



STANDING TALL

Studies in Daniel

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Growing in Spirit & Truth

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Shock and Awe

Introduction to Daniel 9-10

In March, 2003, ultimately in response to 9-11, the United States launched a military attack on Iraq using a military strategy known as “rapid dominance”. It was designed to demoralize the enemy and facilitate quick defeat. In this week’s study we see a different type of “shock and awe”; first, Daniel’s shock in chapter 9 over the sins of his people that had led to God’s punishment of them. Then, we see awe from Daniel and those around him in the presence of the divine—angels of the Lord. The study begins with Daniel’s compelling burden for the return of the Jewish people to their homeland. As he studied the prophecies of Jeremiah he realized that the exile would last for seventy years and they would return. But, as is referenced in Deuteronomy Israel would

have to confess their sins and return to God before their return home. So Daniel began to pray in behalf of his people, confessing their sins and acknowledging God’s righteousness and justness. He agreed that God’s dispersion of the Jews was simply a fulfillment of His word, and accordingly if they would return to Him they could expect to be regathered to Israel. In the next section we see the comprehensive answer that God gave to Daniel concerning Israel’s restoration. Through the angel Gabriel, however, God revealed more than this; He revealed His entire plan to remove sin and bring in eternal righteousness for the Jews. This would encompass seventy “sevens” (weeks) of years from the time of Cyrus’ decree to rebuild the temple



If we will trust in the faithfulness of God we will stand tall in the face of adversity .

until the vision’s fulfillment. One seven year period would be saved until the end, though, and then the plan would be complete. Finally, in chapter 10 we have a picture of the concealed combat that occurs in prayer. After Daniel had prayed for three weeks an angel gave him the answer and all were in awe. While the answer was immediately given spiritual battle between high ranking angels and demons delayed the revelation of the answer. This again shows that this study is indeed one of “shock and awe”.

The 5 Purposes of the Purpose Driven Life

- **Worship**—You were planned for God’s pleasure
- **Fellowship**—You were formed for God’s family
- **Discipleship**—You were created to become like Christ
- **Ministry**—You were shaped for serving God
- **Evangelism**—You were made for a mission

Daily Study Questions for Daniel 9-10

(For answers to questions attend an ABF or go to www.celebrationnet.com, small groups, abf)

1. Read Dan 9:1-5. What did Daniel observe (v2) and what did this lead him to do (v3)? What were the two themes of his prayer (v4, 5)?	
2. Looking at 9:6-10 what did Daniel confess about Israel (v6, 7-8, 9, 10, 11)? What did he acknowledge concerning God (v6, 7, 9, 10)?	
3. From 9:11-15 why was Israel being punished (v11-13, 14—see Deut 28:15-68)? What did they need to do (v13, 14—see Deut 30:1-3)?	

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Daniel 9-10 Daily Study Questions (cont)

4. Using Daniel 9:16-19 for what did Daniel pray (v16—see Jer 32:37; v17, 18, 19) and upon what basis (v16, 17, 18, 19)?

5. In 9:20-23 how did God send the answer Daniel's prayer (v21), what was it (v22, 23), and when did God decide to answer (v23)? Apply.

6. Read 9:24-25. What specifics did Gabriel reveal about God's plan (v24)? How long would it last (v24), what would start it (v25), and what would mark the end of the first phase (v25)?

7. According to 9:26-27 what would happen to Messiah (v26) and to the city (v26)? Who would do this and how would he do it (v27)? What would happen to him (v27)?

8. From 10:1-3 what had Daniel been doing (v2-3) and what was the result (v1)? Apply.

9. Using 10:4-9 describe the first part of Daniel's vision (v5-6). Who was this (see Rev 1:13-15)? How did this event affect everyone (v7-9)?

10. Looking at 10:10-13 how was Daniel viewed in heaven (v11) and why (v12)? What delayed God's response (v12-13)? What do you think this means?

11. Based on 10:14-17 what was Gabriel going to tell Daniel (v14), and how did Daniel respond (v15-17)? What does this reveal about seeking the Lord?

12. In 10:18-21 what did the angel (v18, see 10:5-6) do for Daniel (v18, 19)? What else did the angel have going on (v20-21) and what do you think this means?

Scripture to Remember

"O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord listen and take action! For Your own sake, O my God, do not delay."

Daniel 9:19 (NASV)

Celebration Fellowship

Help—Hope—Healing

We're on the web

www.thehospitalchurch.com

Life Group Questions—Man Up & Bow Down (Daniel 4-5)

(Using questions based on today's message, Life Groups meet in homes to build supportive relationships with others at Celebration Fellowship that enable us to grow in Christ.)

1. If you had to be a certain animal which one would that be? Why?
2. Retell the story in Daniel 4. What did Daniel tell the king to do to prevent God's judgment in 4:27? Why do you think he responded with pride anyway? How do we do that?
3. Why did God react so strongly to Belshazzar (5:1-4, 22-23)? What do we do today that would lead Him to react that way toward us?
4. Discuss the definition of pride: "The attitude that exalts self before God and others".
5. Give some examples of pride in general, and some ways that it shows itself in your life.
6. Talk about the 3 ways given to "humble yourself" - daily acknowledging your need for God, repenting of your sin before God, and serving others. Why will these lead to humility?
7. Share anything else meaningful from the message if you have time.