



The stench likened to a rotting corpse hovers above surface. A rancid coagulated fluid below, and the bottomless pit. Making the descent down as a dead man drowned at sea, down, down...darker and darker, sinking in putrefying flesh. Into the abyss.

Centuries of blood, and lurking in the depth...Leviathan.  
The United States Government. And many governments of the world.

## Daniel Series, Ten: The Swamp

*"Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment." -Isaiah 1:4-6*

The rot of corrupt government has set in.

*"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one. Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: Their feet are swift to shed blood: Destruction and misery are in their ways." -Romans 3:10-16*

Certainly one would make the legitimate argument, that there are in fact, righteous people, good people, doing good deeds, even seeking after God. And the assessment in fact, would be correct. The apostle seems to be describing all mankind and in fact he is. He is describing the potential sinfulness within every man. Every human has the capability to fulfill such wicked deeds. Give them means. Give them opportunity. Let the temptation of the evil one be unleashed, and the manhole

lid be removed, to view the cesspool. Men can be caring, benevolent and philanthropic, and yet have his breaking point. Despite the same parents, with the same upbringing, and same environment...Cain and Abel.

*"It pleased Darius to set over the kingdom an hundred and twenty princes, which should be over the whole kingdom; And over these three presidents; of whom Daniel was first: that the princes might give accounts unto them, and the king should have no damage." -Daniel 6:1-2*

Dominion has been transferred. It is the Medo-Persian Empire. The government polity has digressed from absolute monarchy to oligarchy with a senate. And a miracle appointment has taken place.

*"Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and princes, because an excellent spirit was in him; and the king thought to set him over the whole realm." -Daniel 6:3*

This is Divine Providence. The custom of the conquering kingdom would be to eliminate any remaining seed of the royal family, lest there be an uprising. Not only does Daniel survive, he is selected to top brass of the incoming administration. Much of this is due to his impeccable character and wisdom, but this too is by Divine Providence. This is unacceptable for those that lurk in the swamp.

*"Then the presidents and princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom; but they could find none occasion nor fault; forasmuch as*



*he was faithful, neither was there any error or fault found in him.” -Daniel 6:4*

Daniel has been a stellar example of a God honoring statesman. By now he is well into his eighties. A prominent man in the gate, and notoriety throughout the empire. Wealth and power are his, yet not a skeleton in the closet. Notice retirement is not in the cards, for there is no discharge in this war. He is “chiefest” among them and therefore he is their servant.

Government was set up by God, to reward the good and bring a sword to the evil. But when corruption sets in, and righteousness subsides, justice disappears. Despite his impeccable character, wicked legislators devise iniquity... A corrupt DOJ, FBI, CIA, the entire judicial system. They are swift to shed innocent blood, to create trumped up charges of entrapment. One thing they cannot, nor will not allow is a man of true religion... a man of God.

*“Then said these men, We shall not find any occasion against this Daniel, except we find it against him concerning the law of his God. Then these presidents and princes assembled together to the king, and said thus unto him, King Darius, live for ever. All the presidents of the kingdom, the governors, and the princes, the counsellors, and the captains, have consulted together to establish a royal statute, and to make a firm decree, that whosoever shall ask a petition of any God or man for thirty days, save of thee, O king, he shall be cast into the den of lions.” -Daniel 6:5-7*

The art of subtlety, the whorish perfume of Lucifer fills the air. The men subvert the king at his weakness...pride. Lying and deceiving, as if to honor him with a hidden poison.

*“Now, O king, establish the decree, and sign the writing, that it be not changed, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not Wherefore king Darius signed the writing and the decree. Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went into his house; and his windows being open in his chamber toward Jerusalem, he kneeled upon his knees three times a day, and prayed, and gave thanks before his God, as he did aforetime.” -Daniel 6:8-10*

Notice, not one iota of compromise. None. No reaching across the isle. He very easily could have prayed in an inner chamber, “in secret,” but didn’t. He might have chosen to capitulate only temporarily, for the determined decree is only thirty days. Is it prudent to lose a prominent position where “much good can be done?” Is it not wise to live to

fight another day?

Be advised, the days are numbered...and he has the Book. A wealthy, aged, ranking president of the superpower of the world has access to international diplomats, including sources in the Homeland, and studies the Word of God.

