

Dan15 – **The Spiritual Battle - Dan 10:1-11:1**

Ch 10 begins the **FINAL Section** of Daniel

Which will take us **thru the end** of the **book** (Ch12)

& **in Ch 10** - Daniel is Given **GREAT INSIGHT** –

into the **SPIRITUAL Battle** over the **Nation of Israel**

Today **the VEIL** of the **Spiritual Realm** - is **pulled back** for Daniel

& he's **allowed to see** as **much** as he can grasp
of **what** the **SPIRITUAL BATTLE** looks **like**

& so - **This may be** one of the **best places** in the **Bible**
for us to get **some INSIGHT** (with Daniel)

Into **the Battle** being **fought** in the **SPIRITUAL Realm**
& **SEE how** it **impacts** the **Earthly battles** we face

I want us to **understand** what **happens** to **Daniel** in **this Ch**

but I **really want us** to get **some INSIGHT**
into the **SPIRITUAL BATTLES** in our **OWN LIVES** – **OK?**

Let's Pray

Daniel 10:1 (NLT)

1 In the third year of the reign of King Cyrus of Persia, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) had another vision. He understood that the vision concerned events certain to happen in the future—times of war and great hardship.

**The EXPLANATION of this Vision
doesn't Actually START – Until Ch 11**

**Because here in Ch 10 God is going to give Daniel Insight
into the Spiritual Battle that is being FOUGHT over Israel**

Now – v.1 says this vision occurred in the THIRD Year
of the reign of King Cyrus of Persia

Well - in the FIRST Yr of King Cyrus' Reign (2 yrs ealier) – Cyrus
issued the FIRST decree allowing the Jews to Return to Jerusalem

But only A SMALL GROUP had returned - & they were experiencing
very difficult times - BACK in the Promised Land

**Even tho the FORMAL Captivity was OVER – Most of the Jews
had CHOSEN to STAY in Ungodly Babylon**

& the few who had followed God back to a devastated Jerusalem
were facing Extreme Trials & Repeated Set Backs

& so again we find Daniel CRYING OUT to God on Behalf of Israel -
& specifically – Israel's FUTURE

& Daniel Already KNEW – what we read at the end of V1

***Daniel understood - this (final) vision concerns events certain to
happen in the future—times of war and great hardship –
for the people of Israel***

Now - **Vs's 2 & 3** give us Daniel's "**State of Being**" (his **condition**)
When this **Final Vision** came to him

Daniel 10:2-3 (nlt)

2 When this vision came to me, I, Daniel, had been in mourning for three whole weeks. (orig = weeks of days)

3 All that time I had eaten no rich food. No meat or wine crossed my lips, and I used no fragrant lotions until those three weeks had passed.

Daniel was (**AGAIN**) in **deep Intercession** & **Mourning**
for the **People of Israel**

He'd been **FASTING & MOURNING** for **3 Weeks**
& **hadn't** even **Used** any **DEODORANT** (*fragrant lotions*)

But **Notice closely** - **Daniel's entrance** into this **Spiritual Battle**
Begins with **Intense Fasting & Prayer**

This was no **IDLE prayer thrown up** to heaven –
Daniel had been in **Sacrificial Intercession for 3 WEEKS**

& **that** is our **FIRST LESSON TODAY**

If **we want** to **enter** the realm of **Victorious Spiritual Battle**
the WAY onto the **Battle Field** is thru **SACRIFICIAL PRAYER**

Which is **WHAT Fasting IS** – ***It's Sacrificing the NEEDS of our FLESH – in order to FEED the Need of our Spirit***

[let me repeat that]

**Victorious Spiritual Warfare is LAUNCHED
thru Intentional, Sacrificial Prayer**

Which **often involves** some sort of **FASTING** – **Which** is
Saying NO to the Flesh – So we can **say YES to the Spirit**

Daniel 10:4 (nlt)

4 On April 23, as I was standing on the bank of the great Tigris River,

THIS was the **Month of NISAN**
which **means** – it would've been **PASSOVER Time**

