# What is your Legacy?

## Hitler, Stalin, Buda, Spurgeon, Aristotle, Socrates, Mathew Henry, Billy Graham, Washington, Mother Teresa.

What do these people have in common?

They have all done something or something that people around them remembered. They left a Legacy of one form or another.

### What is a Legacy?

#### It's how you will be remembered after you are gone.

: something transmitted by or received from an ancestor or predecessor or from the past<the *legacy* of the ancient philosophers>

## **Examples of LEGACY in a sentence**

- 1. She left us a *legacy* of a million dollars.
- 2. He left his children a *legacy* of love and respect.
- 3. The war left a *legacy of* pain and suffering.
- 4. Her artistic *legacy* lives on through her children.

For each of the aforementioned people each is remembered for either their actions or their words.

# The question I have for you today is how will you be remembered? What will your legacy be?

Each of us leaves a mark on those we are around, whether it is positive of negative that mark is left every time we associate with other people.

Today I would like to look at a Person in the Bible and how his Legacy is perceived.

1<sup>st</sup> in the book of Daniel The 6<sup>th</sup> Chapter stating in the 1<sup>st</sup> verse:

- **Dan 6:1** It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom a hundred and twenty satraps, that they might be over the whole kingdom.
- **Dan 6:2** And over them *were* three presidents (Daniel was one of them), so that these satraps might give account to them, and the king should have no loss.
- Dan 6:3 Then this Daniel was made overseer of the presidents and satraps, because an excellent spirit *was* in him. And the king was planning to set him over all the kingdom.
- Dan 6:4 Then the presidents and rulers sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom. But they could find no occasion or fault, because he *was* faithful. Neither *was* there any error or fault found in him.
- Dan 6:5 Then these men said, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel unless we find it against him concerning the Law of his God.

So here we have Daniel, a captive from the land of Israel, who because of his dedication to his God and his attitude during one of the toughest times in his life, is being considered for a position to rule the kingdom of Babylon, the country that forcibly removed him from his home and destroyed the place that he loved.

When the people that he was to be over found out about it the sought to cast him down, but they couldn't find anything wrong with his actions, motivations or the words that he spoke. They got so desperate to cast him out that they had to start to look at who he worshipped and to find a way to use that against him. So what did they do?

- Dan 6:6 Then these presidents and rulers assembled to the king, and said this to him: King Darius, live forever.
- Dan 6:7 All the presidents of the kingdom, the prefects, and the satraps, and the officials and governors, have planned together to establish a royal law, and to make a strong ban that whoever shall ask a petition of any god or man for thirty days, except from you, O king, he shall be thrown into the den of lions.
- **Dan 6:8** Now, O king, establish the ban and sign the writing, so that it may not be changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians which cannot be changed.
- Dan 6:9 Therefore King Darius signed the writing and the ban.
- Dan 6:10 And when he had learned that the document was signed, Daniel went to his house. And his windows were open in his roof room toward Jerusalem; and he kneeled on his knees three times a day and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did before.
- **Dan 6:11** Then these men assembled and found Daniel praying and confessing before his God.
- Dan 6:12 Then they came near and spoke before the king concerning the king's ban, Have you not signed a ban that every man who shall ask a petition of any god or man within thirty days, except of you, O king, shall be thrown into the lion's den? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be changed.

So here we have it, they couldn't find anything wrong with Daniel so they had to make a law that they knew that Daniel couldn't follow and tricked the King into signing it.

What happens next was the worst day that both Daniel and the king had to go through. Daniel was thrown into a den of hungry lions to be eaten. Those that plotted against him were sure of their victory. But how the story ends is a miracle from God himself. **Dan 6:19** Then the king arose very early in the morning and hurried to the lions' den.

Dan 6:20 And when he came to the den, he cried with a grieved voice to Daniel. The king spoke and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is your God whom you always serve able to deliver you from the lions?

**Dan 6:21** Then Daniel said to the king, O king, live forever.

Dan 6:22 My God has sent His Angel, and has shut the lions' mouths, and they have not hurt me, because before Him purity was found in me. And also before you, O king, I have done no harm.

- Dan 6:23 Then the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den, and no kind of hurt was found on him, because he trusted in his God.
- Dan 6:24 And the king commanded, and they brought those men who had accused Daniel, and they threw *them* into the lions' den; them, their sons, and their wives. And the lions overpowered them and broke all their bones in pieces before they came to the bottom of the den.
- Dan 6:25 Then King Darius wrote to all people, nations, and languages who dwell in all the earth. Peace be multiplied to you.
- Dan 6:26 I make a decree that in all the domain of my kingdom, *there* shall be trembling and fear before the God of Daniel. For He *is* the living God, and endures forever, and His kingdom is that which shall not be destroyed, and His rule *shall be* to the end.
- Dan 6:27 He delivers and rescues, and He works signs and wonders in the heavens and in earth, He who has delivered Daniel from the power of the lions.
- Dan 6:28 And this Daniel was blessed in the reign of Darius, and in the reign of Cyrus the Persian.

So here we have it, against all odds, against all those who

sought to destroy him Daniel survived and received the victory over those who were against him.

What is Daniels Legacy?

Its simply this Trusting in the Lord no matter what the circumstances are, having the right motivation, praising God no matter what, you will have victory over anything that seeks to destroy you, no matter what the obstacles are.

This is a typical story in the Bible.

Others such as Joseph, Jacob, Ester, and Ruth overcame similar situations with similar results. If you look at any of the people in the word that followed what God told them to do each conquered those things that were going to destroy them either physically or spiritually of both. God says that in the midst of our lives there are things that we must do; we must have the right motivation( doing all things for his glory), Praise him no matter what the circumstances around are, we must be obedient to him in all things, we must never give up, and he will leave us a legacy of Love. I want to leave you with 3 versus:

8. Children are fortunate if they have a father who is honest and does what is right. (Proverbs 20:7 GNB)

9. I could have no greater joy than to hear that my children are following the truth. (3 John 1:4 NLT)

10. The Lord knows the days of the upright and blameless, and their heritage will abide forever. (Psalm 37:18 AMP)