

**Welcome to the
Common Ground Café!**



Sunday, May 20, 2018

**God is Able
A Study of Daniel 6:16-23**

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Do you ever catch yourself thinking, “Well, I know God is able to _____, but I just don’t know if He is willing to?”

In what ways do some believers see their relationship with God as a reciprocal agreement, i.e. “If I do these things, then God will do His thing.”?

What are we to think when God delivers some from their circumstances (Daniel in the lion’s den), and doesn’t deliver others (Stephen being stoned or Paul in prison in Rome) even though all were faithful?

Studying Daniel 6:16-23 should prompt us to review our lives with three questions.

Question 1: “Is my devotion to God affected **by** my circumstances or reflected **in** my circumstances?”

Read Daniel 6:16 and 6:20 noting the phrase “your God whom you serve continually.”

When did Daniel begin his lifestyle of public devotion to God? (Read Daniel 1:8, 2:30, 5:17, 6:5, 6:10)

- When he sensed he was in danger?
- When he saw an opening to advance himself?
- When he saw a way to bring God glory?
- It was a daily pattern of his life.

When do best reflect God as light in a dark world?

- When I am with my Christian friends.
- When I am with those who challenge my faith.
- When I feel others are using my faith against me.

Question 2: “Am I more likely to focus on my circumstances while crying out **to** God, or face my circumstances with confidence **in** God?”

Read Daniel 6:22 noting the word “blameless.”

How is being blameless different from being perfect?

How are followers of Christ made blameless.

Read Philippians 4:8. Is purity obsolete? Many think so. People say the only way to live a pure life is in a monastery. In the new morality it seems things are neither black nor white, but a variety of grays; but God wants us to live in His own pure image. Is that reasonable for you and me? Why or Why not?

Do you think God’s deliverance is in direct proportion to your purity?

Question 3: “Do I see myself serving for God’s favor, or serving at God’s favor?”

Read Daniel 6:16 and 6:20 noting the phrase “serve continually.”

When you think of a servant, what do you think?

- Servants are lowly
- Servants do as they are told
- Servants don’t own anything
- Servants live and work at the pleasure of someone else
- Good servants are hard to find
- _____

Which statements describe your understanding of serving God?

- If I do a good job, God will reward me.
- Good servants of God have good lives.
- A servant of God is totally dependent.
- Servants of God are chosen or called.

How do verses like Matthew 23:11-12, Ephesians 6:5-8, Matthew 5:16, and 1 Peter 2:9 refine your understanding of what it means to serve God continually?

Conclusion:

How would you answer Nebuchadnezzar's question in Daniel 6:20 if it was asked of you today?

Chorus - He is Able

*He is able more than able
To accomplish what concerns me today
He is able more than able
To handle anything that comes my way
He is able more than able
To do much more than I could ever dream
He is able more than able
To make me what He wants me to be*



Close with praise reports and prayer requests