

**AVELEIGH YEAR OF THE BIBLE, SUNDAY OCT. 28, 2018**  
**SERMON SERIES: FAITH UNSHAKABLE PART 8 OF 10**  
**10 WEEKLY REFLECTIONS ON DANIEL'S LIFE & BOOK**  
**TEXTS: DANIEL CHAPTER 6**  
***SERMON TITLE: WHEN YOUR FAITH IS TESTED PUBLICLY***

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We come into the presence of the holy God,

All: Who may not be grasped,

One: But may be gazed upon;

All: Who is not easily understood,

One: But is full of understanding;

All: Who does not come at our beck and call,

One: But who is always near.

All: We gather as God's children

One: In confident assurance that God is here.

**Prayer of Confession**

**O God, sometimes your expectations are too difficult for us to accept. It's hard for us to give up control. It's hard for us to take the first step if we don't have the answers to all our questions. It's hard for us to risk all when so much of our lives is filled with uncertainty. Forgive us when we do not yield to you as Lord. Grant us courage to follow your leading with confidence in your promise to provide a way through even the most difficult situations.**

**AVELEIGH YEAR OF THE BIBLE, SUNDAY OCT. 28, 2018**  
**SERMON SERIES: FAITH UNSHAKABLE PART 8 OF 10**  
**10 WEEKLY REFLECTIONS ON DANIEL'S LIFE & BOOK**  
**TEXTS: DANIEL CHAPTER 6**  
**SERMON TITLE: WHEN YOUR FAITH IS TESTED PUBLICLY**

*“His coworkers concluded ‘Our only chance of finding any grounds to get rid of Daniel will be to find something to accuse in his religious practices.’” Daniel 6:5*

## **I. WHEN YOUR FAITH IS PUBLICLY TESTED BE A DANIEL**

DANIEL REMEMBERED \_\_\_\_\_

DANIEL HAD \_\_\_\_\_

DANIEL KNEW \_\_\_\_\_

## **II. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO DEMONSTRATE OUR FAITH PUBLICLY?**

**1. STANDING FOR GOD IS** \_\_\_\_\_

- Fear is just a feeling & it cannot \_\_\_\_\_
- Fear is uncomfortable, but it won't \_\_\_\_\_
- Fear grows when I give into it, but lessens when I move \_\_\_\_\_

Pray like the first Christians: *“Lord, you know the threats people make. So help us as your servants to speak your Word without fear.”* Acts 4:29

**2. STANDING FOR GOD** \_\_\_\_\_

*“You must never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord. With the strength God gives you, be ready to suffer if necessary to share the Good News.” 2 Timothy 1:8*

**3. IT GIVES GOD AN** \_\_\_\_\_

*“At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the pit filled with lions. When he got there 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! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions, and they have not hurt me at all, because God knew I’ve done nothing against him or you, O king!’ The king was overjoyed and gave orders to lift Daniel out of the pit. And when Daniel was lifted out, there was not a single scratch on his body because he had trusted God.” Daniel 6:19-23*

**4. IT ENCOURAGES** \_\_\_\_\_

Paul: “Because of what I’ve been through, many of the Christians here have gained confidence and become more bold in telling others about Christ.” Philippians 1:14

## 5. IT’S A POWERFUL \_\_\_\_\_

“When the Council saw the boldness of Peter and John, they were amazed, since they knew they were just ordinary men but they had been with Jesus!” Acts 4:13

- The King becomes a believer! Daniel 6:25-28  
“He is the God who rescues and saves!”
- Then 18 generations later! Matthew 2:1-2

## 6. I WILL \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus: “Consider yourself blessed if people put you down or throw you out, or speak lies about you because of me. If that happens, be happy, knowing that you will be rewarded greatly in heaven! And remember you are in good company — they did the same to all my witnesses before you.” Matthew 5:11-12

**PRAYER:** Heavenly Father, When my faith is tested publicly, grant me Unshakable Faith. Amen.

## **FOR THE ROAD, Your take home Bible Study**

When Daniel learned that the new law had been signed, he went home and knelt down to pray as usual in his upstairs room, with its window wide open toward Jerusalem. He prayed three times a day, just as he had always done his entire life, thanking and praising God. So Daniel’s enemies went together to Daniel’s house to catch him praying and asking for God’s help. *Daniel 6:10-11*

1. *Daniel found himself in what seemed to be a no-win situation. How else could he have responded to this new threat?*
2. *What might be a modern day version of the law mandated in Daniel 6:6-11? How do you think you should respond?*

“Lord, you know the threats people make. So help us as your servants to speak your Word without fear.” Acts 4:29

3. *In the book of Daniel, we learn that Daniel faced many kings and tests of faith, gracefully overcoming obstacles. Describe an occasion at work or at a family event in which you felt your faith was tested. How was your faith impacted by from this experience?*
4. *Fear grows when I give into it, but lessens when I move against it. Although fear is an uncomfortable feeling that can briefly hold us powerless and motionless, we can defy our fears and become more like Daniel. Name a fear. How could you move against it?*
5. *Although thrown into a den of lions, Daniel miraculously came out without a scratch. His faith gave God the opportunity to do that miracle. Most of us will not see a true miracle during our lives because we don’t go out on a limb where the only answer is God. If there is an area of your life that could use a miracle, what risk might God want you to take in order to see it?*