

Daniel 6:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.

Analysis

The conspirators manipulate the king through flattery and deception: 'All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute.' The claim 'all' is false—Daniel, the chief president, wasn't consulted. The proposal that no one petition any god or man except the king for thirty days exploits royal vanity while appearing to secure loyalty. The Medo-Persian law's irrevocability (v. 8, 12, 15) means once signed, even the king cannot change it. The trap is set—they've created legal requirement Daniel cannot obey without violating God's law.

Historical Context

Persian legal tradition emphasized law's permanence and binding nature on even kings (cf. Esther 1:19; 8:8). This differed from Babylonian practice where kings had more arbitrary power. The irrevocability of Medo-Persian law becomes crucial to the plot—once the king signs, he cannot save Daniel. The thirty-day prohibition likely appealed to Darius's desire to consolidate loyalty after conquest. Ancient Near Eastern rulers sometimes claimed divine status or exclusive mediation with

deities. The prohibition's limited duration made it seem temporary and reasonable while trapping Daniel.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Study Questions

1. How does the conspirators' manipulation through flattery and false claims warn us about deceptive tactics that exploit pride and vanity?
2. What does the irrevocable law teach about how legal structures can become rigid systems trapping even those with good intentions?

Interlinear Text

אֶתְּעָ טוּ	כָּל	סֹרְכֵי י	מַלְכוּת א	סֹגְנֵי א				
have consulted together	All	the presidents	of the kingdom	the governors				
H3272	H3606	H5632	H4437	H5460				
וְאֶחָשְׁדָּרְפָּנָא	הַדְּבָרִי א	וּפְחֹתֵי א	לִקְצֵה ה	קִים	מֶלֶךְ א			
and the princes	the counsellors	and the captains	to establish	statute	a royal			
H324	H1907	H6347	H6966	H7010	H4430			
וּלְתַקֵּף ה	אֶסֶר	דִּי י	כָּל	דִּי	יִבֶּע א	בָּ עוֹ		
and to make a firm	decree	H1768	All	H1768	that whosoever shall ask	a petition		
H8631	H633		H3606		H1156	H1159		
מִן הַ	כָּל ה	אֵל ש	וְאֶנֶּשׁ עַד	יּוֹמֵי ין	תִּלְתֵּי ין	לֵהוּ	מִן הַ	
of	All	God	or man	for	days	thirty	save	of
H4481	H3606	H426	H606	H5705	H3118	H8533	H3861	H4481
מֶלֶךְ א	יִתְרֵם א	לֵג ב	אֲרִי־תֵא:					
a royal	he shall be cast	into the den	of lions					
H4430	H7412	H1358	H744					

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 59:3 (Parallel theme): For, lo, they lie in wait for my soul: the mighty are gathered against me; not for my transgression, nor for my sin, O LORD.

Psalms 62:4 (Parallel theme): They only consult to cast him down from his excellency: they delight in lies: they bless with their mouth, but they curse inwardly. Selah.

Daniel 3:2 (Kingdom): Then Nebuchadnezzar the king sent to gather together the princes, the governors, and the captains, the judges, the treasurers, the counsellors, the sheriffs, and all the rulers of the provinces, to come to the dedication of the image which Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up.

Daniel 3:27 (Kingdom): And the princes, governors, and captains, and the king's counsellors, being gathered together, saw these men, upon whose bodies the fire

had no power, nor was an hair of their head singed, neither were their coats changed, nor the smell of fire had passed on them.

Daniel 3:6 (Parallel theme): And whoso falleth not down and worshipping shall the same hour be cast into the midst of a burning fiery furnace.

Psalms 10:9 (Parallel theme): He lieth in wait secretly as a lion in his den: he lieth in wait to catch the poor: he doth catch the poor, when he draweth him into his net.

Mark 15:1 (Parallel theme): And straightway in the morning the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council, and bound Jesus, and carried him away, and delivered him to Pilate.

Matthew 12:14 (Parallel theme): Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

Matthew 26:4 (Parallel theme): And consulted that they might take Jesus by subtilty, and kill him.

John 12:10 (Parallel theme): But the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death;