



[Luke 21:36](#)

(36) Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.

King James Version

Coupled with watching and overcoming, the next subject that [Jesus](#) addresses in [Luke 21:36](#) is [prayer](#). To grasp just how important prayer is, notice the example of Daniel, one of the three most righteous men in the Bible, according to [Ezekiel 14:14](#). Part of his story is in [Daniel 6:7](#), 10:

All the governors of the kingdom, the administrators and satraps, the counselors and advisors, have consulted together to establish a royal statute and to make a firm decree, that whoever petitions any [god](#) or man for thirty days, except you, O king, shall be cast into the den of lions. . . . Now when Daniel knew that the writing was signed, he went home. And in his upper room, with his windows open toward Jerusalem, he knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

Daniel believed that prayer was so essential that he chose to risk his life to lions rather than lose [contact with God](#) for even a part of a day. We could say that he feared the Lion of Judah more than any physical lion. To him, prayer was a life-and-death issue. Is it to us? How many excuses would we have made to avoid those lions? What excuses do we make today to justify a lack of prayer?

Is anything more serious than a life-and-death issue? Because of the Bible's obviously high regard for Daniel, it is reasonable to assume that his attitude about prayer played a significant part in deserving the label of "righteous." Prayer, for us, becomes a *spiritual* life-and-death question, not just a physical one as Daniel faced.

The Berean: Daily Verse and Commentary for Luke 21:36 (<http://www.theberean.org>)
— Pat Higgins

To learn more, see:
[Praying Always \(Part Two\)](#)

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