

Paul H. Dixon
How to Lick the Lions in Your Life
Circa 1979

Unedited Transcript

00;00;01;02 - 00;00;19;15

Paul H. Dixon

I'm glad, as I already said, that I have the Bible to preach from tonight, the Bible is an exciting book. It's a very alive book. It's a relevant book. It's a practical personal book and it has something for every single one of us.

00;00;20;22 - 00;00;30;28

Paul H. Dixon

This book is a constant challenge to my life. I was saved as a teenager when I was a senior in high school. I came to know Christ as my savior before I was saved and never opened my mind.

00;00;32;05 - 00;00;42;07

Paul H. Dixon

But after I got saved, I started getting into it and I found out the reality of the world and what it could mean to me, and I got excited about it and I still am. It's a challenging book.

00;00;42;07 - 00;00;57;05

Paul H. Dixon

You could spend the rest of your life 24 hours a day studying this book, and you still still would not conquer it. There's not a man alive. There's never been a living individual who has ever mastered this book.

00;00;57;24 - 00;01;15;18

Paul H. Dixon

I'd like to challenge you to do so. That would be the greatest thing you could ever do in your life is to say, I'm going to master the Bible and let it best for me. But you know, as I think about the Bible and all the great truths that are here in, I also enjoy the simple truths

00;01;16;06 - 00;01;34;04

Paul H. Dixon

and the simple stories I enjoy so very much. Still, though, it's very familiar to me and I'm sure to you the story of David and Goliath. I enjoy reading again and hearing breaks on Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego as they go down into the fiery furnace.

00;01;35;01 - 00;01;51;11

Paul H. Dixon

I still enjoy. one of my favorite sermons is the sermon. I have haven't breached it in years on a life angel on Mount Carmel. And as he called down the fire from heaven and said to the people, how long haul between two opinions if the Lord be God, follow him, but if they'll then follow him.

00;01;51;20 - 00;02;15;17

Paul H. Dixon

And they answered him. Not a word. I'm going to preach on one of these tonight. I'm going to preach on Daniel in the lion's den. My message is entitled How to lick the Lions in your life. I'm going to read a few verses from Daniel Chapter six, but before I read these verses, I think I want to

00;02;15;17 - 00;02;30;16

Paul H. Dixon

give you a little introduction so you can understand what's shaping up. If we would take the time and we won't and you might want to do this later, you could turn to the first chapter of the Book of Daniel and you'll find out.

00;02;32;27 - 00;02;56;28

Paul H. Dixon

That the enemy moved into Judah, moved into Jerusalem and captured the Jews. They took these Jewish people down into Babylon, into captivity. And one of the young men who was taken into captivity was this man, Daniel. He probably was just a teenager, maybe just in his early teens.

00;02;58;01 - 00;03;13;23

Paul H. Dixon

And as Daniel was taken down into Babylon. Immediately, they noticed that there was something different about him. The king sent out word that he wanted to take some of the finest young men and put them in places of authority over the Jewish people.

00;03;14;04 - 00;03;27;02

Paul H. Dixon

I think you could identify it if you imagine the Russians coming into America, conquering us, taking all of us over to Russia, trying to get us to live on their diet and with their customs and a new language to us.

00;03;27;09 - 00;03;49;01

Paul H. Dixon

And they couldn't control all of us. And so they picked some of the finest young Americans and say, We want you to rule over all your countrymen. They picked out Daniel. Young people will never be satisfied and being average mediocre or run of the mill in anything.

00;03;50;19 - 00;04;10;03

Paul H. Dixon

Daniel was a super teenager, and I'm convinced that every young person here tonight can be super. I'm convinced that every young person here tonight, God created you. God created you with a purpose and you are special to God and you have a special place in the Plan of God.

00;04;10;24 - 00;04;37;03

Paul H. Dixon

Just this truly is Daniel was special. So are you? Well, anybody who's above average had better decide this, that you're going to come in for a lot of flak that there's going to be some criticism along the way because when you start going above your peers in any area, especially spiritually, they're going to start shooting you down

00;04;37;03 - 00;04;59;27

Paul H. Dixon

because they're jealous and they're envious. And that's what happened to them in the sixth chapter. The Bible says that Daniel, by the time we get to the sixth chapter, has been placed above all of the people. Verse two says that we ought to start with verse one, it pleased Darius to set over the kingdom 120 princes what

00;04;59;27 - 00;05;17;22

Paul H. Dixon

should be over the whole kingdom over these three presidents of whom Daniel was first at the princess might give accounts on to them and the king should have no damage. Then this Daniel was preferred above the presidents and the princes because an excellent spirit was in him and the king thought to set him over the whole round

00;05;18;16 - 00;05;35;18

Paul H. Dixon

. In other words, Daniel would all go all the way up where he was really next to the king. The only one who had more 40 than Daniel was the king, and Daniel was a young man. Verse four Then the president and the princes sought to find occasion against Daniel concerning the kingdom.

