



Bethany Bible Study & Discussion

Daniel (Part-16) (Chapter 9:1-23)

Daniel burdened to pray (1-3): What was the source of information for Daniel? What prompted Daniel to pray? What was the timing of this prayer? How old was Daniel at this time? How is this prayer different from his 3x/daily prayer? How did he prepare himself for prayer? Why should we fast & pray? How are we asked to fast in the New Testament?

Daniel's prayer: worship & confession (4-15): Who was he praying for? What does his prayer begin with? What attribute of God does Daniel recognize? What is the appropriate response to sin? Why was Israel under God's curse? Does Daniel take responsibility for all the trials that Israel is going through? (not himself, but interceding for others)?

Daniel's prayer: supplication (16-19): What was his prayer request?

Daniel's prayer: Answer (20-23): At what point was Daniel's prayer answered? what does it teach us about God's response to our prayer? How is Daniel addressed?

Application: What can we learn from Daniel's prayer?

Daniel 9

Daniel's prayer (1-23)

Seventy weeks prophesy (24-27)



Daniel's Prayer (1-23)

- Burden to Pray
- Worship
- Confession
- Petition
- Answer

Daniel burdened to pray (1-3)

What was the source of information for Daniel? What prompted Daniel to pray? What was the timing of this prayer? How old was Daniel at this time? How is this prayer different from his 3x/daily prayer? How did he prepare himself for prayer? Why should we fast & pray? How are we asked to fast in the New Testament?

Timeline

Daniel taken captive (605 BC)

Temple Destroyed (586 BC)

First year of Darius, Medo-Persian empire began (538 BC) (Daniel 6:1)

605 BC to 538 BC: 67-68 Years



What was Daniel
reading that prompted
him to pray?

Did you read your Bible today?

Daniel's reading

¹¹ And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

¹² And it shall come to pass, when seventy years are accomplished, that I will punish the king of Babylon, and that nation, saith the Lord, for their iniquity, and the land of the Chaldeans, and will make it perpetual desolations. (**Jeremiah 25:11-12**)

¹⁰ For thus saith the Lord, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place. ¹¹ For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

¹² Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. (**Jeremiah 29:10-12**)

Daniel a man of prayer and reader of the Word.

Reading
prompts
action

70-years are now almost coming to an end ... it prompts Daniel to pray

- Daniel does not ask for another vision or sign; He takes by faith what has been already revealed to prophet Jeremiah
 - The Bible is God's full revelation for us ... we do not need another book
 - Just as Daniel reacted to what he read, we should also be prompted to react to the living Word of God

Daniel's preparation for prayer (3)

I set my face unto the Lord God,
to seek by prayer and supplications,
with fasting,
and sackcloth,
and ashes

Jesus teaching on fasting

¹⁶ Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.

¹⁷ But thou, when thou fastest, anoint thine head, and wash thy face;

¹⁸ That thou appear not unto men to fast, but unto thy Father which is in secret: and thy Father, which seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly.

(Mathew 6:16-18, Sermon on the Mount)

Daniel – a man of prayer

- What gave Daniel the authority to pray?

His relationship with God

- We have been given the same authority ...

“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need” **Hebrews 4:16**

Daniel's
prayer

Worship

Confession

Petition

Answered

Daniel's prayer: Worship & Confession

Who was he praying for? What does his prayer begin with? What attribute of God does Daniel recognize? What is the appropriate response to sin? Why was Israel under God's curse? Does Daniel take responsibility for all the troubles that Israel is going through?

Prayer begins with Worship (4)

- Great and dreadful God
 - Covenant keeping God
 - Merciful God
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- Worship helps us recognize how *Awesome* our God is ... it is to such a God that we bring our petitions.
 - If we do not believe in the great attributes of God, our prayers will be weak.

Worship to Confession (5-11)

Israel had sinned ... Daniel confessed on behalf of Israel (he includes himself in that group)

“We” have sinned

- Committed iniquity
- Done wickedly
- Rebelled
- Departed from God’s precepts and judgements
- Not listened to God’s messengers (prophets)
- We have sinned against thee

Sin leads to
punishment
(11-14)

Yea, all Israel have transgressed thy law, even by departing, that they might not obey thy voice; therefore the curse is poured upon us ... by bringing upon us a great evil (12,13,14)

God is Just ... sin has Consequences (13)

(shame, evil, curse, loss, humiliation, bondage)

Sin must lead to Confession

Appropriate response to Sin ... IS confession (I John 1:9)

... NOT cover-up (He that covereth his sin shall not prosper, Proverbs 28:13))

... NOT rationalizing or blaming God (God does not tempt, James 1:13-15)

... NOT ignoring or procrastinating (the time is now, Hebrews 3:7-8)

Worship to Confession to Intercession

A spirit of worship and humility is seen in Daniel's prayer

According to thy righteousness (16) and great mercies (18)

“The sacrifices of God *are* a broken spirit, A broken and a contrite heart— These, O God, You will not despise” (Psalms 51:17)

Worship to
Confession to
Intercession
(16-19)

Daniel's Plea

- I beseech thee (16)
- Let your anger & fury be turned away (16)
- Incline thine ear and hear (18)
- Open thine eyes and behold (18)
- Lord forgive (19)
- Lord listen and act (19)
- Lord do not delay (19)
- Lord **cause your face to shine on your sanctuary** which is desolate (17)

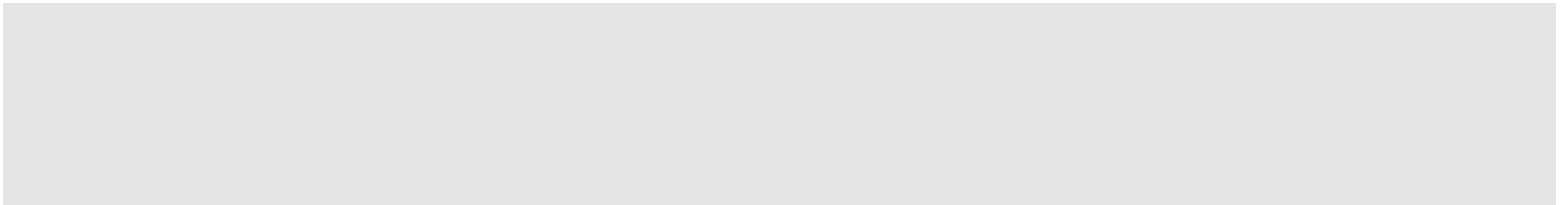
At the end of
70 years

Just as Jeremiah prophesied,
Just as God promised,
Just as Daniel petitioned

Israelites went back

(under Cyrus, King of Persia, who signed a decree
.... Israelites went back and the temple was rebuilt)
(Reference: Ezra, Nehemiah)

Prayer answered



God is listening to our prayers

²⁰ And whiles I was speaking, and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God for the holy mountain of my God; ²¹ Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation. ²² And he informed me, and talked with me, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding. ²³ At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.

God's response to our prayers

- And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer; and while they are yet speaking, I will hear. **Isaiah 65:24**
- Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear. **Isaiah 59:1-2** If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me: **Psalms 66:18**