PASSOVER commemorated God's **Deliverance** of Israel
from the **Bondage of Slavery** in **EGYPT**

Yet - **after TWO YRS** of **God Delivering Israel**
from the **Bondage** of the **Babylon**

MOST Jews had **CHOSEN**
to **Stay in the LAP** of Ungodly **EASY LIVING**

So **PASSOVER Time** would have **certainly ADDED**
to **Daniel's intense intercession** for God's **people**

& then **v.4** says **Daniel** was on the **BANK** of the **Great TIGRIS River**

The **TIGRIS River** was about **30 miles AWAY** from Babylon –

& it's **very possible** - Daniel had "**Gotten Away**" from the **daily grind**
in **Babylon** - to **separate himself** and **intercede** for **God's People**

Daniel had Separated Himself from the Daily Grind - & gone into an Extended period - of Sacrificial Intercession & Fasting

& It's important we See – HOW Daniel ENTERS this Spiritual Battle

Because we Mistakenly think - we can enter this level of Warfare
While the TV's on
& we're multitasking on Facebook & Instagram
while eating our 2nd double-double from in-n-out

No Can Do

So – AS Daniel was on the Bank of the Tigris River
In Intense Prayer & Fasting for God's People

Daniel 10:5-6 (nlt)

5 I looked up and saw a man dressed in linen clothing, with a belt of pure gold around his waist.

6 His body looked like a precious gem. His face flashed like lightning, and his eyes flamed like torches. His arms and feet shone like polished bronze, and his voice roared like a vast multitude of people.

This description is a LOT like the Description of Jesus in Rev 1
when the Apostle John saw Jesus on the Isle of Patmos

But - there are some details in the following vs's
that would Seem to indicate this was NOT Jesus Christ

& so Scholars are divided – Because it's NOT Exactly Clear

But we **DO KNOW** - this **Heavenly Being** was at the **very least**
REFLECTING the **GLORY** of **HEAVEN**
And **REFLECTING** the **GLORY** of the **Lord of Heaven**

& **then** - in **V.7** we get our **1st INSIGHT** into **HOW** the **Spiritual Realm**
INTERACTS with our **Physical Realm** **TODAY**

Daniel 10:7 (nlt)

7 Only I, Daniel, saw this vision. The men with me saw nothing, but they were suddenly terrified and ran away to hide.

The men who were **WITH Daniel** didn't **see** this **Heavenly Being** –

But they **Definitely sensed** something was **going on** –
& they **ran away TERRIFIED**

Only Daniel saw clearly into the **Spiritual Realm** here
& **we see the same thing happen today**

The 1st time I ever preached on a Sunday Morning – **at the end** of
my first msg behind a pulpit – The **Lord pulled back** the **veil** between
the **Physical realm** & the **Spiritual Realm**

& **allowed** me to **see SOME** of the battle
that was **going on** during my **first ever altar call**

& it **hit me so hard** I **SAT DOWN** on the stage
& was **almost too overwhelmed** to talk

A **number of people** got **saved** that day – including a **family member**
& she & I Have **Often Remembered** the **intensity**
of the **spiritual battle** that day

& many of us have had similar experiences HERE

Often just a few here get a GLIMPSE – of what is actually happening IN the Spiritual Realm during services HERE

& it often SHAKES US to REALIZE just how CLOSE the REAL Spiritual Battle is to us at all times

& especially when we're BOLDING Proclaiming the Name of Jesus in a town that the enemy USED to own much more of than he owns today – Amen?