00;05;35;18 - 00;05;47;21

Paul H. Dixon

They were jealous. They could not find none occasion or fall for as much as he was faithful. Neither was there any heir or fault found in him, and they got together one day and they said, Look, we got to get this guy.

00;05;48;19 - 00;06;06;22

Paul H. Dixon

We don't like a Jew being over us, and so they came up with this plan to approach the king and say, Look, we're going to have a petition where everybody prays to you instead of God, and we're going to have a certain time period where no one is worshiped in the land.

00;06;06;22 - 00;06;18;19

Paul H. Dixon

But you and they trick the king they played upon his ego and they went along with it. And as soon as Daniel heard about it, it didn't faze him one bit. He just kept on praying to his god.

00;06;18;24 - 00;06;32;02

Paul H. Dixon

And so the king found out about it. He realized he'd been tricked, but he had to put Daniel in the den of lions. That was the penalty. So they put Daniel down in the den and the king spends a restless night.

00;06;33;03 - 00;06;47;23

Paul H. Dixon

He just can't believe that he was so tricked. And he says the Daniel is put into that den in verse 16 now the king spake and said to Daniel by

God, whom now service continually he'll deliver the least down and under his breath.

00;06;47;23 - 00;07;00;19

Paul H. Dixon

He's hoping that the God that Daniel serves will deliver him, and he puts the stone over the din of the mouth of the den and he seals it. Then he goes to his room and he fast and he prays and he weeps and verse 19.

00;07;00;19 - 00;07;11;20

Paul H. Dixon

The next morning, he gets up and he runs down to the den of lions. And he came to that den and the and he started crying with the lamentable voice. Yeah. You know, he didn't even remove the stone.

00;07;12;14 - 00;07;25;19

Paul H. Dixon

He just must have shouted between the cracks. And as he shouted down in those cracks, he said, Oh, Daniel, servant of the living god is his knight God, who now served us continually able to deliver thee from the lions.

00;07;25;22 - 00;07;42;04

Paul H. Dixon

And then he must hurriedly put his ear to the crack. And it must have just echoed through that day, and then you'll set unto the king of King Live Forever. What a thrill must have come of that king's heart as he realized that Daniel had survived the night.

00;07;44;04 - 00;07;59;22

Paul H. Dixon

My God had sent his angel and had shut the lions. I think when then you must have hit the dirt down there and that day and after they threw him, and he probably started quoting Psalm 91 versus eleven through 13.

00;08;00;04 - 00;08;18;04

Paul H. Dixon

Here's what it says. He shall give this angels charge over there to keep the and all thy ways they shall bear the up in their hands lest they dash. They fought against the stone. Thou shall tread upon the lion and the adder.

00;08;18;09 - 00;08;36;16

Paul H. Dixon

The Young Lion and dragon shout thou trample underfoot. And when Daniel got down there with those lions and their mouths were shot and they couldn't believe it. I guess the king thought that he would hear the lions licking their chops and he found out they had Lockjaw.

00;08;37;10 - 00;08;53;25

Paul H. Dixon

And I can just see old Daniel down there, and he probably walked all over those lions with his bare feet. That must have been an exciting experience. And he's walking all over those lions and he sleeps on top of

them and they pull him and he pet them, and they're just just great big
bets for the night

00;08;55;00 - 00;09;21;06

Paul H. Dixon

. What a thrill. You know, the Bible has a lot to say about lions, and
you'll remember that judges 14 verse six tells us Sampson killed a lion
with his bare hands. The Bible also says in verse Samuel, Chapter 17,
verse 37, that David, as he was appealing to King Saul to allow him to go
out after Goliath

00;09;21;13 - 00;09;40;05

Paul H. Dixon

, said, Did not I kill a lion? I killed a lion. I can kill a giant. And
then one of my favorite verses is first Chronicles 11:22, it says Bonfire
went down into a pit on a snowy day and killed a lion.

00;09;42;13 - 00;10;04;10

Paul H. Dixon

Hebrews eleven, 33, pointing back to these instances and probably others
that we don't know anything about. Says these individuals through faith.
Speaking of Old Testament, Saints subdued kingdoms brought righteousness,
obtained promises and stop the mouths of lie. It's.

