

## Lesson-08 Study Guide: Tried and True

**Lesson Focus Passage:** [Daniel 6](#)

**Background:** **Darius the Mede** ([Daniel 5:31](#)) may have been a governor appointed by **Cyrus**, ruler of the Persian Empire, to rule over conquered Babylon, or it could be another name for Cyrus himself.

In any case, Persia conquered Babylon in **October, 539 B.C.**, and Cyrus' first year is dated as beginning the following **March, 538 B.C.**

There is no mention of a "Darius the Mede" in any historical texts relating to the period. However, it should be remembered that up until the **19<sup>th</sup> century** there was no historical record outside the Bible of a "**Belshazzar**" either ([Daniel 5:1](#)).

When cuneiform tables from the Persian period were deciphered, Belshazzar was found to be a historical figure. Archaeology always eventually verifies the historical accounts in Scripture, and will eventually do so in the case of Darius as well.

### Preparatory Questions

1. From our study so far, how are the attributes listed in [Psalm 15:1-5](#) reflected in Daniel's life?
2. Why does God not always bring peace in the lives of His saints even when their ways please Him? (see [James 1:3-4](#))
  - a. In Daniel's case, what purposes were likely higher priorities for God than just the safety of Daniel?
  - b. What priority should personal safety (deliverance) play as a motivating factor in obeying and pleasing the Lord?