

Session 9 The Power of a Life Dedicated to God (Dan. 10)

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I. OUTLINE OF DANIEL 10-12

- A. Daniel's angelic encounter (10:1-11:1)
 - Context of the fourth vision (10:1-3)
 - The description of the mighty angel (10:4-6)
 - The angel's impact on Daniel (10:7-9)
 - The angel's conflict related to Daniel's prayer (10:10-14)
 - Daniel was given divine strength (10:15-19)
 - The angel's continued conflict (10:20-11:1)
- B. Daniel's fourth vision (11:2-12:13)

II. INTRODUCTION

- A. Daniel 10 is the context for Daniel receiving his fourth vision that is described in Daniel 11-12. Called a "great" vision (10:8), it is the longest and most detailed prophecy about the Antichrist in the Bible, giving insight into his political decisions, religious attitudes, and military activities, as well as into the Great Tribulation and Israel's deliverance (Dan. 11:21-12:3).

Well Daniel 10, if I had to kind of summarize it, it talks about the effectiveness of the praying believer. Daniel 11 is the power of the Antichrist and Daniel 12 is the full victory of the redeemed. The reason Daniel 10-12, they all, it is all one vision, it is all one encounter with the Lord that Daniel describes.

So Daniel 10, the effectiveness of the praying believer. Daniel 11 the power of the Antichrist and Daniel 12 the victory of the redeemed if I had to just summarize it real succinctly.

Paragraph A., Daniel 10 is the context for Daniel receiving his fourth end-time vision which is in Daniel 11-12. Meaning all three chapters is one encounter, Daniel 10-12. Daniel 10, he says, let me tell you what the context was. Daniel 11-12, he goes, now here is the vision. It was called a great vision in Daniel 10:8, a great vision. This is the longest and most detailed prophecy in the whole Bible. So Daniel described it as a great vision, I mean great in meaning, great in detail, great in significance.

In Daniel 11 which is the part about the Antichrist we see the Antichrist political decisions, we see his religious attitudes, his military activities, we see the great tribulation, and we see Israel's deliverance. I mean these massive important themes are all laid out in one great vision.

- B. Daniel 10 gives us insight into what happens in the spirit realm when we pray, drawing back the veil and showing what happens as we offer our weak prayers made powerful by the blood of Jesus. It reveals the conflict in the spirit between high-ranking angels and demons as manifested in earthly spheres. There are angelic and demonic authority structures over each city and nation; we wrestle against these demonic principalities and rulers of darkness in the heavenly places (Eph. 6:12).

¹²For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts...in the heavenly places. (Eph. 6:12)

Paragraph B., the reason Daniel 10 is referred to by some as I mentioned like Lou Engle, he says this which is one of my dear friends, it gives us insight into what happens in the spirit realm when we pray. It is one of the few passages of the Scripture that draws the veil back and lets us see the activity.

We offer our weak prayers, I mean we do not feel very powerful, we do not feel very spiritual, we do not feel His presence, and we offer our prayer. I tell you beloved our prayers, we offer them in weakness but they ascend in power because of the blood of Jesus. They have power and this is what happens whether you feel it or not. It reveals the conflict, Daniel 10 does, between high-ranking angels and high-ranking demons. Now it only gives a little bit of insight but we can see the major activity of what is happening in the spirit realm in the conflict. Now Paul references this in Ephesians 6:12. He goes, we do not wrestle against flesh and blood. Now he, but we wrestle against principalities, powers, rulers of darkness, spiritual hosts. These are categories of demons, demonic powers.

The highest category it is supposed, implied is what we understand are called demonic principalities. The second highest power, the assumption is, is called powers. The third category is rulers of the darkness and that is a category of demonic, of a demonic being. Then another category is called spiritual hosts. Someone says, what are the differences? I do not know but we know the point I gather from this is that there is various rankings and various activities that are very different from one another.

Now I believe that over every city, every nation of the earth there is a demonic and an angelic hierarchy. I believe there is demonic powers over this city that are the chief demonic powers and they have those that assist them of lesser power under their command. On the opposite side, on the kingdom side there is angelic powers that have been assigned to every geographic area of the earth. Of course the angelic powers move by the direction of the Holy Spirit.