00;10;06;22 - 00;10;29;22

Paul H. Dixon

By Faith, these men did that, they literally defeated Lie. I believe all
of these Old Testament instances pointed to New Testament principles,
because first, Peter finally says the devil look at the bout as a roaring
lion seeking whom he may devour.

00;10;32;29 - 00;10;50;21

Paul H. Dixon

And I think it's interesting that second, Timothy 4:17, the Apostle Paul,
is about to leave this life. It's the last epistle, he wrote. It's the
last chapter, the closing words, and he talks about how Demus had
forsaken him and how Alexander the Coppermith, treated him.

00;10;50;23 - 00;11;14;08

Paul H. Dixon

And he says notwithstanding, the lord stood with me and strengthened me.
I was delivered out of the mouth of the light. The Apostle Paul. Now he
didn't really find a lion, not an animal that walked around in the
jungle, but he did battle with Satan and God delivered him out of the
mouth of the Lord.

00;11;17;07 - 00;11;40;13

Paul H. Dixon

The enemy of war is our enemy tonight. And just as surely as Satan was
trying to get it poor and those lions were endeavoring to devour Daniel,
the devil wants to devour every single one of us and especially you young
people, he delight in destroying you.

00;11;44;03 - 00;12;04;10

Paul H. Dixon

And I want you to consider some of the lines in our day. Well, I'm sure there are many lions and I can't begin to touch on them all, but may I suggest three? The first line that comes to my mind tonight is the lion of Downed.

00;12;06;27 - 00;12;30;25

Paul H. Dixon

Skepticism. Young people, there are many of your friends, in fact, perhaps some of you here tonight who are being destroyed by downed Madalyn Murray boast that there are 40 million agnostics in America. And most of these, she says, are young people.

00;12;32;26 - 00;12;49;07

Paul H. Dixon

Practically every place I go, I have people coming up to me after the services telling me about their doubts. I was in a meeting in Akron, Ohio, just about two months ago and one came night after night. And finally, one night it came to me, he said.

00;12;49;07 - 00;13;01;00

Paul H. Dixon

Paul, I've got to talk to you. I said, Let's sit down. He said, I've been listening to you. I realize what you have is the answer. I want to be a Christian, but I've got some intellectual hang ups.

00;13;02;05 - 00;13;13;21

Paul H. Dixon

I said, tell me about them. And he said, first of all, I want you to know that I don't come from a Christian family. Well, I said I didn't either. And then he started telling me what kind of a family he came from.

00;13;13;28 - 00;13;30;26

Paul H. Dixon

He said, my dad is an out and out atheist and has been ever since I can remember. He says he makes fun of Christianity. He has brought so many questions to my mind. He said I've got some real problems and I spent one night about an hour with him.

00;13;31;02 - 00;13;49;29

Paul H. Dixon

He kept coming back to the meetings. He went to the University of Akron and he had a Christian teacher who brought him to the meetings, and one day he stood in class after class and went. And said, I want to be a Christian, but I can't get over these intellectual problem.

00;13;53;14 - 00;14;08;18

Paul H. Dixon

The lion of doubt was slapping him. I was in Charleston, West Virginia, just a few weeks ago, and one night a young man, probably about 35, sat on the front row. I could tell he was sharp, you know, dress neat.

00;14;09;08 - 00;14;18;12

Paul H. Dixon

I didn't have any idea, though, who he was until after the service, the pastor said. You know who that guy was? I said no. He says he's one of the wealthiest men in West Virginia. Is that he's a millionaire.

00;14;20;23 - 00;14;30;04

Paul H. Dixon

And he said one of the men in our church worked with him and invited him, and after the service, he came right immediately to see me talk to me about a half an hour about family problems and so forth.

00;14;30;12 - 00;14;42;04

Paul H. Dixon

And then the next day, he called the pastor and said, I'd like to get with that guy and spend some time with him. We said, fine, we'll have lunch together. We went out to lunch and for two hours he sat there and he said, You know, Paul.

00;14;43;00 - 00;14;56;12

Paul H. Dixon

He said ever since I was in college, I've got some intellectual problems. He said I've got problems with the Bible and I got problems with the existence of God. And he started going over some of his problems and we tried to deal with them one by one.

00;14;56;12 - 00;15;09;08

Paul H. Dixon

And he was very interested and expressed an interest afterwards all over to others. And I had the privilege of sending him a book. About two weeks later, I went into New Jersey. one night, a young man comes to me, an executive at Sears and Roebuck.

00;15;09;11 - 00;15;26;27

Paul H. Dixon

Same problems closing son near the meeting, a junior at high school walks in, sits down the office. He said, Paul, I disagree with everything you said this morning. And he started telling me how he was wanted to be a medical student and how he, you know, could not buy the record of creation and other things in the

00;15;26;27 - 00;15;42;05

Paul H. Dixon

Bible. And I'm telling you about individuals who are being defeated by Daft. Individuals who do not come to Christ because of doubt, now, let me get this straight. I want us to go on record right now and everybody get this established.

