

## A DEN OF POLITICAL LIONS

by JOHN COSPER

**GENRE:** Comedy

**SYNOPSIS:** As the lions await the arrival of Daniel for their dinner, they discuss the unfairness of the religious laws and dream of a country where people will have freedom of religion.

**DIRECTOR'S TIP:** Arrange the set in a way that works best for your stage. Have the lions play the part human-like, but occasionally doing lion like things - licking paws, scratching their backs on a rock, etc. Think Brian Griffin from Family Guy and his occasional "dog" moments.

**TIME:** 5 minutes

**CAST BREAKDOWN:** 2M, 1F

**THEME:** America, Religious Freedom

**SCRIPTURE REFERENCE:** Daniel 6

**CHURCH YEAR SEASON:** July 4th

**SUGGESTED USE:** Patriotic services, sermons on religious freedom; can be used with kids as well as adults

**CHARACTERS:**

JOHNSON - a guard/ lion keeper

LEO & CONNIE - lions (puppets or actors in costume)

**PROPS:** A desk, a phone, a chair, some bars or a barricade for the lion's den

**COSTUMES:** A guard uniform, two lion costumes

**SOUND:** Wireless microphones (optional)

**LIGHTING:** General stage

**SETTING:** King Darius's lions den

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*A desk with a phone is on stage right. Johnson is sitting at the desk, dressed in either Biblical era armor or a modern zookeeper type uniform. If you are using puppets, the puppet stage is stage right with a sign on front that says: DANGER: LIONS. If you are using actors, have a barrier, fence or cage bars running from downstage to upstage, dividing the stage in half.*

**JOHNSON:** Lion's Den, Johnson speaking... No, sir, I was just about to feed them... Oh really?... What's the name?... Sentence?... Really? Interesting. What time will he be here?... Well, they won't be happy about it, but I'll tell them... You know they don't like these last minute deals... Yes, sir, I understand. We'll do as the king asks.

*Johnson hangs up. He walks over to the barrier. Leo and Connie enter.*

**LEO:** Johnson!

**JOHNSON:** Hey, good morning, Leo.

**LEO:** Hey, do a lion a favor, toss me some bacon.

**JOHNSON:** Sorry, Leo, that was the general. You guys have an execution tonight, so no breakfast.

**CONNIE:** What? When did this happen?

**JOHNSON:** Just now. They arrested him this morning, and they want you good and hungry.

**CONNIE:** But we're hungry now!

**LEO:** You know, I don't mind the fasting thing, Johnson, but a little warning would be nice.

**JOHNSON:** I know, but it's the king's order, so we have to do as he asks.

**CONNIE:** Hey, Johnson, who is it? It's not another petty thief is it?

**LEO:** If it is, we better get some chicken on the side. There's no meat on those guys.

**JOHNSON:** Actually, it's the king's number two man.

**CONNIE:** Oooh, a politician! He oughta be plump and juicy.

**LEO:** What did he do? Assassination plot? Stealing from the treasury?

**JOHNSON:** He prayed to his own God.

**CONNIE:** That's it?