So when we say there is, our prayers release greater Holy Spirit activity that includes more angelic activity. So that is an angelic activity I would put as a subcategory of the Holy Spirit activity. Because sometimes I will go, we see greater Holy Spirit power and greater angelic activity. Really you know the one is the angelic activity is part of the Holy Spirit activity.

- C. Political leaders and governmental infrastructure are affected by the activity of angels and demons; the result of their conflict affects the events, decisions, and cultures of the cities of the earth.

Paragraph C., political leaders, meaning presidents, prime ministers, governors, and the infrastructure under them they are affected by these demons and angels. I am assuming most political leaders are not very in tune with how they are being affected by spiritual beings. I am assuming most would think, that is ridiculous. There

are demons that are inspiring them, inciting them to anger and rage and frustration and confusion, seducing them with wrong ideas about their own grandeur and power. They make decisions based under that influence. Angels can drive back demonic influence. When the angels drive back the demonic influence over a city then there is a greater impact of the light of God even on the city, the governmental leaders, and the culture. Even if they are not believers they are under an influence that causes them to make decisions for God's purpose even though they might not even know it.

You know when sometimes kings will make a declaration and it fits the perfect will of God and they might be totally unaware of it. Because it says in Proverbs 21 the king's heart is in the hand of the Lord and He turns it like channels of water to affect the city or the nation under that leader.

- D. Demonic spirits target leaders with governmental authority to harass, oppress, and oppose them. For example, demonic powers can incite negative feelings in a king (heads of state). Prayer releases greater Holy Spirit activity (including angelic activity) to hinder demonic activity so that a king might “feel” differently—thus, leading his cabinet meeting with a whole different tone or posture.

1The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, like rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes. (Pr. 21:1)

Paragraph D., demonic spirits, they target the governmental leaders. They are targeting them knowing that if they can get a governmental leader, a governor or a mayor or a prime minister to be incited with negative feelings, pride or anger or rage or confusion or many of those kinds of things, that it will affect the whole population under that governor or that president's, that king's domain.

So when we pray and the Holy Spirit releases greater activity angels, greater activity, angelic activity, demons are driven back. Here is how I picture it, I am sure it is not exactly like this but I think this is a, at least it gives you a bit of an idea of how it operates. So there is like a demon that is inspiring with rage and anger and frustration a king. This king is in his cabinet meeting with his leaders and he is so angry and he is going to make this decree or he is so jealous or he is so possessed with pride. He is going to decide something that will enhance his grandeur and power or something like that.

This demon, I, kind of the word picture I have in my mind is like a, because Satan is described as being like a dragon is, I mean that is just a symbol, like breathing hot fire. So I picture demons in that same kind of metaphor just breathing hot fire, inciting negative emotions on a king or any kind of governmental leader. This kind of demonic rage and feeling and they get all stirred up and just even their cabinet meetings, their leadership meetings, whatever they might call them, are the whole mood and the tenor of them and the tone of them is negative.

If prayer goes forth that demonic inspiration is minimized, cut off, set apart, I mean set aside. Angelic activity is now moving, light is moving, that same unbelieving king just, he just says, wow. I just feel different today. You know I think we are going to do this. In that posture they make decisions, again they might not be, they might be completely unaware of it but decisions that are, that are for God's purpose.

So that is why when we pray for the Supreme Court situation with the gay marriage, I want to see angelic activity driving demonic powers out of this entire influence. Not just the nine decision makers but all the leaders under them that are influencing those judges. There is a whole hierarchy, a human hierarchy. I want to see Holy Spirit power released through that hierarchy even through their counselors, their advisers, their research teams, their associates. I mean it is a whole structure and that is why our prayers really matter.

- E. Paul said to pray for those in authority because it will affect our lifestyle, families, economy, etc. There is a relationship between prayer and an increase of the Spirit's activity to influence a king.

¹I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, ²for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life... (1 Tim. 2:1-2)

Paragraph E., Paul said, first of all I exhort you, pray for all men. 1 Timothy 2:2, he says, pray for kings. Pray for everyone in governmental authority. Again it is not just the king, it is his cabinet, it is their support, I mean it is their support team, their administrators, their counselors, their researchers, their, you know they have got all kinds of different positions connected to each one of these leaders.

He says, and the net result is that they make decisions and you have a peaceable life, it affects the economy, it affects the culture, it affects many things. We look at ourselves and say, our weak prayers? The Lord would say, look at Daniel 10 or Luke 18, pray for justice and this thing shift in the realm of the spirit.