00;15;43;20 - 00;16;04;01

Paul H. Dixon

Christianity is not against intelligent thinking. You do not have to be a numskull to be a Christian. In fact, some of the greatest minds of all history have been Christians, and it is not wrong for you to ask questions.

00;16;04;17 - 00;16;22;17

Paul H. Dixon

In fact, in many of our fundamental churches, we've made the mistake too long of not being willing to listen to the questions of the young people and give them honest answers. And I believe the reason we have it is because too many have not had the answers and they were afraid to listen to the questions.

00;16;22;27 - 00;16;39;27

Paul H. Dixon

I'm willing to listen to any question you have, any time I have the time you come and see me. But let me say this. I don't have all the answers. I never have, and I don't expect I ever will, but because I don't have the answer for your question, that doesn't mean there isn't an answer.

00;16;40;05 - 00;16;57;15

Paul H. Dixon

And what I want you to see tonight is not that we're against you asking questions and not that we're against your thinking. But when you walk into a class and a high school teacher or a college prof gets up there and tries to blow your mind by attacking the Bible, don't you buy it at face value?

00;16;57;19 - 00;17;18;26

Paul H. Dixon

And if you do, you've been slain defeated by the lion of death. You go out of that class and you get your butt. And you'll find out that most of these guys are blasting the Bible, never have read the Bible, and you'll find most of these guys who bring up all these questions really have never been willing

00;17;18;26 - 00;17;42;03

Paul H. Dixon

to sit down with somebody who had the answers and listen to the answers that they might give. Some of the greatest Christians of all time have once been skeptics. All right, Tory, one of the great minds for Christ once was a skeptic in his hotel room when he was about to commit suicide, received Christ as his savior

00;17;43;00 - 00;17;58;04

Paul H. Dixon

. Hey, Kate Pierson one day sat down and said, If I can't prove the Bible, then it's not the word of God. And he started study why the Bible is the word of God. And he wrote the book Many Infallible Proofs as he studied why the scripture was the word of God.

00;17;58;07 - 00;18;15;29

Paul H. Dixon

He became convinced that it was. Littleton and West set out want to disprove the resurrection, the other to disprove the Ministry of the Apostle Paul. They were to meet back two years later, and when they met back, they found out that in their research, they both had become Christians.

00;18;18;04 - 00;18;34;13

Paul H. Dixon

C.S. Lewis, once an atheist denying the existence of God, received Christ as his saving became a great mind for God. You say, Preacher, tonight I am an atheist. Let me ask you something, young fellow young lady, you consider yourself an atheist.

00;18;34;14 - 00;18;50;28

Paul H. Dixon

How many books have you ever read at all the books that have ever been written? How many of you read out of all the knowledge there is in the world? How much knowledge do you have? 50%. Oh, yes, I don't guess I have that much time.

00;18;52;24 - 00;19;06;15

Paul H. Dixon

Guess that's pretty high. Ten say no, I guess out of all the knowledge the rest of the world, I don't even have 10%. All right, I'll tell you what, I'll give you the benefit of the doubt and say, you're really super sharp and you got 5% of all the knowledge in the world.

00;19;06;19 - 00;19;24;08

Paul H. Dixon

Do you reckon that God might exist and that other 95% you don't have? He does. All the questions you have. What about the heathen in Africa? How can we know that the Bible is the word of God? Where did we get our Bible?

00;19;24;10 - 00;19;42;12

Paul H. Dixon

Is the Bible Bible reliable? What about evolution? What about the Bible record of creation? What about the so-called contradictions between the Bible and science? All these questions you might have. I'll guarantee you there are answers, and don't you let the lion of doubt slay?

00;19;42;12 - 00;19;54;09

Paul H. Dixon

You keep you from coming to Christ and listen, you Christian teens, don't you let it defeat you in the Christian life and get you out under some General Petraeus where you never amount to anything for God? That's the first line I want you to see tonight.

00;19;54;09 - 00;20;11;29

Paul H. Dixon

The second line is a line of lust. Now I'm preaching Trump plainly tonight, I'm going to really be playing on this one because that's the only way I ever have been able to get through to people is just call the shots just like they are.

00;20;12;17 - 00;20;26;02

Paul H. Dixon

And there may be some here tonight who say, Paul, I don't think you ought to deal with such a thing as sex from the pulpit. Well, friend, the reason we've got to deal with sex and the pulpit tonight is because generally it has not been dealt with in the home.

