

Women of Excellence
Wednesday Night Bible Study
May 15, 2019
Daniel 10:1 to 11:35

Theme of Daniel: God is sovereign over the kingdoms of men. (2:21; 5:21)

Setting for Vision

Daniel 10:1-3 tells us when this vision occurred and what was happening in Daniel's life. It was the 3rd year of the reign of Cyrus of Persia (536 B.C.). Daniel was probably about 80 years old.

1. **When** would the events of the vision occur? (v. 1b)
2. **What** had Daniel been doing and **what** was his condition when the vision came to him? (vv. 2-3)
3. **When** does Daniel begin speaking in these verses?

Daniel's Vision of a Man

1. **Who** visited Daniel as the prophet was standing by the Tigris River? (10:4-11)
Why could it not have been the pre-incarnate Jesus? (10:11, 13)
What happened to the men who were with Daniel? (10:7)
2. **What** did the heavenly being explain to Daniel? (10:12-13)
3. **What** do the angel's words to Daniel tell us about God's response who seek Him? (10:12-14)
How might Daniel's experience encourage us to be persistent in prayer?
4. **What** was the significance of Daniel's strengthening? (10:15 -11:1)

The Vision

Daniel 10:20, the person said he had come to Daniel to tell him what was to come in the way of empires to come. This is all future to Daniel though it is ancient history to us. Skeptics believe that Daniel 10-12 were written after the fact. However, they are acknowledging that the events and interpretations were true. Remember from previous lessons that the empires this person is telling Daniel about are: Babylonian, Persian, and Greek. After Alexander died, his empire was divided into 4 parts (each led by one of his generals) This chapter talks about only 2 of them, the Seleucids in the North (Syria) and the Ptolemies in the South (Egypt).

This affected Israel because it was directly in the middle of them and all of their fighting.

Daniel 11:28 begins to talk about things that are happening in Israel. The speaker calls Israel "the people of the holy covenant." During one of the King of the South's trips, he set himself against God's people and did much damage. Another time he vented his anger against the people of the holy covenant because he had to turn around and go home after the King of the South had warships to fight him. Prophecy said he would reward those who were willing to forsake the covenant. (v.30) This King of the North was thought to be Antiochus Epiphanes IV. Verses 31 and 32 describe what will happen: "His army will take over the Temple fortress, pollute the sanctuary, put a stop to the daily sacrifices, and set up the sacrilegious object that causes desecration. He will flatter and win over those who have violated the covenant...." (Of course, we know that this did happen.)

Somewhere in my study over the years, I recall reading that Antiochus Epiphanes IV's sacrilege was sacrificing pigs on the Temple's altar. **Why** would this act be so horrifying the the Jews?

Verse 32b is a verse for those of us who suffer persecution for being “people of the New Covenant.” **It says, “But the people who know their God will be strong and will resist him.”**

The prophecy continues in Daniel 11:34-35 (Remember that all of this is future to Daniel but ancient history to us.)

What will happen to the faithful leaders in Israel?

“Those who are wise will instruct many, though for a time they will fall by the sword or be burned or captured or plundered. When they fall, they will receive a little help, and many who are not sincere will join them. Some of the wise will stumble, so that they may be refined, purified, and made spotless until the time of the end, for it will still come at the appointed time. (Daniel 11:34-35)

What did you learn from this lesson?

1. Daniel 10:11, 19. **How** does God feel about those of us who seek Him?
2. **What** does v.12 tell us how God responds to our sincere prayers?
How does Daniel approach God in verses 1 and 2?
3. **What** does it mean to you that many who were doing right also suffered in this persecution?
Look at Daniel 11:34-35. **What** did these faithful leaders who suffered gain? **Does** it bother you that good people suffer? **Why?**
4. **What** does it mean to you today that God is sovereign over the kingdoms of men?
How does it affect your daily life?