III. CONTEXT OF THE FOURTH VISION (DAN. 10:1-3)

- A. Daniel received this vision during the third year of the reign of King Cyrus—in 536 BC. This was just over two years after the Persians had conquered the Babylonian Empire (539 BC). In 538 BC, Cyrus gave the decree for Israel to return to Jerusalem. They arrived there in 536 BC.

¹In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia [536 BC] a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision. (Dan. 10:1)

A common view is that after the death of King Belshazzar, Cyrus established Darius as viceroy over Babylon. Darius is the name of several Persian leaders. Darius the Mede (Dan. 11:1) was the son of Ahasuerus (Dan. 9:1). Some see Darius as the name of a political office such as *governor* and name Gobryas as the man holding this office in Daniel's time.

The first year of Cyrus and the first year of Darius both occurred in 538 BC.

Look at the top of page two. So we will again, Daniel 10 is the context, he is describing what happened. Daniel 11 is the actual vision. In our final session next week we will look at just a little bit of Daniel 11, mostly the last end of it, not the first part of it, just the end of it. Because it is such a long prophecy we will just cover a little bit.

It says in the third year of Cyrus, king of Persia, now that date is significant because we know the third year of Cyrus is 536 BC. In 536 I have the details written down there in the notes as a key time because the Jewish remnant has just left Babylonian captivity. They have been in captivity seventy years, they just arrived in Jerusalem in 536 BC; that is the year they are building the house of prayer in Jerusalem. I mean and Daniel is still way over in Babylon which is modern day Iraq, and he is praying. He is in his eighties and he knows that the remnant is back in Jerusalem, they just got there a few months ago. They are being oppressed and harassed and they have many difficulties.

So the timing of this vision is really key because what he sees in the vision is not just the ultimate trouble coming to Israel by the, through the Antichrist but the real point of the vision, the high point of the vision is the

full and final permanent victory of Israel but all of the redeemed, that is the real glory of this vision. Though there is trouble and the trouble will intensify ultimately there is full and final victory for all the people of God. That is the high point of this vision that we will get at next week.

- B. Daniel's life was threatened when he was thrown into a lion's den (Dan. 6). This probably happened near the time that he received the vision in Daniel 9 or Daniel 10. We cannot be decisive about the exact date, but Daniel 6 is assumed to have occurred near the beginning of the Persian rule because of the language of establishing its government in Babylon. Daniel 6 expresses the demonic rage against Daniel near the time that he received great prophetic insight. Daniel was in his mid-80s at this point.
- C. Daniel was mourning for Israel because of what was happening with the remnant back in Jerusalem. ***²In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. ³I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled. (Dan. 10:2-3)***

Paragraph C., so as Daniel is praying it says in those days, I Daniel was mourning. Now he is mourning for what is happening back in Jerusalem. Again they have only been there several, some months, we do not know the exact amount of months but some months and it is trouble. They are being attacked by the locals, the Samaritans, there is all kinds of obstacles and difficulties. They are, the remnant is going, wow. We thought it would be easier than this.

If you remember last week when Gabriel, we mentioned Gabriel. Daniel 9:25, Gabriel said, Daniel when they do restore Jerusalem remember it will be in troublesome times. There will be conflict and opposition at every advance there will be resistance, Daniel 9:25. Because you think if the city is being restored and the glory is coming it ought to just be smooth. Gabriel said, Daniel remember there will be trouble, at every advancement there will be opposition is the idea. That was last week we looked at that, Daniel 9:25, that vision was two years before this vision.

Well they are in Jerusalem and the trouble is coming just like Gabriel said. Daniel is mourning, now he is mourning for their trouble and he is mourning which another way of saying he is fasting. Meaning he is subjecting himself to this weakness of fasting. So he is mourning in that sense as well. He goes verse 3, I eat no pleasant food, no meat, no wine came to my mind, I did not anoint myself. I guess modern day he did not take a shower and use deodorant for three full weeks. Now if you are going to do the no pleasant food, no meat, no wine, please take a shower, okay. I mean I guess, anyway I am not going to comment on that, I am just, I do not want to violate the Scripture but please take a shower, okay.