00;20;26;04 - 00;20;34;03

Paul H. Dixon

And if I'm going to be true to my God and I'm going to be true to my teenage friends, I've got to tell them what the Bible has to say, and I got a warning of the dangers tonight.

00;20;38;27 - 00;21;11;13

Paul H. Dixon

Young person after young person all across this country is blowing his life because of lust. Let's get this straight lust and love are two different things. And God is not against sex. The Bible has some very definite instructions regarding this matter of sex, and God gives guidelines, and the one thing that is perfectly clear is that sex

00;21;11;13 - 00;21;31;29

Paul H. Dixon

is to be practiced by two married people husband and wife, not before they are married and with nobody else after their married until they're separated, rightly in the eyes of God. And you break those guidelines and you break those rules and you are headed for a pack of trouble.

00;21;32;03 - 00;21;59;03

Paul H. Dixon

And most of what is being done today in the name of love is nothing but just out and out animal lust. You see, I not only talk with the teens, I talk with the adults. And I have the adults who come and cry and weep and say I had to get married and to this day, I've got

00;21;59;03 - 00;22;15;16

Paul H. Dixon

an unhappy home. Everybody you get has to get married, doesn't necessarily have an unhappy home. A boy, a lot of people do, and a lot of young ladies who have a child, they have to get married. They go through their whole marriage wondering, does he really love me?

00;22;15;23 - 00;22;40;25

Paul H. Dixon

Or is he? Did he marry me just because he had to? You see the scars of this scarlet sin are not just the illegitimate babies, not just the void that incidentally, as that is at epidemic stage all across this country, but all the permissiveness that there has been.

00;22;40;29 - 00;23;05;13

Paul H. Dixon

We have such a rapid outbreak of. They're trying to do everything in the world to stop it, and they don't know how, but with stuff like this. I sat in my home a week ago last Sunday and read this, and I could not believe it, I got this out of Pride Parade magazine dated December 31, 1972.

00;23;08;03 - 00;23;22;14

Paul H. Dixon

The poster this is in the Keeping Up With Youth section. Parade magazine, I like it. I read it, you know, every Sunday where I get a paper that's in there like family weekly and it usually deals with things in the home and interesting articles.

00;23;22;14 - 00;23;39;03

Paul H. Dixon

And I like to read the questions and answers that they write to the stars and so forth. But this youth section, I always read that and this whole last half of it, there's a poster that shows a young man and a young woman running to embrace, and there's the caption LOL carefully.

00;23;42;05 - 00;24;01;24

Paul H. Dixon

And as you go on in that article, they talk about the epidemic of venereal disease. And they talk about how sex education is being attacked and the need for sex education today. And then they say in England, the largest newspapers are running charts entitled How to Avoid an Unwanted Baby.

00;24;02;01 - 00;24;15;11

Paul H. Dixon

And as you read this article, you find out that when they talk about sex education, they mean they want to tell young people how to have sex without getting married and still not have babies. Or you say, Paul, they don't.

00;24;15;11 - 00;24;41;10

Paul H. Dixon

I'll read the paragraph. It's easy to advise abstinence. Has the most effective contraceptive. But it's unrealistic, they say. I know the words all they are doing is just advocating go ahead and love and have your sex. But please learn how to do it without having babies.

00;24;41;21 - 00;25;01;29

Paul H. Dixon

Now that's the lion that's walking around our streets and in our high schools and coming into our homes and young people. It's destroying young lives. It's. They will destroy you. I'll guarantee you it will. Let me share this with you.

00;25;03;10 - 00;25;33;15

Paul H. Dixon

There is nothing more selfish than sex outside of marriage. So what do you mean, Paul? Well, I mean this. Then obviously, when two people practice sex outside of marriage, all they're thinking about is that short time and that experience physically and emotionally, and they are completely oblivious to the rights and the happiness of other people like the

00;25;33;15 - 00;25;54;08

Paul H. Dixon

man they may eventually marry. Who's not that man or the woman they may eventually marry? Who's not that woman and their children and their

parents? All they're thinking about is themselves all in the name of love that flouts duty, obligation, honor and fidelity.

00;25;55;16 - 00;26;24;14

Paul H. Dixon

Young people, the best lives are always disciplined and controlled lives in them. Everything, including sex is the servant, not the master. And I warn you, there's a lion out to destroy you, and that lion is lust. There's a third line, and I just want to touch on this, but I believe this is the line of drugs and

00;26;24;14 - 00;26;42;04

Paul H. Dixon

then this I include alcohol. Every day I pick up the paper and especially this past week, I've read about the problems nationally in controlling drugs and the traffic and what's happening to young lives. It's reached epidemic stage as well across this country.