& Daniel was ALSO left "Shaking" at his VIEW into the Spiritual Realm

Daniel 10:8-9 (nlt)

*8 So I was left there all alone to see this amazing vision. My strength left me, my face grew deathly pale, and I felt very weak.
9 Then I heard the man speak, and when I heard the sound of his voice, I fainted and lay there with my face to the ground.*

Very similar to how the Apostle JOHN Reacted when he saw Jesus Christ in Rev 1

And ALSO similar to the Rev 1 vision of Jesus Christ – We read in

Daniel 10:10 (nlt)

10 Just then a hand touched me and lifted me, still trembling, to my hands and knees.

And (again like Rev 1) this Angel also speaks Words of ENCOURAGEMENT and DIRECTION to Daniel

Daniel 10:11 (nlt)

11 And the man said to me, “Daniel, you are very precious to God, so listen carefully to what I have to say to you. Stand up, for I have been sent to you.” When he said this to me, I stood up, still trembling.

This is the **SECOND Time** Daniel has been **ENCOURAGED**
w/ **the words** **“You are very precious to God”** (1st in Ch 9)

& this **Should Be - SUCH Strong Encouragement** to **US**
when we **find ourselves** in the **Middle** of The **Spiritual Battle**

The **FOUNDATIONAL Truth** - **you & I MUST hold on to**
in our own **Spiritual Battles** – is that **WE are very precious to God**

& the guaranteed **KNOWLEDGE** that **WE are very precious to God**
Should give us a **Rock Solid Foundation**
from which to **wage** our **OWN** Spiritual **Warfare?**

AND - in **V.11** Daniel is **also told** by this Awesome **Angelic Being**
I have been sent to you

Meaning – God has **Specifically & Tangibly**
RESPONDED to your **Prayer** & **Fasting** & **Intercession**

& Next - **when WE enter** the **Spiritual Battle** – With **THESE** Truths
WE DON'T HAVE TO BE AFRAID

Which is EXACTLY What this **Angel says** to **Daniel**

Daniel 10:12 (nlt) → → →

Daniel 10:12 (nlt)

12 Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer.

Since the FIRST DAY you began to PRAY – Your request has been heard in Heaven - & I have come to ANSWER your prayer

ALRIGHT !! – All I Have to do is start telling God How I want things to work out - & God will immediately Send His ANSWER, right?

Is THAT what it says. Really??

IF THAT is what you’re THINKING – There’s a Chance you might be leaving a little something OUT

What part of this Vs might we be TRYING HARD to NOT Pay too much attention to??

Look at Vs.12 - & underline the part you think we might be trying to AVOID

Oh Man – it’s those TWO Defining statements:

- 1) Since the 1st day you began to pray for understanding and***
- 2) Since the 1st day you began to humble yourself before God***

Is Daniel praying According to his OWN Understanding or Desire?

Is Daniel trying to somehow FORCE his own will upon God?

NO

Daniel is doing the Opposite of what Most Christians do when they pray

Praying for UNDERSTANDING – Means **Praying** you would **RECEIVE** God's **Understanding** – in **Place of your own**

HUMBLING yourself – Means **REMOVE ALL "SELF"**
from the **Equation**

From the **1st Day** you **began** to **seek GOD'S Understanding**
& **From** the **1st day** you began **praying** with **"SELF" taken OUT**
Since **THAT day** – Your **request** has been **heard in heaven**
& **God** has **dispatched an answer !!**

THAT is **HOW Daniel** entered the **battle**

& It is **Far more important** we **SEE - HOW** Daniel
PREPARED Himself to enter the **Spiritual Battle**
than it is to **understand** what **Follows** from **this point**

Daniel Prepared himself:

- 1) **By Separating Himself** for an Intentional Time of Prayer & Fasting
- 2) **By Praying for God's Understanding** – Not his own
- 3) **By HUMBLING Himself** before God –
Taking all "SELF" out of the Equation

& **When we** are **entering** a time of **Increased Spiritual Battle**
We **MUST approach it** – just **like Daniel did**

[REPEAT ABOVE]

& **WHEN** we get to **THAT Point** in our **prayers**

We **can be Confident** our **prayers** have been **HEARD in Heaven**
& **God** will be **DISPATCHING an ANSWER**

Alright – **Do we understand** what it **takes**
to **ENTER** the **Spiritual Battle** – The **RIGHT WAY?**

Then – what **I want to do** with the **rest of the Ch**
is **Review the INSIGHTS** we're **gonna learn** – **First**
& **then** – We'll **Walk thru the Vs's** – ok?

