



An Exploration of Eschatology in Exile

WEEK 10: December 2, 2020, 10 am

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Seneca Church of God of Prophecy**

12 Week Discipleship Course

Circumstances of the Final Vision: Daniel 10

Objectives

- Recognize God's Sovereignty
- Submit all glory and honor to God
- Christ will reign for eternity

Chapter Outline

- Daniel's Three Weeks of Mourning (Daniel 10:1-3)
- Another Vision (Daniel 10:4-9)
- The Interpretation of the Vision (Daniel 10:10-14)
- Daniel's Strength Fails (Daniel 10:15-17)
- A Messenger Strengthens Daniel (Daniel 10:18-21)

Review

- Daniel one begins with the history that leads up to this point in history.
- Daniel two discussed the dream of Nebuchadnezzar and Daniel's interpretation of it, both historically and futuristic.
- Daniel three discussed the King's image of gold and the faith of the three Hebrew boys.
- Daniel four discussed the King's dream of God's judgment against him. The 7 years of judgment upon Nebuchadnezzar occurs.
- Daniel five discussed the hand-writing on the wall.
- Daniel six discussed Daniel's faithfulness to prayer and the judgment pronounced against him to be placed in the lion's den.
- Daniel seven discussed the four beasts that are symbols for the four powerful kingdoms.
- Each chapter's common thread is that Yahweh is the only true God.
- Chapters 1-4 each end with worship and adoration directed towards Yahweh.
- Chapter 5 ends with the downfall of a wicked pagan king.
- Chapter 6 returns to the end theme of chapters 1-4, in which Yahweh is given honor and glory.
- Chapter 7 breaks with the traditional ending of chapters 1-4 and 6. Instead of glorifying God for all that will be done, Daniel is very troubled and worried about the end of days.
- Chapter 8 was so powerful and hard on Daniel that he ends the chapter by stating that he fainted from the anxiety and pressure of the vision.
- Chapter 9 deals with a unique timeline to the history that deals with the end of times and the coming Messiah. It also points to the future coming of the Antichrist.
- Chapter 10 deals with the final vision of Daniel and it's dealings with the future.

The Final Vision (Daniel 10:1-14)

- Date: The vision was given in the third year of King Cyrus of Persia.
 - By this time the first wave of exiles had returned to Israel under the leadership of Ezra (Ezra 1-2).
- It was noted that the vision was for the future. Daniel stated that it was for a “time appointed” and that it “was long.”
- In order to receive the vision and the interpretation, Daniel fasted and prayed for three weeks.
 - This would have rendered him weak physically.
 - However, while his body was tired, his spirit would have been in tune with the Lord.
- The reaction of Daniel was evident. The vision troubled him greatly. This indicates the trouble he foresaw that the people of God (Jews) would experience in the future.
 - If Daniel already knew what the people of God had endured since the exile, but this vision troubled him this much; then the question that begs an answer is, “how bad was the future for God’s people?” Answer: It must have been terrible.
 - Daniel 12:1... “there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time.”
- By the river Hiddekel Daniel saw a man clothed in linen that was brilliant and beautiful, but also terrifying. Some scholars believe this to be Jesus, others believe it was a high-ranking angel.
- Daniel alone could see the vision. The men that were accompanying Daniel could not see the vision of the man, but they experienced the “quaking” of the vision. From that they were so scared that they hid themselves.
 - This indicates that this was supernatural.
 - Also, Daniel’s fasting and prayer has led to this moment. Somethings only come through fasting and prayer.
- This is a lot like the instance that occurred with Saul on the road to Damascus. These cases remind us that we can be close to the presence and power of God, yet miss the message through the lack of spiritual perception.
- This vision caused Daniel to become undone. His strength failed him.
- He stated “my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength.” This statement suggests a death-like paleness, combined with a grotesque wrenching of facial features.
- Since Daniel experienced such great lack of strength, he had fallen to the ground. The Bible reveals that a hand touched him and strengthened him.
 - When it was time for Daniel to understand the vision, he had to stand at attention. Sitting or lying was no option. He had to prepare himself to receive the vision and its interpretation.
- The messenger makes it clear that from the very first day that Daniel began to seek God that his prayer was heard.
 - This is another example that prayer matters.

- Daniel may have felt that his three weeks of prayer was going unheard, but the whole time God was listening and answering.
- The angel Michael is very clear that the Prince of Persia had withstood him.
 - The fact that the Prince of Persia could withstand an angel signifies that this Prince was not human.
 - The Prince of Persia is thought to be Satan himself or possibly a high-ranking demon.
 - The answer to Daniel's prayer was released immediately, but the Prince of Persia withstood the angel from bringing the answer for 21 days, the entire amount of time that Daniel was praying and fasting.
- God allowed this time of prayer and resistance to the answer so that it would train Daniel. God could have obliterated the demonic opposition immediately, but he desires to grow us spiritually.
- Chapter 10 is setting the stage for chapters 11-12. It is preparing Daniel as well as his readers for what will be revealed about the future.

Daniel is Strengthened (Daniel 10:15-21)

- Daniel began on the ground from a lack of strength, stood to receive the word, and then found himself a second time on the ground and upon his face.
- Daniel's sorrow was like twisting or writhing pain according to the Hebrew word.
- Again, Daniel was touched.
 - This signifies that God is moved by our weakness and sorrow.
 - God wanted to help and to strengthen Daniel so that he could write the vision for future generations.
- Even though Daniel was receiving the answer to his prayer, the battle was not over. The angel had to return to continue the spiritual fight.
 - Sometimes a battle lingers and its affects continue because in the spirit realm the battle continues.
 - This urges us as Christians to continue to pray over situations and issues even when the battle seems over or won. You never know what may occur after the battle. We must continue to prepare, plan, and prep for any battle. The war continues.
 - The reason why the angel must battle Persia first and then Greece, is because these are the world powers that will have authority over God's people. God's messengers fight for His people.
- While Israel was small, Michael, one of the greatest angels fought for them. On earth they may have been small, but in the spirit realm they are great.

RESOURCES

1. The King James Bible
2. www.enduringword.com