

Special report: Daniel in the lions' den

RP = Radio presenter

M = Medius, Palace correspondent

Day 1

RP: Here is today's main story. King Darius has appointed Daniel, one of the Jewish exiles, to be in charge of the whole country. Medius, our palace correspondent has more details.

M: Well, it seems that Daniel does his work so much better than the other two governors who were originally appointed with him. But this may lead to trouble. After all, Daniel is a foreigner. The other two men won't like it at all.

RP: More on that story tomorrow.

Day 2

RP: There has been a surprise development at the palace. King Darius has made a new law. He has decreed that for the next 30 days no-one is to pray to any god except himself. Anyone who disobeys this new law will be thrown into the lions' den. Medius, what do you think of this strange new law?

M: Well, some people are saying that the king has been influenced by the other two governors. As I said yesterday, they don't like the fact that the king made Daniel more important than them. It may well be that they are jealous and have hatched this plot to get revenge on Daniel.

RP: So what do you think will happen now? Will Daniel and the other Jewish exiles stop praying to their God? Will they pray to the king instead?

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M: Well, of course their God says that they are to pray only to him. But no one wants to be thrown to the lions, so maybe they'll worship the king instead. We'll have to wait and see.

RP: We will, of course, keep you up-to-date with this story.

Day 3

RP: Here is today's top story. Daniel, the Jewish exile, whom the king put in charge of the whole country, has been seen at his window praying to his God. And not just once, but three times a day. Surely he must have heard about the king's new law? Medius?

M: Oh yes, there's no doubt about it. Everyone knows about the new law. But it seems that Daniel is determined to continue to obey his God, even though he may be thrown to the lions.

RP: So what will happen now? Will Daniel really be thrown to the lions? After all, he is the favourite of the king. Surely King Darius can change the law?

M: That's the problem – he cannot. Like all the written laws of our country, this new law cannot be changed. Apparently the king has been trying all day to think of a way to save Daniel, but the law is the law, it seems.

Day 4

RP: Sad news today. Daniel refused to stop praying to his God and has been thrown to the lions. Over to Medius.

M: I'm standing just outside the lions' den. (*Sound of lions roaring.*) Daniel has just been thrown in and a stone rolled over the entrance so there is no way he can get out. King Darius has just left. He is very upset and says he won't be able to sleep a wink tonight. I don't think Daniel will either. The lions haven't been fed for several days. Back to the studio.



RP: A very sad day, not just for Daniel and the other Jewish exiles, but also for the whole country. It seems that the king has been tricked into sending the best leader our country has ever had to an almost certain death.

Day 5

RP: Amazing news has just come in. Over to Medius at the lions' den.

M: Amazing news indeed. We can hardly believe it. At daybreak the king came down to the lions' den and called out to Daniel. The guards just laughed. All expected him to have been mauled to death by the hungry lions. But then something amazing happened! Daniel actually answered from the pit. He said that God had sent an angel to stop the lions from eating him! His God had kept him safe! The king was overjoyed and ordered the guards to pull Daniel out of the pit. And do you know, there wasn't a scratch on him!

RP: And what has the king said about the whole affair?

M: Now that he's seen how Daniel's God rescued him from the lions he knows that he is the only true God. So the king is going to send a message to everyone in the country, and to all the countries around, telling them to worship only Daniel's God.

RP: What an amazing story. And what an amazing God! That's all for today. We'll be back with you tomorrow.

