



Daniel's Courage and the Lions' Den

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Young Daniel arrived in the majestic city of Babylon, surrounded by towering golden palaces and busy vibrant markets. Though far from home, he resolved to remain true to his heart, choosing simple vegetables and clean water over the luxurious royal banquets.



Because of his gentle wisdom and honest heart, Daniel flourished alongside his loyal friends. King Nebuchadnezzar quickly noticed Daniel's bright mind and kind spirit, granting him a place of honor among the kingdom's trusted advisors.



When King Nebuchadnezzar had a troubling dream that no wise man in Babylon could explain, Daniel quietly prayed for guidance. With God's revelation, Daniel helped the king understand the dream, bringing peace and understanding to the entire kingdom.



Many years passed, and a new ruler named King Darius came to power. Seeing Daniel's exceptional honesty and noble character, King Darius planned to place Daniel in charge of the entire realm, deeply admiring his wisdom.



Other jealous officials in the kingdom became envious of Daniel's favor. Knowing they could find no fault in his work, they tricked King Darius into decreeing a law that allowed prayers only to the king for thirty days.



Even though Daniel knew about the strict new law, he quietly walked to the upper room of his house. With his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt peacefully and gave thanks in prayer three times a day, just as he had always done.



The jealous advisors caught Daniel praying and reported him immediately to King Darius. The king was filled with deep regret for signing the decree, but the law could not be changed, and he was forced to command that Daniel be taken away.



Daniel was brought to a dark stone den filled with hungry, roaring lions. As the heavy stone was rolled over the entrance, King Darius whispered a gentle prayer, hoping Daniel's faithful God would save him.



Inside the dark cavern, a radiant angel of light descended silently from above. The angel closed the mouths of the mighty beasts, and the lions grew as gentle as sleeping kittens, sitting peacefully beside Daniel throughout the night.



At the very first light of dawn, King Darius rushed to the den and called out with a worried voice. When Daniel joyfully answered that he was safe and sound, the whole kingdom celebrated, inspired by Daniel's remarkable faith and courage.