*“In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans; In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes.”  
-Daniel 9:1-3*

Daniel learns seventy years of captivity are determined upon thy holy people. And according to the calendar, we are well into the sixty and ninth year. So with all enthusiasm, with all anticipation, with tears...

Oh my God... We get to go home.

He has not been home since a little boy, ten, eleven years old. Seventy years. So the windows fly open. Upon my knees I will be. Three times a day... Toward the Homeland, Mt. Zion, Jerusalem.

If a man realizes the truth of the Homeland it will change his entire being. We DO have a kingdom coming, “Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done.” Travelers we are...Pilgrims.

*“Then these men assembled, and found Daniel praying and making supplication before his God. Then they came near, and spake before the king concerning the king’s decree; Hast thou not signed a decree, that every man that shall ask a petition of any God or man within thirty days, save of thee, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions? The king answered and said, The thing is true, according to the law of the Medes and Persians, which altereth not.” -Daniel 6:11-12*

They do the dastardly deed...Betrayal. One must beg the question, why? How? The man of God is respected by man, woman, and child alike. He is honorable, trustworthy, and innocent. No one could find fault with him, save on trumped up charges. Even as an elderly man, well into his eighties, they have no mercy? But are determined to have him brutally tortured to death, torn apart and eaten alive by lions? And even though he was an innocent man as his Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, he, like Him, would be put to death. The Apostle Paul’s words whisper in the



wind, “feet swift to shed innocent blood.” Not only do they carry the rot of sin, but they are in politics, the place where Satan’s seat is. Behold how dark the darkness.

But, a glimmer of light, for the light “which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.”

*“Then the king, when he heard these words, was sore displeased with himself, and set his heart on Daniel to deliver him: and he laboured till the going down of the sun to deliver him.” -Daniel 6:14*

A difference is seen between king Nebuchadnezzar and Darius. Nebuchadnezzar was angry with all his men, he was angry without. Darius is angry with himself, he is angry within. He “laboured till the going down of the sun,” the inner struggle. But wait...he is king, he is the king, he can do anything he wants, can he not? We have gone from gold to silver...Full sovereignty? Yes. It can be done.

Often times God’s people do not fix problems for their fellow man. Even “when it is in the power of thine hand to do it.” Many a man has denied solving another man’s struggle, which can easily be resolved by a single check, despite having well into the six figures wrapped up in his 401k. O the salt that could be spread, the souls that would find rest. You are the king. Fix the problem.

*“Then these men assembled unto the king, and said unto the king, Know, O king, that the law of the Medes and Persians is, That no decree nor statute which the king establisheth may be changed.” -Daniel 6:15*

The whispers of the evil one.

*“Then the king commanded, and they brought Daniel, and cast him into the den of lions. Now the king spake and said unto Daniel, Thy God whom thou servest continually, he will deliver thee. And a stone was brought, and laid upon the mouth of the den; and the king sealed it with his own signet, and with the signet of his lords; that the purpose might not be changed concerning Daniel. Then the king went to his palace, and passed the night fasting: neither were instruments of musick brought before him: and his sleep went from him.” -Daniel 6:16-18*

The solution was in his power, but he was weak, for “sin hath reigned.”

*“Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel:*

*and the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God, whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions? Then said Daniel unto the king, O king, live for ever. My God hath sent his angel, and hath shut the lions’ mouths, that they have not hurt me: forasmuch as before him innocency was found in me; and also before thee, O king, have I done no hurt. Then was the king exceeding 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 manner of hurt was found upon him, because he believed in his God.” -Daniel 6:19-23*

God was gracious that day, but, if He would not have delivered him, His grace stands, for the pain of death is but a moment for the Christian. And the Sovereign Lord does not always deliver.

*“And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy):...” -Hebrews 11:36-38*

It is worth repeating, “of whom the world was not worthy.” But the God of all Glory is debtor to no one, and vengeance is Mine, I will repay.

*“And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children, and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den. Then king Darius wrote unto all people, nations, and languages, that dwell in all the earth; Peace be multiplied unto you. I make a decree, That in every dominion of my kingdom men tremble and fear before the God of Daniel: for he is the living God, and stedfast for ever, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed, and his dominion shall be even unto the end.” -Daniel 6:24-26*

Be it known unto them of the swamp:

“To Me belongeth vengeance, and recompense; their foot shall slide in due time: for the day of their calamity is at hand.”

Your foot...shall slide.

“Sinners in the hands of an angry God.”

