

## God's Work Among Humanity Takes Time

Daniel 10:1-11:1

### Introduction:

- We might get the idea that everything is easy for God
  1. He said, "Let there be L \_\_\_\_\_" and it was so (Gen 1:3)
  2. He p \_\_\_\_\_ the Red Sea (Ex 14:21)
  3. Jesus turned water into w \_\_\_\_\_ (Jn 2:9)
- Working with things is easy for God, but not so with human will
  1. To get His message to Ninevah, God had to deal with the rebellious will of J \_\_\_\_\_ (Jonah 1:1-3,17)
  2. God had to convince M \_\_\_\_\_ to be deliver the Hebrew people from Egyptian slavery (Ex 3:10,11)
  3. It took Jesus years to prepare the a \_\_\_\_\_ to be the foundation of the church.
- Today's lesson in Daniel teaches us why God's work takes time and how we need to respond.

### Because of You - Cooperate with God (10:1-3, 12a)

- Daniel's situation in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year reign of Cyrus (534 B.C.)
  1. The Spirit of the Lord had stirred the heart of Cyrus, king of Persia two years previous to have the t \_\_\_\_\_ rebuilt, ending the 70 year judgment against Judah (Ezra 1:1-4).
  2. The e \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel hired counselors to frustrate the building process and prevailed (Ezra 4:4,5).
  3. But God had promised peace, hope and a f \_\_\_\_\_ for Judah (Jer 29:10,11)!
- Daniel's response
  1. He began mourning in prayer on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of Nissan (3,4)
    - a. This was the month of P \_\_\_\_\_ (the Jews had not celebrated Passover since 586 B.C. when the temple was destroyed).
    - b. Daniel did not e \_\_\_\_\_ as he prayed.
  2. He mourned for three w \_\_\_\_\_ (2)
    - a. Translations read three "whole" or "entire" weeks
    - b. The Hebrew has the word "yom", which means "day" (**Yom** Kippur = **Day** of Atonement)
    - c. Literal Hebrew - three sevens of days (this is to distinguish between 70 sevens in 9:24 that was in the sense of years). Remember "weeks" is literally "sevens".
  3. He h \_\_\_\_\_ himself before God (12a)
- We tend to c \_\_\_\_\_ when things go wrong
  1. Let complaining be a s \_\_\_\_\_ to look at yourself as God's problem.
  2. C \_\_\_\_\_ to God (Ps 55:2; Is 26:3)
  3. C \_\_\_\_\_ with God, lining up with His will

### Because of Demons – Fight Against Them (10:4-13; 10:20-11:1)

- God's Response to Daniel
  1. Daniel's prayer was heard the first d \_\_\_\_\_ of his prayer (12)
  2. God sent a superior angel to Daniel
    - a. This angel is described but not i \_\_\_\_\_ (5,6)
    - b. The angel comes in a v \_\_\_\_\_ (7)
      - i. The men with Daniel could not s \_\_\_\_\_ the vision but knew something supernatural was going on.
      - ii. The men with Daniel fled the seen out of f \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. God's response was delayed by the angel because (13):
    - a. He was opposed by the p \_\_\_\_\_ of Persia.
      - i. We might think this to be a human king, but this Hebrew word is different than the one in 9:25,26
      - ii. If a human "prince" were meant, you would think that he would use the same Hebrew in 9:25,26 or the Hebrew word for king that we see throughout Daniel.

- iii. Therefore the prince of Persia refers to an opposing spiritual being – a d\_\_\_\_\_
- b. He had to wait until Michael, one of the chief p\_\_\_\_\_, came to help him
  - i. Michael is one of the few angels we know by n\_\_\_\_\_ (Jude 1:9; Rev 12:7)
  - ii. He is called Daniel’s p\_\_\_\_\_ (Dan 10:21) – his guardian angel
  - iii. He is called the great prince who stands as guardian over the Hebrew people (Dan 12:1)
- c. God keeps his angels very busy
  - i. There was no \_\_\_\_\_ available to help oppose the demonic force, except Michael (10:21)
  - ii. This superior angel was an encouragement and protection **for** Michael (not to him as KJV and NIV) when the Persian empire first arose (11:1)
  - iii. Heb 1:14 – angels are ministering spirits sent for the s\_\_\_\_\_ of believers.
- Wherever God works there will be an opposing demonic force
  - 1. Examples - Adam and Eve (Gen 3:1-6); Job (Job 1:8-12,22)
  - 2. Truths
    - a. Eph 6:12 – our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against spiritual forces of d\_\_\_\_\_
    - b. I Pet 5:8 – Satan roams the earth like a roaring lion seeking to d\_\_\_\_\_ someone
      - i. Satan can only be \_\_\_\_\_ place at a time
      - ii. He uses his network of d\_\_\_\_\_ to trip us up
      - iii. He works through unbelievers, termed the s\_\_\_\_\_ of disobedience (Eph 2:2)
- We must fight against demonic forces by:
  - 1. Helping, encouraging each other – we are members of the same body, the b\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ (I Cor 12:26,27).
  - 2. Living holy and g\_\_\_\_\_ lives (2 Pet 3:11,12), which speeds up the timing of Christ’s coming

**Because of God’s Timetable – Accept His Timing (14-19)**

- The superior angel communicates that he was to give Daniel understanding about what will happen to Daniel’s people in the “latter days” (NIV – *future*).
  - 1. The term is NOT a specific designation of the time immediately preceding Christ’s return.
  - 2. The term is a general designation of any time in the d\_\_\_\_\_ future (Gen 49:1; Num 24:14; Dan 2:28 – NIV translates as “the days to come”).
  - 3. The angel covers a time period from the end of the Persian Empire to the resurrection of the righteous (Dan 11:2; 12:13).
- God has His timetable in moving everything toward the ultimate event of Christ’s return.
  - 1. Every event is important to us even if we are dead, because Jesus must return to r\_\_\_\_\_ death for us!
  - 2. God may heal SOME diseases and end SOME adversity but will not heal ALL diseases and end ALL adversity until \_\_\_\_\_. When you pray for God to act, ask but with the attitude of resigning yourself to His timing.