IV. WHAT IS A DANIEL FAST?

- A. There are two primary scriptures related to the Daniel fast. In Daniel 10:3 we learn that Daniel ate *no meat or tasty foods and drank no wine*. In Daniel 1:12 we see that he *ate vegetables and drank water*. The word that is translated *vegetables* in the NKJV is translated as *pulse* in the KJV—it comes from the Hebrew *zeroa*, which means ***“that which grows from seed.”*** Thus, *zeroa* includes vegetables, fruits, whole grains, legumes (peas or beans), nuts, seeds, tofu, and herbs.

³*I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth...[for] three whole weeks... (Dan. 10:3)*

¹²*...ten days, and let them give us vegetables to eat and water to drink. (Dan. 1:12 NKJV)*

Roman numeral four, if you are going to sit next to me in the prayer room, okay. What is a Daniel fast? I have a little bit here on the Daniel fast, there are two primary scriptures because it is a common phrase that, it is this passage which we refer to when we say, I am on a Daniel fast. That, the two, you can read this on your own.

- B. **Daniel fast:** A common approach includes eating *vegetables, fruits, whole grains* (breads or rice from whole grains), *legumes* (peas or beans), *nuts, seeds, tofu*, and *herbs* in strict moderation. Many agree that Daniel abstained from all meat, sugar, dairy products, fried foods, wine, and from all pleasant foods (all that enhances the flavor of food—seasonings, salad dressings, sweetener, etc.). It calls for abstaining from all pleasant foods, not only “meats and sweets.”

It is paragraph B, it is basically abstaining from all pleasant foods is the idea. Now I break it down a little bit there and it is a real fast and so it is, anyway you can read that and do with that as the Lord leads you.

- C. Biblical fasting is abstaining from food for spiritual reasons. The Daniel fast is a *real* fast from food. It is not merely a diet or eating with moderation. It involves significantly reducing the types and amount of food that we normally eat and greatly increasing our time with the Lord. Going on a Daniel fast mostly for health reasons is good, but that is a *Daniel diet*, not a Daniel fast.
- D. Fasting food is an expression of “voluntary” weakness, as we position ourselves before the Lord that our heart may be tenderized and become more sensitive to receive more from the Lord.

V. THE MIGHTY ANGEL AND ITS IMPACT ON DANIEL (DAN. 10:4-6)

- A. Daniel saw a high-ranking mighty angel (10:4-6). John saw a mighty angel like this one (Rev. 10:1). White linen is worn by some angels (Ezek. 9:3; Dan. 10:5; 12:6-7; Rev. 15:6), priests (Ex. 26:42; 1 Sam. 2:18; 22:18), and the saints (Rev. 19:8)

⁵*I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a certain man [angel] clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bronze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude. (Dan. 10:4-6)*

¹*I saw still another mighty angel coming down from heaven, clothed with a cloud. And a rainbow was on his head, his face was like the sun, and his feet like pillars of fire. (Rev. 10:1)*

Top of page three, Roman numeral five, okay so we have a little bit there on the notes on fasting. One thing fasting does not earn us anything but it positions us to receive, our heart becomes tenderized. We receive more not because we earn because we are positioned to become more tenderized and sensitive. So we tend to gain more understanding and we are more in line in unity with God's heart. Because fasting does that, it has this impact on our spiritual life when we are fasting in the grace of God.

That does not mean fasting is easy. Some guys think, well I do not have grace for fasting. What they are imagining is fasting is not easy. I go, I think even when you have grace it does not mean that it is easy, it just means it is doable. It is like the yes to keep on fasting is stronger than the, no, you know I am going to quit. The, I am going to go, is stronger than I am going to quit. The, I am going to go, is stronger than I am going to quit, so that is what I call the grace of fasting.

I mean I have never, you know I have heard these people say, I did not even know I was fasting. I go, whatever. Maybe they really did not but boy I know it every time. When the motivation to keep going is stronger than the motivation to quit I call that the grace of fasting. I found over the years that my, I find out not necessarily while I am fasting but typically when it is over there is a heightened sensitivity. Sometimes it is during the fast too but not, sometimes during the fast I feel worse, I feel rotten. I feel oppressed. It is just that your flesh is responding to, you know the being opposite of just the normal routine of life of having food and nourishment.

