

# A Messenger from Heaven

Daniel 10

# Outline

- Daniel's introduction to the inscription of the true word given in Chapter 11-12
- Historical Background
- The Heavenly "man"
- Daniel's Prayer
- Answer to Prayer
- The Spiritual Warfare
- The Messenger's Mission

# Chronological Order of Daniel

Daniel 1-6		
Ch. 1	Nebuchadnezzar's 1st year	605 B.C.
Ch. 2	Nebuchadnezzar's 2nd year	604 B.C.
Chs. 3-4	Nebuchadnezzar's reign	605-562 B.C.
Ch. 5	Belshazzar's last year	539 B.C.
Ch. 6	Darius' reign	539-525 B.C.
Daniel 7-12		
Ch. 7	Belshazzar's 1st year	550 B.C.
Ch. 8	Belshazzar's 3rd year	548 B.C.
Ch. 9	Darius' 1st year	539/538 B.C.
Chs. 10-12	Cyrus' 3rd year	536 B.C.

# Historical Background

- Daniel 10:1,4
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Cyrus
    - Ezra 3:8-4:5 – The last captives returned to Jerusalem and begin to rebuild the temple.
      - The foundation of the temple being laid. (Ezra 3:10)
      - Beginning of the trouble from “people of the land” (Ezra 4:1-3)
  - Still named Belteshazzar
  - Standing on the bank of the Tigris (v4)

# Babylon and Tigris River



# Babylon and Tigris River



# Overview

- Daniel 10:1
  - The word = Chapters 11 and 12
    - True
    - One of great conflict
      - 7:21,25 – War with the saints, speak against the Most High, they [saints] shall be given into his hand
      - 8:24-25 – He will have great power causing destruction, supernatural empowerment, and be deceitful
      - 9:27 – Cause abomination to desolation
      - 8:10-14 – The little horn, the type of antichrist causing death and desolations of the city and sanctuary
    - Daniel had understanding

# Daniel's Condition

- Daniel 10:2-3
  - 21 days of mourning
    - Ending on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of the 1<sup>st</sup> month
      - Passover from the 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Fasting
    - Did not eat delicacies or meat or drink wine
  - No self-anointing with oil
    - Sign of mourning

# The Man and the Messenger

- Daniel 10:5-6
- 3 prevailing views
  - The man is an angel and he speaks with Daniel
  - The Man is the Lord Jesus Pre-incarnate and an angel speaks with Daniel
  - The Man is the Lord Jesus Pre-incarnate and He speaks with Daniel

# The Man Daniel Sees and Hears

- Daniel 10:5-6
  - Comes in the likeness of the Lord in Revelation 1
  - Likely candidate is Gabriel because he has already revealed the visions of Chapters 8 and 9
    - Not mentioned by name (8:16, 9:21)
  - Daniels response is similar in 8:17-18
  - We know it cannot be Michael (v13), but an angel of equal rank or the Lord (11:1).
- Main confusion: The events of verse 13.
- Main point: Physical characteristics describing moral qualities

# Compared to Revelation 1

Daniel 10:5-6, 16, 18	Revelation 1:13-16
A man; one in the likeness of the children of man; one having the appearance of a man	One like the son of man
Clothed in linen	Clothed with a long robe
With a belt of fine Gold from Uphaz around His waste	With a golden sash around His chest
His body was like beryl	
His face like the appearance of lightning	His face was like the sun shining in full strength
His eyes like flaming torches	His eyes were like a flame of fire
His arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze	His feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace
The sound of his words like the sound of a multitude	His voice was like the roar of many waters
	The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow
	From His mouth came a sharp two-edged sword

# Daniel's Reaction

- Daniel 10:7-9
  - Daniel is left alone
    - Only Daniel can see the physical presence of the being
      - Similar response to Paul's companions
      - They heard the Lord's voice and saw a light (Acts 9:7; 22:9)
  - Daniel retains no strength
    - If a Divine Being
      - Revelation 1:17 – Falls at His feet as though dead
      - Ezekiel 1:28 – Falls on his face
    - If an Angel
      - Daniel 8:17-18
      - Daniel 9 no such response

# My Grace is Sufficient

- Daniel Strengthened
  - Daniel 10:10-11
    - Strengthened enough to sit up (1) and then stand (2)
    - Divine Favor
      - greatly loved (v.11,19)
        - » 9:23 – “for you are greatly loved”
      - For now I have been sent to you
  - Daniel 10:15-16
    - Strengthened enough to speak (3)
  - Daniel 10:18-19
    - Strengthened enough to hear the message (4)
    - Continually strengthened by his words
      - O man greatly loved, Fear not, Peace be with you, Be strong and of good courage
  - Strength sufficient for each task
    - 2 Corinthians 12:7-10

# A Man of Prayer

- Daniel 10:12-14
  - From the first day of mourning
    - God's response to his prayer was immediate, but the answer was delayed
    - Could be delayed, under God's sovereign will, due to the spiritual struggle in the heavenly places
  - God's sovereign decree works through His instruments
    - Works all things to the counsel of His will – Eph 1:11
    - God determined the means (i.e. prayer, evangelism, preaching and teaching) used by which God accomplishes His purposes
  - Daniel's Prayers (2:17-23; 6:10; 9:3-19)
    - Prays for understanding concerning the Lord's will for His people
    - Prays for a humble heart

# An Answer to Prayer

- Daniel 10:13-14, 20-11:1
  - God given insight (taken along with verse 13)
    - Daniel gains understanding
    - Daniel gains comfort as the Lord and His angels contends for Israel
      - The heavenly messenger overcomes the evil forces (v13)
  - There is an unseen battle...
    - Ephesians 6:12 – We fight Rulers, Authorities, Cosmic Powers, Spiritual forces
    - Jeremiah 1:12
    - Israel is protected to the end

# Your Prince

- Michael
  - Daniel 10:13
    - One of the chief princes
    - Helps the messenger
  - Daniel 10:21
    - Called your prince, the prince of Israel
    - Other princes referring to princes of nations
    - Contends by the messenger's side
  - Daniel 12:1
    - The great prince who has charge of your people
  - Jude 9
    - An archangel (chief angel) who contends with Satan
  - Revelation 12:7
    - Will war with and defeat Satan and his angels in heaven

# The Spiritual Warfare

- Daniel 10:13
  - If the Pre-Incarnate Lord
    - Temporarily restrains Himself with respect to evil forces – Job 1, Exodus 7:11,7:22, 8:7
    - Delays judgment – Matthew 8:29
    - Jesus and Apostles reaffirm Satan's [temporary] power
      - Ruler of this world – John 12:31, 14:30, 16:11
      - Task to blind unbelievers – 2 Cor 4:4
      - The prince of the power of the air – Eph 2:2
      - Given limited power – 1 John 4:4
      - His dominion is the whole world – 1 John 5:19
  - Satan's kingdom
    - Matthew 12:26
    - Matthew 4:8-9
  - Organization in the Spiritual Kingdoms
    - Colossians 1:16 – Visible and invisible
    - Ephesians 6:12 – Rulers, Authorities, Cosmic Powers, Spiritual forces

# The Spiritual Warfare

- Daniel 10:13
  - The Lord chooses to use the help of angels to defeat the demonic angels
    - Angels minister to Jesus – Matthew 4:11
    - 12 legions of angels – Matthew 26:53
    - Michael defeats Satan – Revelation 12:7-9
  - God's Kingdom
    - Ephesians 3:10
    - Jude 6
    - 1 Peter 3:22