

The Intersection of Heaven and Earth © Shelli Prindle

- According to Galatians 1:8, we need to be wary of “gospel messages” that are contrary to the Gospel of the Bible, the Gospel delivered to us by the apostles who walked with and witnessed the risen Christ.
 - One twisting of the truth – one lie – renders a message false, just as one little bird in the engine of a giant jet can cause disaster.
 - False gospels are being proposed: good works, many paths to God, etc.
- I Peter 5:6-9
 - Christians are to cast their anxiety on God. Directly related to this anxiety is the attack of a real enemy. The real Gospel exposes a real devil.
 - Our adversary prowls around as a roaring lion. He is defeated when we resist him.
 - Our human nature wants to resist our enemy by wrestling with him using our own strength, or
 - Staying up late at night devising a perfect life plan, or
 - Trying to be a really good person building up good “karma.”
 - However, we are to resist our enemy by **standing firm in our faith**.
- Daniel 6:22-27
 - When the devil plotted against Daniel to stop his determined faithfulness to God, Daniel defeated the enemy by simple **relationship** and **trust**.
 - We know the lions were hungry for they readily devoured the people thrown into their pit right after Daniel was removed. Why did they not consume Daniel?
 - There could be no way Daniel saved himself with human strength or cunning.
 - Verse 22 tells us an actual angel from heaven came into the pit with Daniel and physically shut the mouths of the lions. Precisely because of Daniel’s relationship with God and his trust in God, he witnessed the **intersection of Heaven and Earth**. In the same way, God will move on Earth as we trust in Him. He will literally change and dictate circumstances to order our lives!
 - Verse 23 is clear; Daniel was unharmed simply because he trusted in God.
- Note that I Peter 5:6 tells us to humble ourselves under God’s mighty hand so that He will lift us up at the right time.
 - We truly humble ourselves by taking up the cross of Jesus Christ. (Luke 9:23) Jesus death and resurrection is our hope, for we have no righteousness of our own.
 - When we believe and commit to carry the cross of Jesus, we ensure that one day Jesus will lift us up past sun, moon, and stars to His very home of righteousness.