



A Systematic Expository Study of the Word of God

Special Study:
THE DIVINE ATTRIBUTES OF THE LIVING GOD
Daniel 6:25-27

The triumph of Daniel's faith produced a great testimony to the power, care and love of the living God for His own. It was faith in God that made Daniel dare the decree of the king. It was faith that made him remain calm under life-threatening trouble and trial. It was faith that brought assurance that all would be well at the end. It was faith that breathed peace and patience to his heart in the hour of danger and probable death. It was faith that moved God's heart to send His angel into the den to shut the mouths of all the lions. God recognises faith and responds to its call and petition. **"No manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God"** (Daniel 6:23). The deliverance of Daniel brought a great discovery to Darius, the king. He saw God as the living God, having personality, love, affection, heart of compassion, power, kingdom, dominion, majesty and glory. The great God is not just a great, mighty force; He is the living God. He is not an impersonal powerful substance or entity like electricity or thunder, He is the living God. And He is not like man, living and growing from infancy to manhood in life; He is the unchanging God.

It touched the spirit of Darius that there is a Being, the living God, who could accomplish such great, supernatural act, uncommon to man since the beginning of the world. He could not resist the urge to proclaim and publish the knowledge and revelation of the living God to **"all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth."** **"Let the earth hear, and all that is therein"** (Isaiah 34:1). All those who know the true and living God, through redemption and salvation in Christ, His only begotten Son must make Him known to others, by all possible means.

THE ATTRIBUTES OF THE LIVING GOD

Daniel 6:26a; Deuteronomy 32:39,40; Jeremiah 10:10; Daniel 4:34; Isaiah 40:28; Acts 14:15-17; 1 Thessalonians 1:9,10; 1 Timothy 4:10; Psalm 90:2; Revelation 4:9-11; 10:5,6; 1 Timothy 1:17.

The God of heaven is the living God. He is the Fountain of life, the Giver of life. All living creatures derive their lives from Him. We all depend on Him, but He is independent, immutable, infinite and eternal. **"He liveth for ever"** - His existence is from everlasting as well as to everlasting. He is without beginning as well as without end. How mysterious! **"Seeing He giveth to all life, and breath, and all things, in Him we live, and move, and have our being"** (Acts 17:25,28).

God **"hath life in Himself"** (John 5:26). Here Christ Himself affirms that God is the source of all life, as He is the living God. The living God is the eternal King who had been alive before time began and who will continue to live when time shall be no more. He is immortal and incorruptible in His essence. He is permanent, unchangeable and eternal. He is revealed as Almighty, eternal and supreme, He is the true God, the living God, the holy God, the righteous God, the merciful God, the faithful God, the mighty God, the eternal God. He is the God of heaven, the God of heaven and earth, the God of the whole earth, God of the spirits of all flesh, the **"God of truth and without iniquity, just and right"** the LORD God of knowledge, the God of glory, the LORD God of truth, the God of all flesh, the God of peace, the God of all grace, the God of patience and consolation, the God of our salvation. He is **omnipresent**: **"Do not I fill heaven and earth? saith the LORD"** (Jeremiah 23:24). He is **omniscient**: **"All things are naked and opened unto the eyes of Him with whom we have to do"** (Hebrews 4:13). He is **omnipotent**: **"Ah Lord GOD! behold, Thou hast made the heaven and the earth by Thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for Thee"** (Jeremiah 32:17). He is the **Owner** of all things: **"Behold, the heaven and the heaven of heavens is the LORD'S thy God, the earth also, with all that therein is"** (Deuteronomy 10:14). He is a God of **unspotted and perfect purity**: **"Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity"** (Habakkuk 1:13). He is a God of **infinite wisdom**: **"O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are His judgments, and His ways past finding out!"** (Romans 11:33). He is **good and merciful**: **"God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved)"** (Ephesians 2:4,5).

THE AUTHORITY OF THE LIVING GOD

Daniel 6:26b; Exodus 15:18; Psalms 93:1; 146:10; Daniel 2:44; 4:3,34; 7:14,27; Psalms 45:6; 145:11-13; Micah 4:7; Revelation 11:15; Jude 24,25.

