

**HOPE THAT MOTIVATES FAITHFULNESS**  
**God answers prayer and God's plans are sure.**  
**Daniel 9:20–27**

**I. Be comforted because God answers prayers (9:20-23).**

**A. Daniel's prayer (v. 20)**

20 While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my plea before the LORD my God for the holy hill of my God,

**1. His confession (v. 20a, 5-14)**

20 While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel,

- a. Daniel confesses sin (vv. 3-10).
- b. Daniel confesses that God is righteous (vv. 11-15).

**2. His petition (v. 20b, 16-19)**

and presenting my plea before the LORD my God for the holy hill of my God,

**Four request:**

- a. Turn your anger and wrath from Jerusalem (v. 16).  
16 "O Lord, according to all your righteous acts, let your anger and your wrath turn away from your city Jerusalem, your holy hill, because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and your people have become a byword among all who are around us.
- b. Make your face shine on your desolate sanctuary (v. 17).  
17 Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his pleas for mercy, and for your own sake, O Lord, make your face to shine upon your sanctuary, which is desolate.
- c. Open your eyes to see Israel's desolation (v. 18).  
18 O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy.
- d. Forgive our sin (v. 19).  
19 O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name."

**B. Daniel's prayers are answered (vv. 21-22)**

**1. Swiftly (v. 21)**

21 while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the first, came to me in swift flight at the time of the evening sacrifice.

**2. Personally (v. 22)**

22 He made me understand, speaking with me and saying, "O Daniel, I have now come out to give you insight and understanding.

**3. Lovingly (v. 23)**

23 At the beginning of your pleas for mercy a word went out, and I have come to tell it to you, for you are greatly loved. Therefore consider the word and understand the vision.

**II. Be encouraged because God's plans are sure (9:24-27).**

## A. God's redemptive plan is fulfilled (v. 24).

24 "Seventy weeks are decreed about your people and your holy city, to finish the transgression, to put an end to sin, and to atone for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal both vision and prophet, and to anoint a most holy place.

### **Six things that will be accomplished after the 70 weeks:**

1. "to finish the transgression"
2. "to put an end to sin"
3. "and to atone for iniquity"

### **Isaiah 53:5-6**

5 But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed. 6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

4. "to bring in everlasting righteousness"
5. "to seal both vision and prophet"
6. "and to anoint a most holy place."

## B. God's redemptive plan revealed (vv. 25-27).

1. What will happen during the 69 weeks (v. 25)?

25 Know therefore and understand that from the going out of the word to restore and build Jerusalem to the coming of an anointed one, a prince, there shall be seven weeks. Then for sixty-two weeks it shall be built again with squares and moat, but in a troubled time.

- Cyrus, king of Persia releases the captives to go back to Jerusalem.
- Jerusalem will be restored and rebuilt with square and moat in a troubled time.

2. What will happen after the 69 weeks (v. 26)?

26 And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed.

- The Messiah will be cut off and shall have nothing.
- The city and the sanctuary will be destroyed by the people of the prince who is to come.
- Its end will come with the flood.
- Until the end there will be war.
- Desolations are decreed.

3. What will happen during the seventieth week (v. 27)?

27 And he shall make a strong covenant with many for one week, and for half of the week he shall put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall come one who makes desolate, until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator."

### **First 3 ½ years**

- He will make a firm covenant with the many for one week.

### **Second 3 ½ years**

- And for half a week he will put an end to sacrifice and offering.
- On the wings of abominations shall come one who make desolate.
- Until the decreed end is poured out on the desolator.

> Daniel gives a pattern of kings who exalt themselves against the Lord, attack his temple, seek to stamp out worship of him and set up the abomination of desolation (8:13; 9:27; 11:31; 12:11).