00;26;43;06 - 00;27;10;03

Paul H. Dixon

As someone has said, if you want to get hooked on drugs, there are only three ways to get out. one and overdose to suicide. three. God. But it's amazing to me. But there are a lot of adults who gripe about the drugs and yet continue to have their cocktail and tolerate their alcohol.

00;27;11;19 - 00;27;30;21

Paul H. Dixon

And yet we realize that the alcohol problem is what causes at least 50% of the deaths on the highway. A Michigan report came out just this past week, and it said since they gave the right to 18 year olds to drink in the state of Michigan, there's been a rapid increase not only in crime among young people

00;27;30;24 - 00;27;47;23

Paul H. Dixon

, but the deaths caused by young people who've been under the influence of alcohol and on the highways. That's why Ohio and their new bill giving rights to 18 year olds has taken out the right to have alcoholic beverages.

00;27;48;24 - 00;28;16;03

Paul H. Dixon

Why is society so obsessed with lust, drugs and alcohol? I'll tell you why, because Americans, young people and old people alike are empty. They're looking for something to give them satisfaction and to fail them. And if allowed to do so, if you stay in that vacuum, one of these lions will slay you just like they have slain

00;28;16;03 - 00;28;38;14

Paul H. Dixon

their tens of thousands across this country. I'm going to give you the secret tonight. Of How to kill the Lions. It's one thing for you to sit there and that view, whether a non-Christian or a Christian young person

and say, OK, I'm going to be against these liars and all the rest of the lions that come in

00;28;38;14 - 00;28;54;04

Paul H. Dixon

my life, they're not going to kill me. You say that you may mean that, but it'll never work. I want to show you tonight how Daniel defeated the Lions, how Daniel licked the lions and shut their mouths. The first thing he did so because of his salvation.

00;28;54;24 - 00;29;15;18

Paul H. Dixon

You look at Daniel Chapter six verse 25, excuse me, verse 23, then was the king exceedingly glad for him and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den? And so Daniel was taken up out of the den and no matter how was found upon him because he believed in his God.

00;29;18;13 - 00;29;34;15

Paul H. Dixon

Now I know and you know, that God shut the lion's mouth. The glory goes all to God. But there were certain things in Daniel's life that God honored, and the first one was Daniel. Put his faith in God.

00;29;34;20 - 00;29;48;19

Paul H. Dixon

The Bible says that because he believed it is God. If you're going to defeat the Lions in your mouth, you've got to have faith, trust and experience with Almighty God through Jesus Christ who died for you on the cross.

00;29;50;03 - 00;30;04;16

Paul H. Dixon

And it's hard enough for a Christian by the grace of God to have victory. But if you don't have Christ as your health, there's no hope for you. Every one of you, young people need Christ, and I know some of you have church membership, but that won't do.

00;30;05;17 - 00;30;19;29

Paul H. Dixon

Some of you have confirmation, but that won't. They will do it. Other other others of you have baptism, but you've never really seen yourself as the sinner and the Jesus Christ personally died on the cross for you and by faith received him as your savior.

00;30;19;29 - 00;30;39;10

Paul H. Dixon

Young lady came to me last night from a visiting church. She said, Paul, I can remember when you were at our church and when you were there, some other teenagers were walking down the aisles receiving Christ as their savior.

00;30;39;15 - 00;30;55;07

Paul H. Dixon

And then one night I walked down that aisle and I received Christ with my savior, and she's still going for God. Now you don't get saved by walking down or not. That doesn't make you a Christian, either. The other reason we give invitations is because we want to help you.

00;30;55;08 - 00;31;10;25

Paul H. Dixon

We want to point you to Jesus Christ as your savior. We want to go over it after the service is all over, but you do every one of you. You need to be saved. And if you're going to have victory in your life but the lion's mouth, you're going to have to be saved.

00;31;10;25 - 00;31;34;21

Paul H. Dixon

And everything hinges and sinners and revolves around having Christ as your savior. The second thing was because of his standards. Daniel shut the mouths of those lines not only because of his salvation, but because of his standards. We all talk about standards today.

00;31;35;16 - 00;31;50;29

Paul H. Dixon

non-Christians don't want standards. Christians don't want standards, especially when we're young and Christian young people, the young people. The Christian colleges don't like rules and standards, and our Christian churches with all like the Bible did just stand there.

00;31;53;02 - 00;32;06;28

Paul H. Dixon

Then you'll have back in the first chapter, I'll show you. They came to Old Daniel and they said, Daniel, you're such a sharp guy and you got so much potential that we're going to feed you the best one the king has.

