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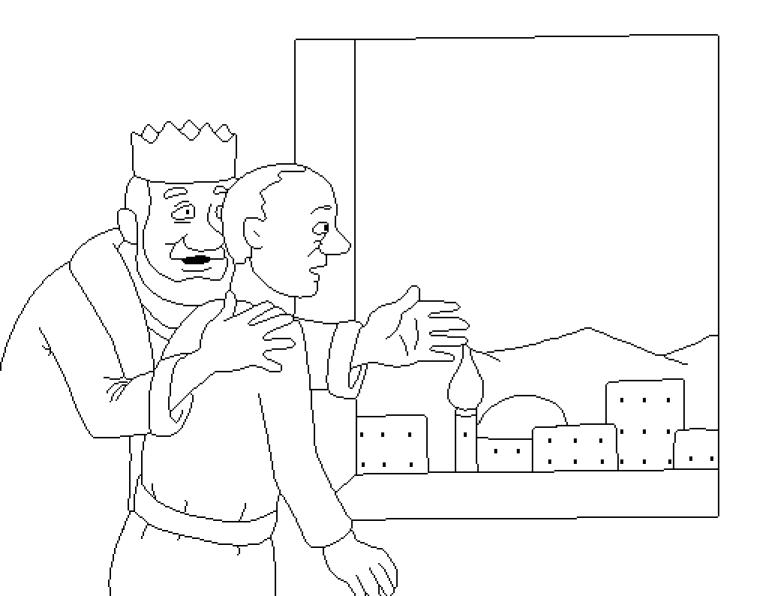
Darius was the new king of Babylon. He was smart. He picked a hundred and twenty of the very best people in his kingdom to help him rule. Then he

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picked three of them to be in charge. Daniel was one of those three

men.

King Darius respected Daniel so much, he thought about making him the ruler over the whole kingdom.



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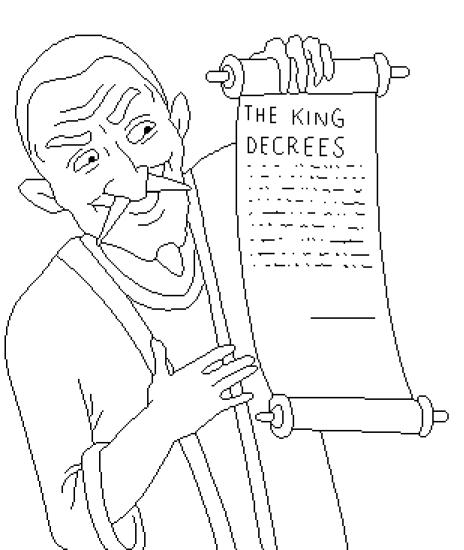
The other leaders were jealous. They planned to find some fault in Daniel so they could get Daniel in trouble with the king.



No matter how they tried, these leaders couldn't find anything bad about Daniel. Daniel was true to the king in all that he did. Also, he was careful and clever, and always did everything the very best he could. The jealous leaders knew there was only one way they could trap Daniel. They knew that nothing on earth would stop him from worshiping the God of Israel.







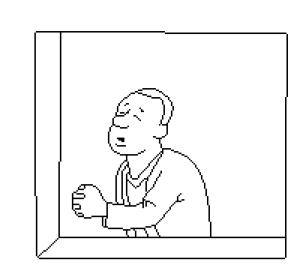
Daniel's enemies thought up a plan. They made a new law for the king to sign. The law said that everyone should pray only to King Darius. Anyone who disobeyed would be thrown into a den of lions!



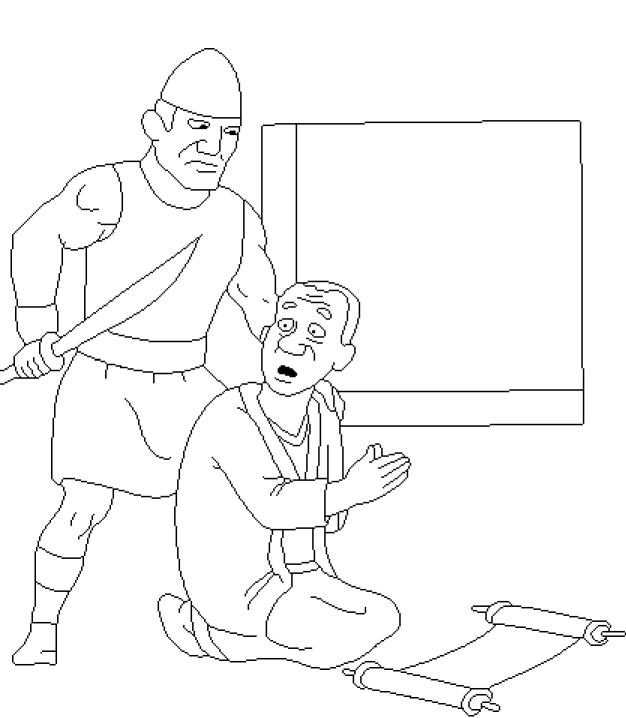
King Darius signed the new law.