The first thing we've **got to remember** – is that Satan
only **MIMICS God** – he has **NO original thoughts**

He only **takes God's plans & actions**
& **PERVERTS them** into **evil**

So – **We know** (from this Ch & others) **God** has **Spiritual Warriors**
(Angels) – **ASSIGNED** to His **People**

Angelic Beings are **NOT Omnipresent**
(*& remember Satan is only an Angelic being*)

They can **only be** in **one place** at **one time** - & so they are **Assigned**
to **Geographies** – To **Nations** – To **Events** - & to **People**

& **so** then **Satan** – who is also **NOT Omni-presence**
Simply COPIES (mimics) **God's approach** . . .

of assigning Heavenly Beings - in the same way –
to Geographies – Nations – Events - & People

Which creates Head-To-Head BATTLE - in the Spiritual Realm
which is like a Parallel Reality - intertwined in Our Reality

& WITH that understanding – We can grasp the BASICS of
the very REAL Battle - occurring in the Spiritual Realm around us

God has a plan that will be Ultimately Victorious - -
But WHILE God's plan is working out

Satan has assigned his demonic beings
to THWART & PERVERT God's Plan – *however they can*

& this Battle WILL rage on –
Until the day God finally says – ENOUGH!

& here in Daniel – we getting SOME INSIGHT
into HOW this Battle is FOUGHT

So – with that understanding – Let's go thru
the remainder of the Ch - & we'll talk about it as we go

So – in V.12 – This Massive Angel says to Daniel

*When you first began praying & interceding – 3 weeks ago
I was SENT to you*

& then we read in Daniel 10:13 → → →

Daniel 10:13 (nlt)

13 But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way . . . (stop there)

Here is some great **Spiritual Battle INSIGHT**

For twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked the way of this Awesome Heavenly Messenger

There are **2 things this vs brings up**

#1 - This **Heavenly Being** Might **NOT be Jesus Christ**

Because **NO spirit prince** of anywhere is **gonna** be able to **BLOCK the way** of **Jesus Christ** (*unless Jesus ALLOWS it*)

But **the thing** we really want to see **is the 2nd thing**

That is – That **there IS** a **spirit prince** - that **did BATTLE** with the **Heavenly Angel** - & **DID** Temporarily **BLOCK his way** to Daniel

& that is **Really BIG** for us to **understand**

that this **TYPE of Battle** – Between **Heavenly & Demonic Forces** **REALLY Does** Occur - **ON** our **behalf** – **IN** the **Spiritual Realm**

The **spirit prince** of the **Kingdom of Persia** was a **Demonic Being ASSIGNED** to the **Nation of Persia**

His JOB – was to **Get in the Way** – **THWART** - & **if Possible** **PERVERT God's Plan** for **Israel** who were **Under Persian Rule**

So this **spirit prince** was doing his job – **by BATTLING** the **Heavenly Messenger** sent to **Daniel** on **God's behalf**

& **then** – another **Spiritual Battle Insight**
is **given** to us in the **REMAINDER of Vs 13**

Daniel 10:13(b) (nlt)

13 . . . Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia.

This is **painting** a **pretty clear picture** for us – of at least **SOME**
of **what happens** during the **Spiritual Battles** in our **lives**

MICHAEL – The **Arch Angel of Israel** – Prob the **TOP Warrior Angel**
for **Israel** – Was **called in** as **Back-Up**

He **took over the Battle** with the **demon angel** assigned to **Persia**
So Daniel's Angel could **GET** to Daniel

Pretty Cool, Right? - & Very REAL

& **then** – **V.14 returns** to Daniel's **particulars**

Daniel 10:14 (nlt)

14 [the Angel explains] Now I am here to explain what will happen to your people in the future, for this vision concerns a time yet to come.

