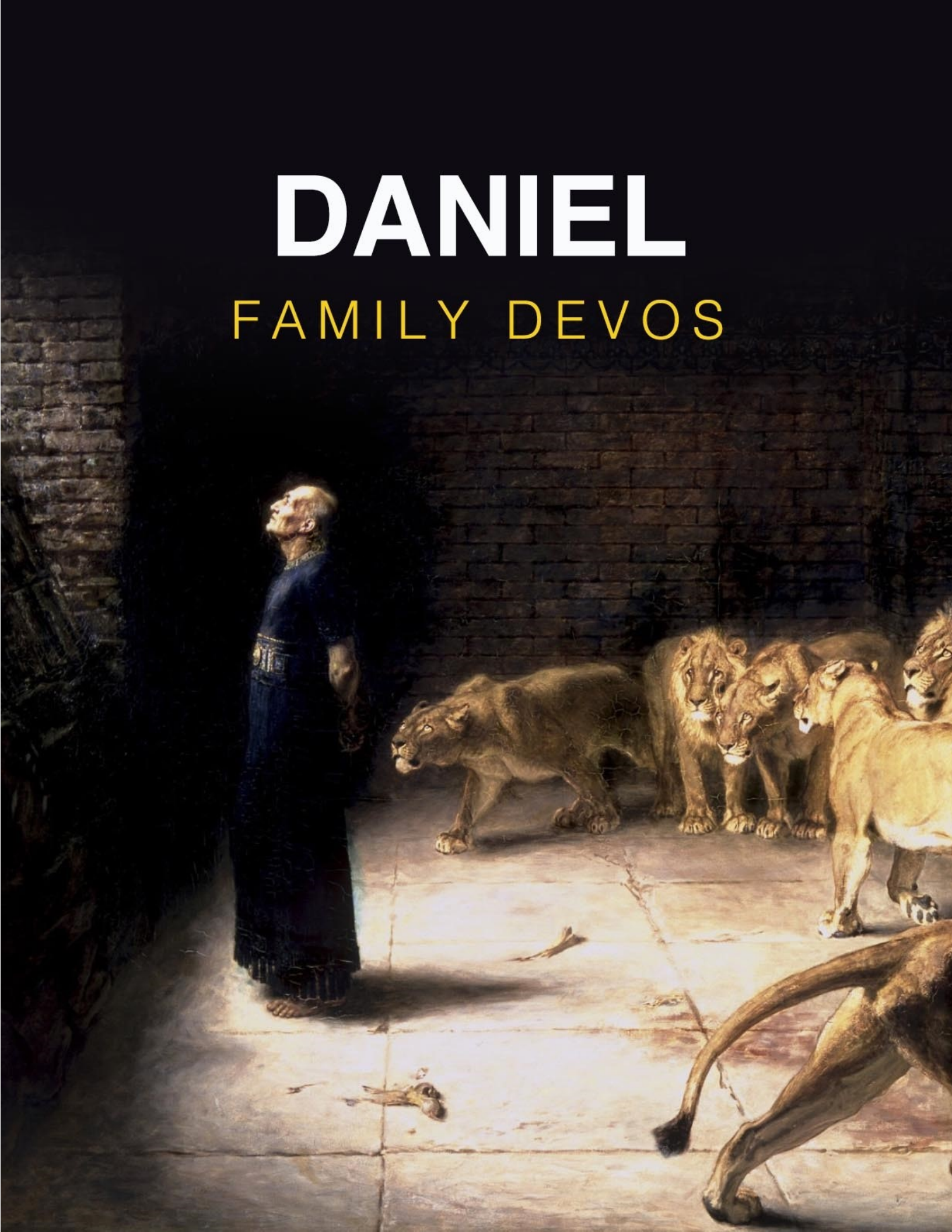


DANIEL

FAMILY DEVOS



The God Who Reveals Secrets

Scripture: Daniel 2:1-30

Memory Verse: James 1:17

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

For My Family:

Nebuchadnezzar was one of the scariest kings who's ever lived. In today's story, he had a bad dream, and that was bad news for everyone. The king called his wise men to help him understand what the dream meant. Now these “wise men” weren't actually smart guys. They were magicians who worshipped false gods. They asked the king to tell them what he dreamed, but he refused. He knew that the wise men would just try to make something up if he told them the dream, and so he said that if they couldn't tell him both what he dreamed and what his dream meant, then all the wise men, their families, and their homes would be destroyed, but whoever could interpret the dream would receive a great reward.

Although they worshipped the true God, Daniel and his three friends were also considered to be wise men, and Arioch, the king's captain, went to warn them of what was happening. When they heard the news, Daniel and his friends spent the night in prayer, asking God to show them the king's dream so that they could be saved. Then God revealed the dream to Daniel in a vision, and Daniel praised the Lord for showing it to him.

The next day, Arioch brought Daniel before the king, and Nebuchadnezzar asked Daniel if he was able to tell and interpret the dream. At this moment, Daniel could have taken all the credit. He could have said, “Yes, I figured it out because I am so much wiser than all the other wise men.” But instead, Daniel gave all the glory to God, saying that the dream and interpretation came from Him. We will look at what Nebuchadnezzar's dream was and what it meant next time.

What made Daniel and his friends different from all the other wise men wasn't that they were smarter than the rest. They were different because they knew the Lord. Daniel realized that he had been given his vision as a gift from the Lord, and he responded in two key ways. First, he worshipped the Lord, realizing that every good gift comes from Him. Second, he gave glory to the Lord, testifying to Nebuchadnezzar that the dream and its interpretation came from God. We have been given an even greater gift from God than Daniel's: the gift of salvation. We have been saved from our sins and have become sons and daughters of the Living God. Like Daniel, we should respond by praising the Lord and telling our unsaved friends and family about our great God.

Questions for Young Children:

Why was King Nebuchadnezzar so upset?

What did Daniel and his friends do when they heard about the king's orders?

What did Daniel do after God showed him the dream?

Questions for Teens and Pre-teens:

Read James 1:17 (our memory verse at the top of the previous page). Based on that verse, where did Daniel's wisdom and ability to know and interpret the king's dream come from? Where do our gifts or talents come from?

What are some gifts or talents that God has given you? Why is it important to recognize that these gifts come from God?

Are you ever tempted to take credit for the ways that God has gifted you? How can you give God the glory instead?