00;32;07;02 - 00;32;21;03

Paul H. Dixon

And we're going to give you the best pork chops and the best pork roasts and all the fine meat that the king has. We're going to give them to you and your friends so that you can be fat and healthy and red blooded and really do a job.

00;32;21;06 - 00;32;39;17

Paul H. Dixon

And oh, Daniel looked at them and verse nine, verse eight, and Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portions of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank. He said, No, thank you.

00;32;40;19 - 00;32;54;00

Paul H. Dixon

I got some convictions. I've got some standards in my life and I am not going to eat the king's meat nor drink the king's one. I could take you through the book of Daniel and show you how these standards came out in other ways.

00;32;54;02 - 00;33;24;20

Paul H. Dixon

Listen, gang standards work to way positively and negatively. Christianity is not just a bunch of don'ts. That's not the system, but it's part of the system. Now, my non-Christian friends here tonight, we are not trying to put our Christian standards on.

00;33;26;15 - 00;33;37;08

Paul H. Dixon

We don't expect you to say things like we do. I used to have a buddy when I was in high school and man. There were a lot of places I was going that he wouldn't go and I couldn't understand it.

00;33;37;09 - 00;34;01;21

Paul H. Dixon

I respected him, but I couldn't understand it until after I got saved. I knew after I got saved, I had some of the same standards he did, and nobody had to tell me. God gave them to me. You save for this idea of Christians having standards in their lives, standards about where they go and standards about how

00;34;01;21 - 00;34;12;24

Paul H. Dixon

they're going to dress and standards about their hair length and standards, about being separate from the world and all of this. Yes, they are. I just can't see it. It'll hinder your testimony. It just won't reach the world.

00;34;13;04 - 00;34;40;18

Paul H. Dixon

Daniel did didn't hinder his testimony. He touched the whole kingdom. And you know what? Churches are reaching the young people where I go, the churches with standards, the young people with convictions that you know, some of the largest churches of this nation, some of them 5000, 6000, 10,000.

00;34;42;19 - 00;35;02;00

Paul H. Dixon

And they may have a youth group with 1000 teenagers. I mean, when that church does something, the high school sits up and listens. They have so much impact. These are some of the hardest preach and pastors you ever come in contact with when they tell those kids exactly where their skirt length should be, and they tell those

00;35;02;01 - 00;35;19;02

Paul H. Dixon

guys when they think they ought to get a haircut and they tell them everything about their lives. You know what those kids do? They do it. And those kids have an impact on that school where they go. There was a church historian by the name of Henwick.

00;35;19;22 - 00;35;46;17

Paul H. Dixon

Excuse me, harnick. He made this statement years ago. The church never had so much influence on the world as when she kept herself aloof from

it. Now, that could be taken too far. But when the gang and the world is tired of their sin and tired of the way the world is going, they're going to look for

00;35;46;17 - 00;36;13;20

Paul H. Dixon

something different, not for something that's offering the same thing they've got. Let me share the positive aspect of Daniel's standards. He was positive in his attitude. You don't want the people of the world said about Daniel. I read it over in Chapter six, verse three, if you'll remember.

00;36;14;08 - 00;36;28;04

Paul H. Dixon

Now this is not what the Christians are saying. This is what the world saying. Daniel was preferred above all the other men because an excellent spirit was in him, and that would be a good study for your gang.

00;36;28;04 - 00;36;56;08

Paul H. Dixon

Go through the book of Daniel and notice what people said about him. And the main thing that came out was he had an excellent spirit. He did not hit other people over the head with this convictions. You see, we always are going to extreme and there are some Christians who think that they've got to take their conviction

00;36;56;08 - 00;37;11;16

Paul H. Dixon

and force them upon the world, and even the unsaved have to adhere to their standards and their conviction. And then there aren't even Christians who look down their noses at other Christians who do not share the same convictions they have.

00;37;11;17 - 00;37;30;27

Paul H. Dixon

I don't find that in Daniel's life at all. Has sweet spirit about him, and he'd be glad to tell you, Look, I thank you for the offer of the meat and the wine. But I have a relationship with God that I attempt to maintain, and I just don't believe God would be pleased in this.

00;37;30;27 - 00;37;41;14

Paul H. Dixon

If you want to go ahead. That's entirely up to you. That's between you and God. Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, I'll go. The four of us may be the only young people out of all the Drusilla. They're taking a stand.

00;37;41;17 - 00;37;58;04

Paul H. Dixon

That's all right. But that's your decision unless you're gay. That's what your attitude ought to be for the other team and adults. That's what our attitude ought to be towards other adults and adults. That's what our attitude ought to be towards teen.

