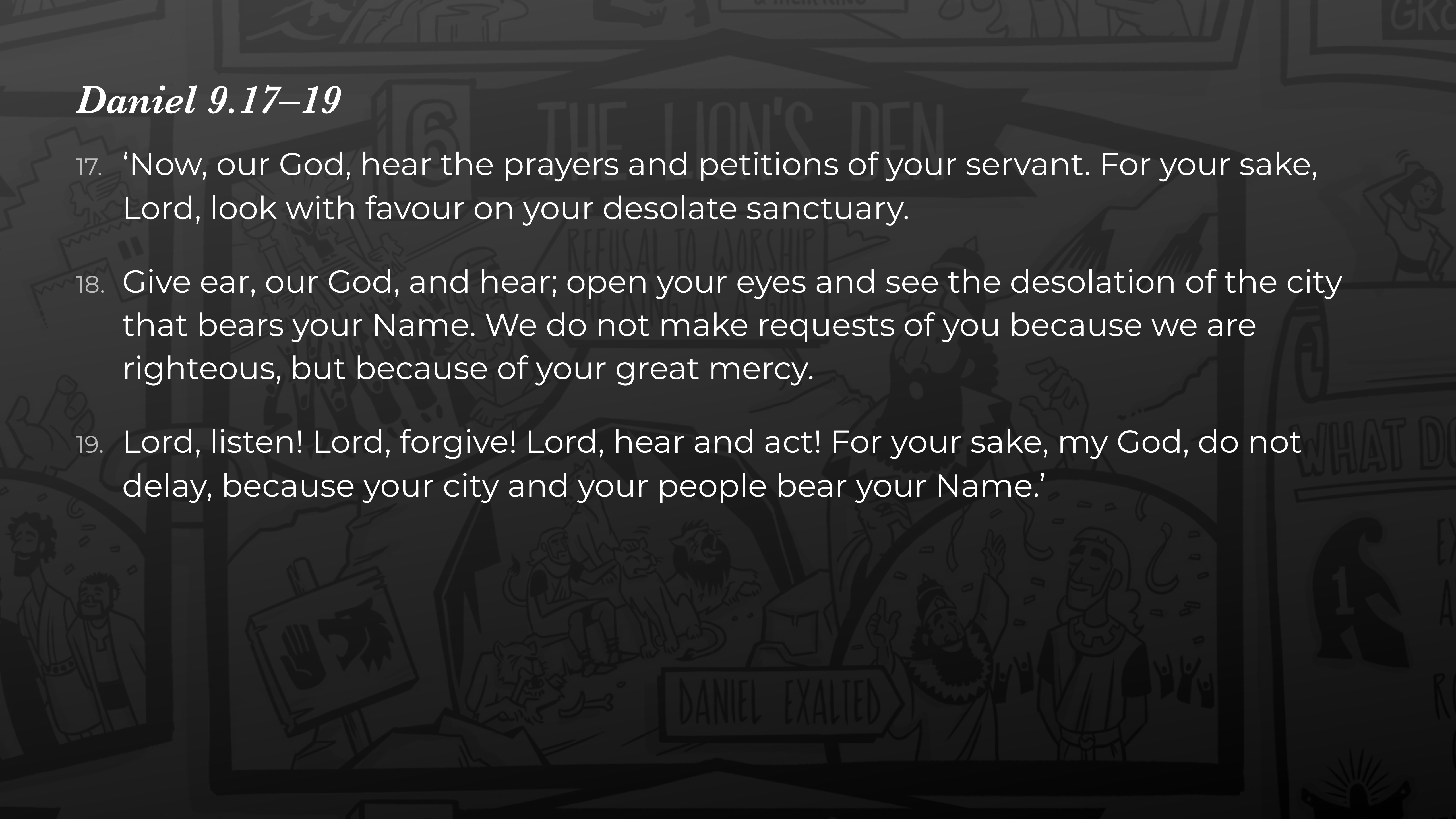
Daniel 9.4–6

4. I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed:
‘Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments,
5. we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws.
6. We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land.



Daniel 9.17–19

17. 'Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, Lord, look with favour on your desolate sanctuary.
18. Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy.
19. Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, hear and act! For your sake, my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name.'





*living for something
bigger than your life*



Hebrews 11.39–12.3

39. ...yet none of them received what had been promised,

40. since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

1. Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us,
2. fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy that was set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.
3. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.



How do you want to 'live different' with...

- money?
- sex?
- power and influence?