

# Daniel 6:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.

## Analysis

---

The phrase "when Daniel knew" indicates Daniel was fully aware of the decree making prayer to anyone except King Darius a capital offense, yet he deliberately continued his prayer practice. The words "went into his house" emphasize that this was his habitual practice, not a public display—Daniel prayed privately as he always had. "His windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem" reflects Solomon's prayer: when in exile, Israelites should pray toward Jerusalem (1 Kings 8:48).

"He kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God" describes Daniel's disciplined prayer life. The threefold pattern may reflect morning, afternoon, and evening prayers (Psalm 55:17). Significantly, Daniel not only prayed but "gave thanks." Even facing death, Daniel's prayers included thanksgiving, demonstrating faith that trusts God's goodness regardless of circumstances.

The phrase "as he did aforetime" is crucial—Daniel didn't begin praying when crisis came but maintained lifelong habits that sustained him in testing. This passage teaches:

1. genuine faithfulness is rooted in daily spiritual disciplines

2. believers must obey God rather than human authorities when they conflict
3. thanksgiving should characterize prayer even in dire circumstances.

## Historical Context

---

This event occurred circa 539-538 BC, shortly after the Medo-Persian conquest of Babylon under Darius the Mede. Daniel was approximately 80-85 years old, having served in high government positions for over 65 years through regime changes. His exceptional ability prompted jealous rivals to seek his destruction, knowing they could "find no occasion nor fault" in his administrative duties (Daniel 6:4).

The decree forbidding prayer to anyone except the king for thirty days was designed specifically to trap Daniel. Ancient Near Eastern rulers often claimed divine or semi-divine status, making refusal to worship them tantamount to treason.

## Related Passages

---

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

## Study Questions

---

1. What daily spiritual disciplines sustain your faith during crisis—and are you practicing them consistently now, before testing comes?
2. How do you balance submission to governing authorities with obedience to God when they conflict?

## Interlinear Text

עַל	כְּתָבָא	רִשׁ יָמַי	יָדַע	כָּדָי	וְדָנִיֵּאל
he went	that the writing	was signed	knew		Now when Daniel
H5954	H3792	H7560	H3046	H1768	H1841
נֶגְדַּ	בְּעֵלִיתָּהּ	לֵה	פְּתִיחָהּ	וּכְנָסָהּ	לְבֵיתָהּ
toward	in his chamber		being open	and his windows	into his house
H5049	H5952	H0	H6606	H3551	H1005
בְּרַכּוֹהִי	עַל	בָּרַךְ הָ	וְאֵן	בְּיוֹמָא	תְּלַת הַ
his knees	upon	he kneeled		a day	three
H1291	H5922	H1289	H1932	H3118	H8532
הָ	אֵלֵּי	כָּל	אֱלֹהֵי הַ	קֹדֶם	וּמוֹדָא
he did	as		his God	before	and gave thanks
H1934	H6903	H3606	H426	H6925	H3029
וְהָ	אֵלֵּי	כָּל	אֱלֹהֵי הַ	קֹדֶם	וּמוֹדָא
עַבְדִּי	מִן	קִדְמָתָהּ	דָּנָהּ		
H5648		H6928	H1836		
	aforetime				
	H4481				

## Additional Cross-References

**Psalms 55:17** (Prayer): Evening, and morning, and at noon, will I pray, and cry aloud: and he shall hear my voice.

**Acts 5:29** (References God): Then Peter and the other apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.

**Psalms 95:6** (Parallel theme): O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

**Hebrews 13:15** (References God): By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

**Psalms 34:1** (Parallel theme): I will bless the LORD at all times: his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**Philippians 4:6** (Prayer): Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

**Acts 9:40** (Prayer): But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

**Psalms 5:7** (Parallel theme): But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy: and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple.

**1 Kings 8:54** (Prayer): And it was so, that when Solomon had made an end of praying all this prayer and supplication unto the LORD, he arose from before the altar of the LORD, from kneeling on his knees with his hands spread up to heaven.

**1 Kings 8:44** (Prayer): If thy people go out to battle against their enemy, whithersoever thou shalt send them, and shall pray unto the LORD toward the city which thou hast chosen, and toward the house that I have built for thy name: