

Daniel Chapter 10 – 14 Apr 2013

Have you ever said, “I wish I just knew that the Lord was proud of what I’m doing.” Or “Man, I just wish I felt like I was doing more for the Lord.”

Today, God will give us 3 spiritual principles to enable us to be true ambassadors of Christ.

1. Vs 1-9

a. **The 1st spiritual principle** that will enable us to be true ambassadors of Christ is this: **Love for God brings spiritual purpose!**

- i. Notice verse 11 – Daniel was a man greatly beloved of God & this continually gave him occasions to serve God.
 1. His love and devotion to God is what gave him the opportunities to witness to others in Daniel 6! (lion’s den)
 2. His love for God gave him spiritual purpose from Day 1, think of when he first got to Babylon wanted to eat a way that pleased God.
 3. Daniel’s love and devotion to God made him useful and have a meaningful, purposeful life.
- ii. Have you ever had that happen to you, that God is calling to you, God is talking to you and no one else around really sees it like happened to Daniel?

1. This is exactly what happened to Saul on the road to Damascus.
 - a. It was indeed Saul's love for God that gave him spiritual purpose
 - i. Read Rom 10:2
 - ii. Read 1 Tim 1:12-13
 - iii. Read II Tim 1:3
 - b. Remember that Paul is the one who wrote Rom 8:28 (Read this verse)
2. As we grow in our love for God, His Spirit in us prompts us to do things for His glory.
 - a. Maybe He prompts us to give something us.
 - b. Maybe He prompts us to go encourage someone.
 - c. Maybe He prompts us just to stand for what's right and it becomes a big deal like what happened for Daniel.
3. **How do we grow our love for God?**
 - a. Dwell on how righteous God is and how sinful we are and then thank Him.
 - b. Dwell on how much we've been forgiven. Those that are forgiven much, love much.
 - c. I Cor 2:9 – "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

2. Vs 10-14

a. The named angels

- i. Gabriel – brought important messages (Dan 8, 9, Luke 1)
- ii. Michael – Special guardian for Israel (Dan 10, Jud 9, Rev 12:7)
- iii. Lucifer – The leader of the angels in rebellion (Isa 14, Eze 28)
- iv. It makes sense that 1/3 of the angels fell by these names
- v. Heb 1:14 – Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister unto those who shall be the heirs of salvation?

b. **The 2nd spiritual principle** that will enable us to be true ambassadors of Christ is this: **Prayer to God brings spiritual action!**

- i. Sometimes we make prayer wimpy or unimportant.
 1. Daniel knows that Israel is getting out of trouble, yet still knows that prayer is needed now.
 2. Consider how oft Jesus withdrew to pray.
 - a. Yea, before the cross came the garden... pray.
- ii. It may take time but God always answers prayer.
 1. Daniel prayed for 3 weeks!
 2. Read Luke 18:1-7
- iii. We do impact the spiritual eternal realm!
 1. When we've been trying to talk to someone about the Lord & it's just not working, that's spiritual warfare!
 2. We need to break thru with prayer (Read Jam 5:16, Zec 4:6, I John 4:4), activity comes when we pray!

3. Vs 15-21

a. **The 3rd spiritual principle** that will enable us to be true ambassadors of Christ is this: **Confession of needs brings spiritual power!**

- i. Daniel confessed having no strength! Then was blessed.
- ii. Matt 16, Luk 5:8
- iii. Consider Isaiah 6:5-7
- iv. Remember Jam 5:16 – Confess your faults one to another...it will avail much!
- v. Read I Cor 2:1-5 – Paul is confessing his need in vs 3 and receives power in vs 4!
- vi. Consider Acts 19:17-20
 1. The confession clears room for the good habits to grow.
 2. The power comes from having these good habits.

4. Conclusion

- a. What **spiritual purposes** have we served lately?
 - i. Do we need to cultivate our love for God, to gain more spiritual purpose?
- b. What **spiritual action** or activity have we been a part of lately?
 - i. Do we need to dedicate to prayer more often?
 - ii. Do we need to be more patient in prayer?
 - iii. Do we need to meditate of the value of prayer in God's eyes?
- c. What **powerful spiritual things** have you seen God do lately?
 - i. When was the last time you confessed your sins one to another?