Okay Roman numeral five, so now we are going to see the Daniel has, sees the high-ranking angel that helps him. The very fact that it is a high-ranking angel tells us that the opposition is a high-ranking demon. We know that the purpose is a high-ranking purpose. I mean the higher the angel and the higher the demon the more significant the purpose is, is the implication I take from this.

So he describes in verse 5-6 this high-ranking mighty angel. Now some people think this is the Lord Himself, I do not think it is. I think it is a mighty angel that is very similar in appearance to the mighty angel in Revelation 10, they are similar. In Revelation 10 it is called a mighty angel.

Another reason I do not believe it is the Lord, you know first it is because the first reason actually is because in a few moments we will read the passage. This mighty angel needed Michael to help him. The mighty angel is restrained by a demonic power restrained and restrained and finally Michael comes. I cannot imagine that being true of Jesus, that He is being restrained by a demon, that just does not, I cannot even conceive of that. So some folks they see this as a picture of Jesus. Again Jesus has some of these characteristics in His glorified form in Revelation 1 when He reveals His glory but I do think this is a mighty angel.

Verse 5, I lifted my eyes, behold a certain man, because the angels appear in human form, clothed in linen whose waist was girded with gold. His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightening, his eyes like torches of fire. His arms and feet like burnished bronze and the sound of his words is like the voice of a multitude. Again it is a similar description of the mighty angel in Revelation 10. I am only putting the Revelation 10, it might be the same angel; it might not be. The point is there is a category of angels that have this dimension of splendor and the glory of God at this level.

- B. Daniel was deeply impacted by this angel (10:7-9) and the vision of Daniel 11-12 (10:8, 15-16).

7And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. 8Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to frailty in me, and I retained no strength. 9Yet I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground. (Dan. 10:7-9)

15When he had spoken such words to me, I turned my face toward the ground and became speechless...16I opened my mouth and spoke, saying to him who stood before me, "My lord, because of the vision my sorrows have overwhelmed me, and I have retained no strength. (Dan. 10:15-16)

Paragraph B., well we see the mighty angel so we know it is a very important assignment. We know the vision is really important and the issue is very important in order to have an angel of that, of that stature to appear. Paragraph B., now we see how deeply impacted Daniel was first by the angel himself. I mean the angel, the glory of the angel overwhelmed Daniel but also the information in the vision overwhelmed him. Both of them deeply impacted him, it was two different issues.

I mean it is one thing for an angel to release with such glory that a person is overwhelmed but it is another thing for the message itself to be overwhelming, both of these are the case here in Daniel 10:7. So he is describing his, the impact of the angel. I Daniel saw, I alone saw the vision. He goes, I am the only one that saw the angelic being. He goes, the men that were with me, his prayer team I will throw in there, they did not see the vision. They felt the presence of the glory of God, they felt the weightiness of God's glory in that room but they did not, or I mean that setting. They did not actually see the vision themselves.

Imagine this, great terror fell upon them, they fled to hide. I mean can you imagine being in a prayer meeting and an angel appears to one of the people in the prayer meeting. It is, the angel has so much power and glory that the other hypothetically ten or twenty people they do not see anything but they are going, oh my do you feel that? They are so filled with the terror, I mean the fear of God terror, a godly terror they run out of the room and leave Daniel there, they leave the prayer setting. That is intense.

It kind of reminds me of when Saul of Tarsus you know when he got converted and became Paul the apostle, he saw the Lord, saw the light and heard the voice but the guys around him did not, they did not see the light or hear the voice.

Verse 8, I was left alone. Of course the guys, you know I am just, hypothetically five or ten of the prayer team, they all ran. I saw the great vision. That is when it is called great. It is great in importance, it is value, the dimension of the glory of God. I mean all of those are dimensions of the greatness of it. No strength remained in me. So his prayer team fled but his physical frame, the vigor in him left. I retained no strength at all, I am adding the word at all. I retained no strength. I mean he is overcome, just absolutely spent.

He goes, verse 9, I can still hear the angel's voice. I can hear the sound. I am deep, it says here, he goes, I am in a deep with my face on the ground. I can still hear, I have no strength left, I am absolutely overwhelmed but I can hear his voice. Remember the voice of this angel is like the sound of a multitude, it is this thunderous powerful voice.

Then a little bit later in verse 15 he describes a little more, I just put the two passages together. He goes, when this angel spoke to me, he is describing, I turned my face towards the ground. I was speechless. Remember he was lying on the ground speechless, overwhelmed without any strength.