The new law made no difference to Daniel. He did what he always did. He kneeled by his open window three times a day, and prayed to the God of heaven.





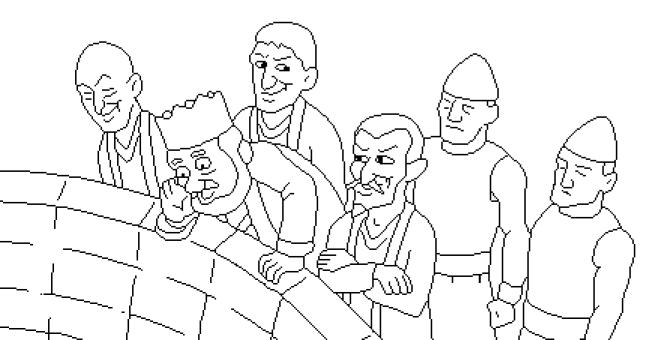


The jealous leaders rushed to tell the king. King Darius had no choice but to arrest Daniel. The law had to be obeyed. Daniel had to die. The king tried hard, but he couldn't find a way to change the law.

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Daniel was sentenced to die by being put into a den of lions. Before Daniel was thrown to the hungry lions, King Darius said to him, "Your God, Whom you serve continually, He will deliver you!"

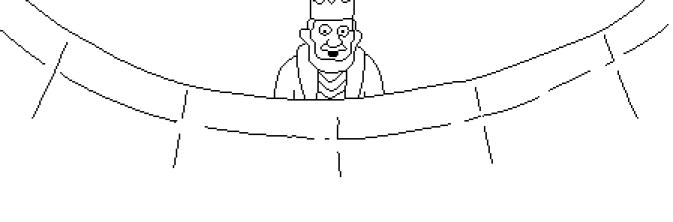
The king didn't sleep that night. Very early the next morning, he rushed back to the lions' pit.





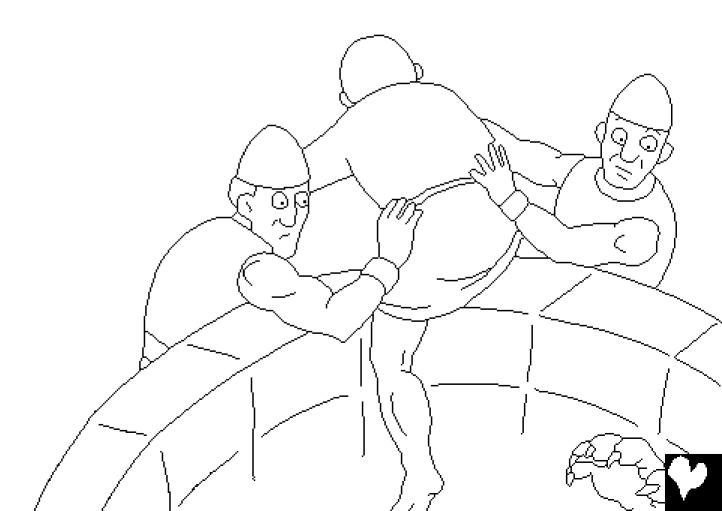
King Darius shouted out, "Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God Whom you serve continually, been able to deliver you from the lions?" Maybe he didn't expect an answer. **But Daniel replied!**

Daniel called out, "O king, my God sent His angel and shut the lions' mouths, so that they have not hurt me! And also, O king, I have done no wrong before you."

