

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
 - 3rd 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 24th day of the 1st month
 - Passover from the 14th to 21st
 - 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