Again – this is **the vision** we'll look at in **Ch's 11 & 12** –
That is **focused** on **Israel's Future**

But **then again** – **Daniel gets overwhelmed** by what's **happening**

Daniel 10:15-19 (nlt) → → →

Daniel 10:15-19 (nlt)

15 While he was speaking to me, I looked down at the ground, unable to say a word.

16 Then the one who looked like a man touched my lips, and I opened my mouth and began to speak. I said to the one standing in front of me, "I am filled with anguish because of the vision I have seen, my lord, and I am very weak.

17 How can someone like me, your servant, talk to you, my lord? My strength is gone, and I can hardly breathe."

18 Then the one who looked like a man touched me again, and I felt my strength returning.

19 "Don't be afraid," he said, "for you are very precious to God (3rd time). **Peace! Be encouraged! Be strong!" As he spoke these words to me, I suddenly felt stronger and said to him, "Please speak to me, my lord, for you have strengthened me."**

& **now** we **go right back** to the **Spiritual Battle INSIGHTS**

That **we can Apply** to our **own lives**

Daniel 10:20-11:1 (nlt)

(because 11:1 goes with the final sentence of 10)

20 He (Angel) replied, "Do you know why I have come? Soon I must return to fight against the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia, and after that the spirit prince of the kingdom of Greece will come.

21 Meanwhile, I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth (God's Record of Truth). (No one helps me against these spirit princes except Michael, your spirit prince.

Dan 11:1 I have been standing beside Michael to support and strengthen him since the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede.)

Now – **There** is some **HUGE INSIGHT** into **HOW** the **Spiritual Battle** is **FOUGHT**

This Heavenly Being – who was SENT to HELP Daniel

Explains that he must Soon Return
to continue FIGHTING against the spirit prince of Persia

AND – He knows that after he defeats the spirit prince of Persia
the spirit prince of Greece is going to come right behind him

& so he says – in the MEAN TIME
I'll tell you what is written in God's Record of Truth

In other words I'll tell you what God has Already Determined
Will come to Pass (*which we'll get into in Ch's 11 & 12*)

& then – as a Parenthesis – he explains to Daniel . . .

*There are no other Angels assigned to help Battle
these spirit princes except MICHAEL – YOUR spirit prince
Meaning the Spirit Prince of Israel*

<p><u>Side note</u> – <u>Michael</u> seems to be the <u>Most HARD-CORE</u> <u>Angelic Warrior</u> there is - & <u>HE</u> is <u>Assigned to Israel</u> – so . . .</p>
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& then finally – in Dan 11:1 (a continuation of this parenthesis)

This Heavenly Warrior says to Daniel - *I have been standing beside
Michael to support and strengthen him* (As Israel's spirit prince)
since the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede

Daniel's Angel = has been Supporting & Strengthening Michael
in the Battle – SINCE the 1st year of the Medo-Persian Take over

That is some really COOL Stuff - & Really Serious!

Guys – The Angels & Demons are Literally DUKING IT OUT
in the Spiritual Realm – Over WHAT is happening on Earth

Each Side has a BATTLE PLAN - & the GOAL of BOTH SIDES
Is to INFLUENCE What Happens on Earth

& at SOME POINT – This Battle INVOLVES –YOU

It's REAL – It's going on Right NOW – Even Right HERE –
AS I'm trying to explain it to you

& I would Really like to DIVE into it more
& I'm considering Adding to this msg Next Week

But for today – Hear this as we CLOSE

The Spiritual Battle is REAL
It's HAPPENING around you
& YOU have a ROLE in it

Do you SEE that Daniel had a ROLE in this Battle today?

We have a ROLE in our own Spiritual Battles
& HOW we handle them - impacts the RESULT of the Battle

Maybe we'll do more Next Week
But know this for Today

Our ROLE – is in PRAYER – AND in our ACTIONS

We've got to STOP - Playing into the Enemies Hands
& START Joining God in the Spiritual Battle

Let's Pray