



THE CROSSING

Teacher: Greg Holder

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Daniel resolved not to defile himself . . . Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent. Finally these men said, "O King Darius, live forever! The royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers, and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to any god or man during the next thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into the lions' den." Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went to his upstairs room where the windows opened towards Jerusalem. Three times a day he he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to God, just as he had done before. Hearing this, the king was very angry with himself for signing the law and he tried to find a way to save Daniel. At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions' den. When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?" Daniel answered, "O king, live forever! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight. Nor have I ever done any wrong before you, O king." And when Daniel was lifted from the den, no wound was found on him, because he had trusted in God.

Daniel 1:8; 6:3-7, 10, 14, 19-23

"Calling is a 'yes' to God that carries a 'no' to the chaos of modern demands."

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Exodus 3:4

1 Peter 2:21

Matthew 5:16

BE THE LIGHT

Jude 1:1

1 Samuel 3:4

Romans 12:2

- What comes to mind when you hear the word "calling?"
- What are the things that Christians should stand for in our world?
- What are the major issues that divide Christians today?
- Who in your life do you need to listen to in the days and weeks to come?
- How is the world squeezing you into its mold?
- What is God calling you to stand for right now?
- What steps can you take to push back darkness and be light this week?