It is common knowledge that the great kingdoms of the past have been destroyed. When Nebuchadnezzar and Darius received revelations from heaven, they became enlightened and awakened to spiritual realities and divine truth. They both affirmed that only the living God, the eternal God, will have a kingdom, a dominion, which shall not be destroyed. **"He is the living God, and steadfast forever, and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and His dominion shall be even unto the end"** (Daniel 6:26).

"Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: For all that is in the heaven and in the earth is Thine; Thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and Thou art exalted as Head above all" (1 Chronicles 29:11). **"The LORD sitteth upon the flood; yea, the LORD sitteth King for ever"** (Psalm 29:10). The reign of the eternal God, the everlasting King, extends over all people in all nations from generation to generation. God's authority and dominion are unlimited and unrestricted. His sovereignty is unconfined and His power is irresistible.

The Scriptures are full of the revelation of God's everlasting dominion. God's dominion is not only in the world but in heaven; not only in time but in eternity. The duration of His reign extends through eternity. God's dominion over men and angels will be for evermore. All men, Pharaoh, Saul, Nebuchadnezzar, Darius, Alexander, Herod, Caesar, Nero, etc. came to an end and their kingdoms and dominions also came to an end. We shall continue to see the end of man's reign but time is not long enough to put God's reign to an end, the eternal God shall reign for ever and ever. The government of the eternal King shall be forever. All His creatures, all men and angels, shall be ruled by His will and His laws. As the Almighty God, He is qualified in every way to govern and rule over all men, all things and all angels. Dominion is His and He has supreme power to exercise it over all. By His omnipotence, He has established and sustained the earth and the heavens with all the inhabitants therein; by His infinite power and wisdom will He reign over all for ever and ever. He is clothed with majesty and the robe of His royalty will be ever glorious. His kingdom and dominion, His majesty and glory, His wisdom and strength will be shown in eternal splendour in the sight of saints and angels for ever and ever.

THE ACTS OF THE LIVING GOD

Daniel 6:27; Psalms 34:7,17,19; 97:10; 2 Corinthians 1:8-10; Job 5:8-12; 9:4,10-12; 33:26-30; Psalm 40:4,5; Jeremiah 32:17-20,27; Acts 14:1-3; Romans 15:19-21; Hebrews 2:1-4.

Darius saw the supernatural act of God, His miraculous protection and preservation of Daniel just like Pharaoh, Balak, Ahab, Nebuchadnezzar, Herod saw **"the miracles and the acts"** of the God of Israel. Daniel, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, Moses, Elijah, all Israel, Peter, Paul, and the saints of God in all generations have also seen the mighty acts of God who is in no way limited in power and wisdom **"But your eyes have seen all the great acts of the LORD which He did"** (Deuteronomy 11:7). **"Who can utter the mighty acts of the LORD? who can shew forth all His praise?" "One generation shall praise Thy works to another, and shall declare Thy mighty acts"** (Psalms 106:2; 145:4).

Darius praised God for His mighty act which he saw and he publicized it for all people and nations in his realm to know and reverence God, to **"tremble and fear before the living God"**. **"And men shall speak of the might of Thy terrible acts: and I will declare Thy greatness"**. **"To make known to the sons of men His mighty acts, and the glorious majesty of His kingdom"** (Psalm 145:6,12). **"He delivereth and rescueth."** God's power is sufficient to govern and control all His creation - the fire, the lions, the raging tempest, the winds and the waves, the storm-tossed sea, even demons and men. Our God will use all means at His disposal, angels, men and all His creation, to deliver His righteous children who trust in Him. He has power to deliver and He will deliver His sons, saints and servants who are committed to His will, from troubles, temptations, trials and tyrants. **"And I will deliver thee out of the hand of the wicked, and I will redeem thee out of the hand of the terrible"** (Jeremiah 15:21). Though troops of messengers of danger and destruction surround us, He has promised to deliver and keep us safe and secure. And we are **"fully persuaded that what He had promised, He was (and He is) able also to perform"** (Romans 4:21).

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