Verse 16, I opened my mouth and spoke and said to the angel, Lord the vision it is overwhelming me, help. So that is kind of how I see that. He goes, he is on his face, Lord, which he is talking to the angel, because of the vision my sorrows. He sees the magnitude of the vision because he sees the Antichrist. He is overwhelmed and he goes, help me right now. So his face is on the ground, he can hear the angel, he cannot hardly speak. The angel touches him and strengthens him.

A little bit later which we do not cover this in this one but the angel, you can read it, says, now stand up. You know he kind of, stand up Daniel I need you to be in full attentiveness when I, I am going to go through the details. I mean you read Daniel 11 the details are so precise. You have to stand up, I am going to strengthen you, I am going to help you to hear what I am telling you. I mean this, there are so many implications of this mighty angel and how angelic interaction affects a human. I mean this is outside of my experience. I look at this and go, wow this is a whole other realm, I mean this is a.

Here is the reason I am highlighting this, I believe that in the hours, meaning the years preceding the Lord's return and the increase of evil and the Antichrist in all the things that he sees in Daniel 11 in the vision. I believe that God's servants are going to have experiences of this level. That is the reason I am highlighting it. Well I am highlighting it because it is in the Bible but I believe it is revealed to us because when the timeframe of the fulfillment of this kind of power for victory and this kind of power of darkness comes to a culmination I believe that there is going to be these kinds of experiences in the spirit and that it is given as a, even as a, I do not want to say a prototype of all experiences. It is letting us know this dimension of spiritual powers at this level will happen and they are real and they are biblical.

VI. THE ANGEL'S CONFLICT RELATED TO DANIEL'S PRAYER (DAN. 10:10-14)

- A. A mighty angel came in response to Daniel's prayer to give him understanding (10:10-14). Angelic and demonic powers were both at work in the spirit realm to affect the king of Persia. Daniel's prayer with fasting had a significant impact in shifting things in the spirit realm.

¹¹And he [angel] said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak to you...¹²for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard; and I have come because of your words. ¹³But the prince [demonic principality] of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days; and behold, Michael, one of the chief princes [archangel], came to help me, for I had been left alone there with the kings of Persia. ¹⁴...I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come." (Dan. 10:11-14)

Okay let's look at Roman numeral six. Let's look at the angel's conflict. This mighty angel is being resisted by a mighty demon. So as Daniel keeps praying, Lord release Your glory. Break through in power, as Daniel keeps praying for this twenty-one days this mighty angel, I mean look how powerful this angel is that he subdues Daniel entirely. The demon, the ruling demon of Persia which is Iran is so powerful that this demon actually restrains this mighty angel. That tells you the power of the demon that is operating behind Persia which is Iran today.

We are not talking about a little demonic influence, we are talking about a demonic power of such stature. This mighty angel was restrained and withstood for a season. As Daniel kept praying the Father on His throne sent Michael. Now the mighty angel and Michael they overcame the demonic power of Persia which again is Iran. Let's now read the account that Daniel gives. Verse 11, the angel said to me, O Daniel. I mean how tender is this? Before he gives him the most terrifying vision that has the ultimately glorious victory, he says, O Daniel know this, you are greatly beloved.

This mighty angel who Daniel is overwhelmed by his power and glory. He says, Daniel, Daniel. I have been sent. My first message before I tell you of the evil and then of the victory I want to tell you this, the Father wanted me to tell you personally He really loves you. I mean is this not amazing? I mean talking about a man after God's own heart. I mean that Daniel's heart was so in tune with the Lord's heart.

He goes, but I want you to understand the words I am about to give you. The words are the words in Daniel 11-12, so again we are not going to look at those words tonight. Verse 12, he goes, let me explain to you Daniel how this is operating in the spirit realm. From the first day, look at verse 12, that you set your heart to understand God's purpose, he says, and from the first day you set your heart to humble yourself before God

your prayers were actually heard. I have come because of your words. Because you kept praying that is why I came, this is so significant.

Verse 13, for the prince, now he means the demonic prince, the prince in the spirit realm, the number one demonic power over Persia, again modern-day Iran which Paul called that prince a principality. Remember Paul said, principalities and powers as talking of demonic rankings of the hierarchy of demons. He said, the demonic prince over the kingdom of Persia or Iran withstood me for twenty-one days.

