

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Title: “Prayer in Spiritual Warfare”

Text: Daniel 10:1–11:1

Daniel 11:2–12:4

Series: *The Book of Daniel*

Daniel 10:1–11:1

Daniel is Strengthened for The Fourth and Final Vision

#1. Near the end of his life and still in exile, Daniel receives his fourth and final vision from God (Daniel 10:1–3)

- “a word was revealed to Daniel ... and it was a great conflict” (v. 1)
- Mourning, fasting, etc. for three weeks (v. 2)

Summary:

1. Daniel's final vision (4th of 4; 7,8,9, and now) happens in the 3rd year of King Cyrus' reign (this is our final record of Daniel's life). (Daniel 10:1)

2. At this time (ca. 536 B.C.), King Cyrus has allowed some of the Jews to return to Jerusalem, but apparently Daniel has stayed in Babylon. For his final vision, Daniel spends three weeks in mourning (Daniel 10:2).

#2. Daniel sees a striking, priestly, supernatural Man. The encounter with this Man leaves Daniel drained until the Man touches Daniel and imparts strength (Daniel 10:4–12)

- The Man’s description (vv. 4–5)
- The other men flee; the effect on Daniel (vv. 6–9)
- The Man imparts strength, expresses love, and acknowledges Daniel’s humble, faithful prayers (vv. 10–12)

#3. The Man has come to help Daniel understand, and he gives Daniel insight into the heavenly conflict determining the pages of earth’s history. Again, the Man touches and strengthens Daniel (Daniel 10:13–11:1)

- The Princes (of Persia, Michael) (v. 13)
- The “vision is for days yet to come” (v. 14)
- “One in the likeness of the children of man touched my lips ... touched me and strengthened me” (vv. 15–19)
- The Princes (of Persia, Greece, and Michael, “your prince” – and “I stood up to confirm and strengthen him”) (Daniel 10:20–11:1)

Summary:

1. Daniel (alone, vv. 7-8), sees an amazing Man (Daniel 10:3-9).
2. The Man touched Daniel and gave him strength to understand more of these God-given glimpses into the future as a response to Daniel's humble prayer (v. 12) (Daniel 10:10-14).
3. The vision concerns the future of God's people written in "the book of Truth" (v. 21) but the Man speaking must fight against the "prince of Persia, and when I go the prince of Greece will come" (v. 20) (Daniel 10:15-21; 11:1).

Daniel 11:2–12:4

The Fourth and Final Vision

#1. The Kings to come in Persia, Greece, and the North and South Divisions (Daniel 11:2–35)

- Persia, then Greece (v. 2)
- “A mighty King” from Greece whose kingdom is broken into four (vv. 3–4)
- The Kings of the South and the North; a failed alliance / dynastic marriage (vv. 5–6)
- “A branch from her roots shall arise in his place” as the new King of the South; wars will continue between these Northern and Southern Kingdoms with Israel caught in the middle (vv. 7–20)
- “A Contemptible Person” shall come to take the Kingdom; he shall have greater military success than his predecessors—though he too will meet his demise. However, he will cause egregious persecution against “the people who know their God” and will “take action against the holy covenant” (vv. 21–35)

Summary:

1. The vision focuses on the 3rd Kingdom, Greece, particularly the King of the North (Seleucids) and the King of the South (Ptolemies) (Daniel 11:2-35)

#2. The Self-Exalting King does “as he wills” and does great harm to others, especially God’s people. However, “he shall come to his end, with none to help him” (Daniel 11:36–45)

Summary:

1. The King who "does as he pleases will exalt and magnify himself" (v. 36); "at the time of the End" the kings of the North and South will engage him in battle and "he will come to his end" (Daniel 11:36-45).

#3. The Time of Trouble and the Resurrection to Life or Contempt (Daniel 12:1–4)

- Michael, the prince, rises in the time of great trouble (v. 1)
- Everyone found in the book is delivered (v. 2)
- The Dead rise to Life or Contempt (v. 3)

Summary:

1. Michael, "the great prince who protects your people will arise" (Dan 12:1) and at a time of unparalleled distress those found in the book will be saved, multitudes will be resurrected to life, shining like the stars forever, or everlasting contempt (12:1-4).