

Week 14
91/274

Transforming Daily
“... *praying and making supplication* ...”
Daniel 6:11

How often do changing circumstances and adverse situations interfere with one's prayer life? In many cases, nothing stands in the way of one's prayer life except their willingness to pray. A prayer life is a spiritual discipline or habit that one chooses to perform. On the other hand, the lack of a prayer life is a result of the reverse factors, that is, one willfully chooses not to pray, or to allow everything and anything to impede their communion with God.

Daniel was arrested and thrown to the lions because he wouldn't stop his life of routine prayer. It wasn't that Daniel's prayer life encroached upon the law; the law encroached upon Daniel's prayer life. Don't think for a minute that Daniel didn't know that if he didn't stop praying he would get into trouble. The text is very clear that he knew a law had been passed (v.10) (because of his discipline to pray), and that if he didn't stop, he would be arrested. Arrested for praying? Who in the world would arrest anyone for praying (I call to your attention the state of prayer to God in the name of Jesus Christ in our public school system and other public venues)? How do conditions like this arise?

Conditions like this arise precisely because the discipline of prayer and spiritual conduct were impeded in the first place. In other words, when people could have prayed without restrictions they didn't, and when they can't, they say that they want to. The general defiance and disobedience of the children of Israel brought about the captivity and displacement of God's people into the hands and the land of their enemies. They were removed from their land and that was equivalent with being removed from their God. However, men like Daniel knew that God honors those who seek Him and do His will no matter where they are, when it is, how they're treated or what the circumstances.

The 21st century is certainly not immune to the general defiance and disobedience of man toward God nationally, as well as, globally. There is nothing that an individual can do about the spiritual conduct and prayer life of another except to positively influence them with a testimony of righteousness and fervent prayer. Adverse situations and changing circumstances should neither lead us to pray more or less. Our prayers should always be fervent and ceaseless. Is that your testimony? Is your prayer life what it ought to be? Are you praying and making supplication before your God?