



**Lesson 49 (1 Samuel 21:10- 22:5): Playing the fool and protecting the weak**

Read Daniel 3:8-23. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were captives in Babylon. What were the two options they were given? What did they choose? Why?

Read Daniel 3:24-30. What happened to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego?

*Did they know this would be the outcome?*

Look back at the last section and remember why they chose to obey, while not knowing what the outcome would be.

Read Daniel 6:6-18. Daniel was also a captive in Babylon. What law was made that Daniel did not obey?

Why did Daniel refuse to obey?

What happened to Daniel as a result of his disobedience?

Read Daniel 6:19-23. What did Darius find when he went to see what had happened to Daniel?

Why was no harm found done to him?

Read John 4:5-26, 39-42. Where was Jesus?

Was this a Jewish village?

Who came to the well?

Why did she believe that Jesus was a prophet?

Who did He tell her He was?

What did she do with that information?

What was the result for the other people?

Read Acts 16:19-34. Where were Paul and Silas placed?

What were they doing around midnight? What happened at midnight?

What did the jailer start to do? Why?

What did Paul do?

What was the jailer's response?

Where did the jailer take Paul and Silas then?

What was the response from the entire household?

Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego disobeyed men to honor God, regardless of the consequences...and God rescued them in a mighty way. Daniel refused to withhold honor from God...and God rescued him in a mighty way. The Samaritan woman was on the bottom rung of society...yet Jesus offered her hope from her situation. The jailer was ready to take his life for failing to do his job...then Paul and Silas showed him that his job was still secure, and, even more than that, he could have eternal security. Not one of these men nor the woman at the well were in ideal situations. They were in hard situations where they had very little power to act. Yet, God was able to work mightily in those situations because He can do more with what we *don't* have (power, prestige, social class, ability, wealth, knowledge, etc.) than we can with what we *do* have.

As you spend time with God today, consider the things that you do have, starting with Your Heavenly Father. Remember, it isn't about what you can do to save yourself; you can't. It's about how He can work in any situation to provide what you need. Ask him to remind you of that today, and to show you, even in small ways, how He is working. He does care about the details of your life. And He will never leave you nor forsake you.