00;37;58;16 - 00;38;17;28

Paul H. Dixon

Could I find a lot of adults who want our teens to have convictions and the adults don't have any convictions? It's not another positive aspect, not only in his attitude, but in his choice of friends. You know who Daniel chose as his friends?

00;38;18;02 - 00;38;34;06

Paul H. Dixon

You might want to check this out in chapter one and in Chapter two and in Chapter three, three different chapters, it comes out. He chose friends who shared his convictions, not three totally separate himself from those who did not have those convictions.

00;38;36;11 - 00;38;54;04

Paul H. Dixon

But he at least endeavored to spend the bulk of this time. What fellows who thought, just like he did guys got nothing wrong with having unsafe friends. In fact, I believe the word of God teaches in first Corinthians six we ought to and the average church.

00;38;54;04 - 00;39;13;08

Paul H. Dixon

I tell the Christians to bring their friends to the services, and they can't because they don't have any unsafe friends, and that's safe. But if you spend so much time around unsafe kids and not any time around Christian kids, I guarantee you for all your spiritual vitality is going to go down and you're not going to slay

00;39;13;08 - 00;39;36;19

Paul H. Dixon

the lions. Daniel's positive approach to his standards was in his attitude and his choice of friends and in his fellowship with God. You can call it legalism, you can call it routine. You call anything you want to, but then your Chapter six, verse ten says when Daniel knew that his writing was signed, he went into the house

00;39;36;22 - 00;39;56;28

Paul H. Dixon

is when does being open in this chamber toward Jerusalem? He kneel upon his knees three times a day and prayed and gave thanks before his God like he'd always done before. Part of this standards not only were negatively against some things, but positively he had a fellowship with God.

00;39;57;00 - 00;40;11;25

Paul H. Dixon

He did it every morning, every noon and every evening, and nothing was going to break that standard. Listen, young people, you develop a standard of time where you fellowship with God every day of your life and you'll be able to slay the lions.

00;40;13;28 - 00;40;29;20

Paul H. Dixon

And then you have the victory because of his salvation, because of his standards and because of his service. You know, I think a lot of times we have the idea that the only time we're serving God is when we're in church.

00;40;30;21 - 00;40;48;12

Paul H. Dixon

Daniel, Chapter six versus one through three says that Daniel was serving God when he was the president, and he was over all these under him and he was doing the mundane listen, young people, you serve God when you're mowing the lawn, you served God.

00;40;48;12 - 00;41;15;20

Paul H. Dixon

When you carry out the garbage, you serve God. When you study at that school, you serve God. When you're out there playing basketball, you serve God in every area of your life, then. God bless you for not only serve them in every area of his life, I believe you specially served him in his relationship to other Christians

00;41;17;09 - 00;41;34;08

Paul H. Dixon

. Daniel Chapter six, verse 20 it says when the king came to the den and he cried out, Old Man, your servant of the living God I like that is my God whom thou service continually able to deliver thee from the lions.

00;41;34;11 - 00;41;45;04

Paul H. Dixon

You know, that's all. I want to be gay. I want to be a servant of living God. You know, you can be that you say, but I'm not a preacher. You can be a servant of the living dead.

00;41;45;04 - 00;42;00;14

Paul H. Dixon

If you're saying everything personal will serve, you serve the Lord in a good Bible, preaching Bible, believing church. You get into that church and you get involved and you get active and you get busy and you serve the Lord.

00;42;00;29 - 00;42;26;10

Paul H. Dixon

Singing and you serve the Lord. Maybe directing music. There were for the young people are and you serve the Lord out on visitation and you serve the Lord in every possible way you can. And that local church and you'll grow and God bless you and then you serve them and wedding others sermon every area of life.

00;42;26;14 - 00;42;38;21

Paul H. Dixon

Serve him in your church life, but especially serve him in the area of winning others. Look at Chapter twelve bursary non-locals. We're going to go home. This is thrilled me and preparing for that I trust in a measure.

00;42;38;21 - 00;42;54;16

Paul H. Dixon

It's thrilled you just as much. And considering it, look at Chapter twelve. Verse three comes from the Book of Daniel. God gave it to him. I believe God gave it to him because he was the sole winner. They that, be wise, shall shine as the brightness of the firmament.

00;42;55;10 - 00;43;18;15

Paul H. Dixon

They that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever. He says if you turn others to righteousness, if you turn out to Jesus Christ, you will shine forever and ever. And if you want to defeat the lions of this life, you not only have to be saved and separated, you've got to be busy serving.

00;43;18;16 - 00;43;21;27

Paul H. Dixon

And the best way I know to serve is tell others about Jesus.