



stand & LOVE FIRM well

**How to be Faithful to God and Genuinely Love Others
When Engaging Culture that is at Odds with Faith in Jesus**

Part 8:
A Biblical Response to
Unjust Laws, Godless
Agendas, and Hateful
Jealousy

Daniel 6:1

Darius the Mede decided to divide the kingdom into 120 provinces, and he appointed a high officer to rule over each province.

Daniel 6:2

The king also chose Daniel and two others as administrators to supervise the high officers and protect the king's interests.

Daniel 6:3

Daniel soon proved himself more capable than all the other administrators and high officers. Because of Daniel's great ability, the king made plans to place him over the entire empire.

Daniel 6:4a

**Then the other administrators and
high officers began searching for
some fault in the way Daniel was
handling government affairs,**

Daniel 6:4b

but they couldn't find anything to criticize or condemn. He was faithful, always responsible, and completely trustworthy.

Daniel 6:5

So they concluded, “Our only chance of finding grounds for accusing Daniel will be in connection with the rules of his religion.”

Daniel 6:6

**So the administrators and high officers went to the king and said,
“Long live King Darius!”**

Daniel 6:7a

**We are all in agreement—we
administrators, officials, high
officers, advisers, and governors—
that the king should make a law
that will be strictly enforced.**

Daniel 6:7b

Give orders that for the next thirty days any person who prays to anyone, divine or human—except to you, Your Majesty—will be thrown into the den of lions.

Daniel 6:8

And now, Your Majesty, issue and sign this law so it cannot be changed, an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked.”

Daniel 6:9

So King Darius signed the law.

Daniel 6:10a

But when Daniel learned that the law had been signed, he went home and knelt down as usual in his upstairs room, with its windows open toward Jerusalem.

Daniel 6:10b

**He prayed three times a day, just as
he had always done, giving thanks
to his God.**

Daniel 6:11

**Then the officials went together to
Daniel's house and found him
praying and asking for God's help.**

Daniel 6:12a

**So they went straight to the king
and reminded him about his law.
“Did you not sign a law that for the
next thirty days any person who
prays to anyone, except to you,**

Daniel 6:12b

Your Majesty—will be thrown into the den of lions?” “Yes,” the king replied, “that decision stands; it is an official law of the Medes and Persians that cannot be revoked.”

Daniel 6:13

Then they told the king, “That man Daniel, one of the captives from Judah, is ignoring you and your law. He still prays to his God three times a day.”

Daniel 6:14

Hearing this, the king was deeply troubled, and he tried to think of a way to save Daniel. He spent the rest of the day looking for a way to get Daniel out of this predicament.

Daniel 6:15

In the evening the men went together to the king and said, “Your Majesty, you know that according to the law of the Medes and the Persians, no law that the king signs can be changed.”

Daniel 6:16

So at last the king gave orders for Daniel to be arrested and thrown into the den of lions. The king said to him, “May your God, whom you serve so faithfully, rescue you.”

Daniel 6:17

A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the den. The king sealed the stone with his own royal seal and the seals of his nobles, so that no one could rescue Daniel.

Daniel 6:18

Then the king returned to his palace
and spent the night fasting. He
refused his usual entertainment and
couldn't sleep at all that night.

Daniel 6:19

Very early the next morning, the king got up and hurried out to the lions' den.

Daniel 6:20

When he got there, he called out in anguish, “Daniel, servant of the living God! Was your God, whom you serve so faithfully, able to rescue you from the lions?”

Daniel 6:21-22a

Daniel answered, “Long live the king! My God sent his angel to shut the lions’ mouths so that they would not hurt me,

Daniel 6:22b

**for I have been found innocent in
his sight. And I have not wronged
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Daniel 6:23

The king was overjoyed and ordered that Daniel be lifted from the den. Not a scratch was found on him, for he had trusted in his God.

Daniel 6:24a

Then the king gave orders to arrest the men who had maliciously accused Daniel. He had them thrown into the lions' den, along with their wives and children.

Daniel 6:24b

The lions leaped on them and tore them apart before they even hit the floor of the den.

Daniel 6:25

**Then King Darius sent this message
to the people of every race and
nation and language throughout the
world: “Peace and prosperity to
you!”**

Daniel 6:26a

**I decree that everyone throughout
my kingdom should tremble with
fear before the God of Daniel.**

Daniel 6:26b

**For he is the living God, and he will
endure forever. His kingdom will
never be destroyed, and his rule
will never end.**

Daniel 6:27

He rescues and saves his people; he performs miraculous signs and wonders in the heavens and on earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.”



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Principle #1

**Standing firm and loving others well
can best be exemplified during a
conflict where you are the
specific target.**

Principle #2

You will know that you are standing firm and loving others well when there is no credible, personal attack anyone can make about your character, your trustworthiness, or your consistency.

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Principle #3

**A biblical response to unjust laws,
godless agendas, and hateful
jealousy is to humbly and
intentionally go about living out your
faith for God one day at a time.**

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**He prayed three times a day, just as
he had always done, giving thanks
to his God.**

Daniel neither flaunts nor hides his faith. He prays with the windows open. There is no speech or inner turmoil recorded in the text. He does not question, doubt, or worry; he acts. He does not bow toward Darius but before God towards Jerusalem.

Standing firm and loving well in the middle of a horrendous conflict is not meant to be a herculean feat. It does not require extraordinary faith, nor does it require incredible courage. It simply requires intimacy with God, which fuels our ability to practice faithfulness and obedience daily.

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Principle #4

**Standing firm and loving others well
will always require constantly
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Principle #4

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Principle #5

Standing firm in our faith is about remaining faithful to our Lord and Savior in the face of certain loss and certain death.

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Standing firm in our faith does not mean fighting, arguing, or debating with the powers that be. It does not mean correcting, assaulting, killing, or destroying all tyrants, oppressors, and enemies. Instead, we are to lay down our lives for our King.

Principle #5

Standing firm in our faith is about remaining faithful to our Lord and Savior in the face of certain loss and certain death.

Principle #6

Standing firm and loving others well is about helping others feel the supernatural love, power, grace, mercy, kindness, and forgiveness of God in their lives; so they may come to place their faith in Jesus Christ.

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His enemies according to His ways
and His perfect timing.**

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