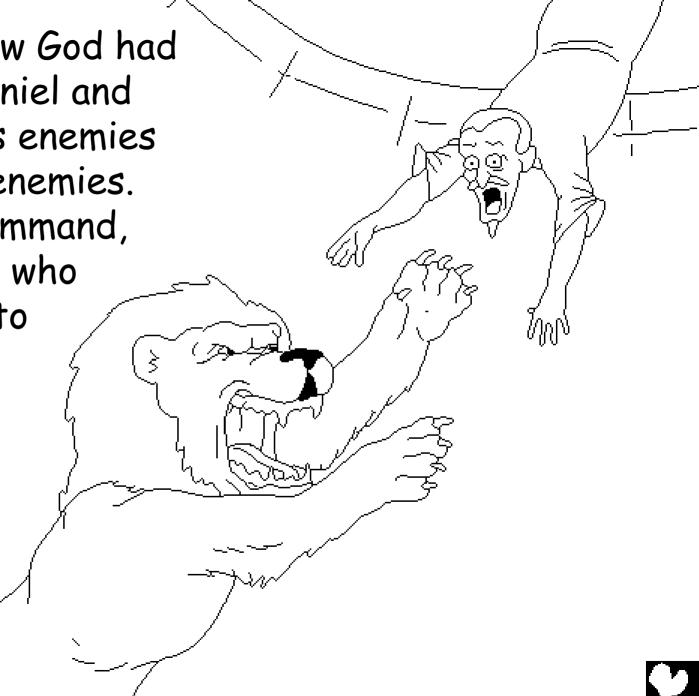




King Darius was delighted! He ordered Daniel to be lifted out of the pit.



The king knew God had delivered Daniel and that Daniel's enemies were God's enemies. He gave a command, and all those who tricked him to sign the bad law were thrown into the lions' den. The lions ate them.



King Darius wanted the world to know that the God of Heaven had protected His faithful servant, Daniel. The king wrote a letter that commanded everybody to worship the living God. And the king restored Daniel to honor and leadership.





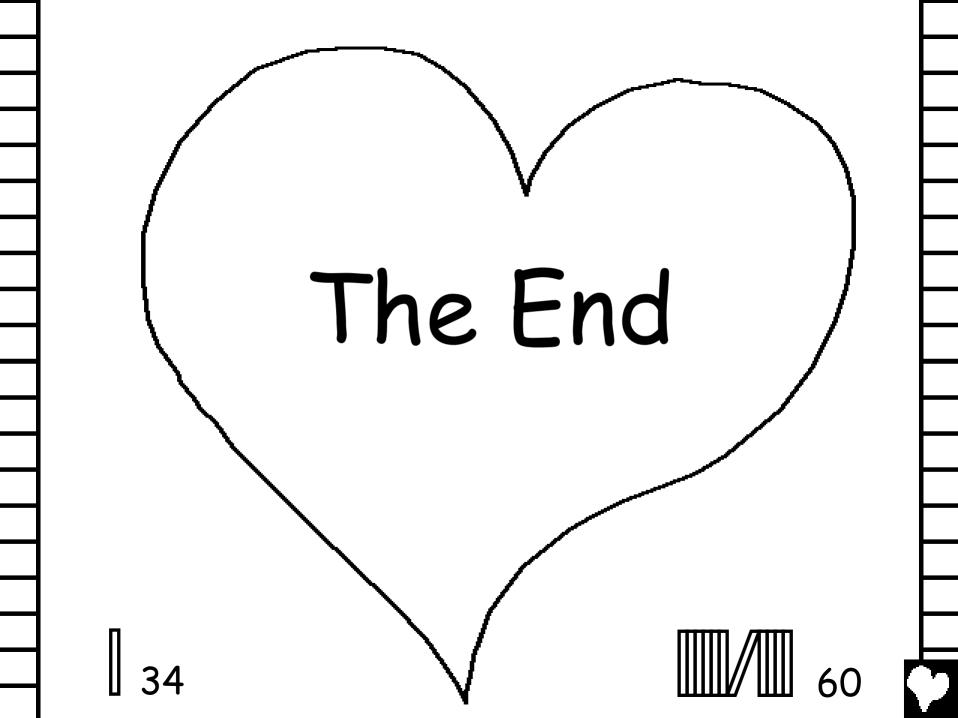
Daniel and the Lions' Den

A story from God's Word, the Bible,

is found in

Daniel 6

"The entrance of Your Word gives light." Psalm 119:130



This Bible story tells us about our wonderful God who made us and who wants us to know Him.

God knows we have done bad things, which He calls sin. The punishment for sin is death, but God loves us so much He sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a Cross and be punished for our sins. Then Jesus came back to life and went home to Heaven! If you believe in Jesus and ask Him to forgive your sins, He will do it! He will come and live in you now, and you will live with Him forever.

If you want to turn from your sins, say this to God: Dear God, I believe that Jesus died for me and now lives again. Please come into my life and forgive my sins, so that I can have new life now, and one day go to be with You forever. Help me to live for You as Your child. Amen.

Read the Bible and talk with God every day! John 3:16