I mean we are talking about this mighty angel being withstood. I mean how powerful is this demon that is energizing the darkness in Iran. Again every nation has demons assigned to energize and then fill them with darkness and every nation has angels and so it is this whole battle in the realm of the spirit.

He said, this demonic power of Persia withstood me, held me at bay for twenty-one days. He goes, God the Father sent me to you. From the very first day you prayed I was dispatched from God's presence to come to you but I could not get to you. You think, what? I mean it is an angel from God and he could not. Why did not God just wave His hand and get rid of all the demons? The Lord says, no no. I do not want to do it that way, I want the people on the earth to have a dynamic participation in the conflict. When they pray I dispatch angels, if they keep praying the angels continue to come. If they stop praying the angels back away. If they keep praying eventually the demonic power is displaced and it is because of the prayers of the saints.

You know there is a testimony of Moses when they were in, in Exodus 17, I do not have it in the notes. When they, Israel was fighting Amalek, Moses was up on the mountain and the Israel was down in the valley in the battle. Moses when he raised his hands Israel won, started winning. When Moses' arms got tired he put his arms down Israel in the battle down in the valley, they would lose.

So you know ten, twenty, thirty minutes he has got his hands up and Israel is winning the battle. He gets a little tired, puts his hands down, Israel loses. He goes, whoa. He puts his hands back up, he says, my hands are tired. Then he gets Joshua, holds up one hand and his brother holds up the other hand. When his, Moses' hands are held up the battle, they won more, I mean Israel was winning. So when Moses put his hands down, Israel would lose, that is a principle of prayer.

As Daniel continues to pray the victory in the spirit realm unfolds more. Now we know Jesus has already won the victory so the power over Satan is already accomplished. We are talking about enforcing and manifesting that power in time and space on the earth. I mean the power is already been won by Jesus, therefore our weak prayers matter. That does not mean we offer up one prayer and it is over, that means we are pushing back the darkness by simply persevering and reminding God of His Word. That very simple participation is like Moses holding his hands up and the enemy is subdued.

When the people of God do not pray the enemy gains an upper hand. Again the Lord could say, I could do this without, without any of you. My Son already won the victory but I want you involved in how it is manifest in your city, your state, your nation, in your generation. So the praying church it really, really matters that we participate.

Anyway verse 13, he says, Michael one of the chief princes, it is kind of hard to say, that means an angelic prince, an archangel, came to help me. He says, for I was, I had been left alone there with the kings, plural that means demonic, the demonic principalities, the demonic hierarchy. He goes, I was left alone, meaning I did not have another high-ranking angel like Michael with me. I mean I assume he had angels of lower rank that were with him but he goes, I was left alone, I did not have a high-ranking angelic being like Michael. I was resisting these demonic kings of Persia, meaning in the spirit realm.

Verse 14, I have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days. He goes, I know you are praying for Jerusalem right now, they are going through trouble here in 536 BC. He goes, and there is going to be a breakthrough but I am going to use this occasion to show you the ultimate trouble coming to Israel and the ultimate breakthrough. He goes, I am showing you where it is going in the big picture. He says, because the vision, again the vision is Daniel 11, pertains to the days yet to come, to the latter days.

Okay let's go back to verse 12 again. From the first day that you set your heart to understand and humble yourself before God your words were heard. So he is on day twenty-one. Now some people say, you know they, twenty-one is the magic day. I think that is a wrong idea, I do not think there is a magic day. I think he just was on day twenty-one, that is just it. I do not think that it is always day twenty-one, that is the special day, that, but the important part is from the first day, day one.

I mean there he is eating his vegetables, you know he is praying, he is troubled by this remnant in Jerusalem. They have been there for some months now, trouble is coming, he is praying. He is mourning and he is praying, day two, nothing. Day three, nothing, he does not know that in the spirit realm that mighty angel has already been sent to him. Day four, it looks like no answer. Day eighteen, it does not look like anything is happening. Day twenty, Lord are you even listening? Now he is weaker and weaker, I mean he is in his eighties.

He has a full-time job in the king's court, he is part of the government. He is giving himself to fasting and to prayer. Then on day twenty-one suddenly he is in this prayer meeting down by the river with his friends there. I am assuming there is friends, his prayer team, I am just putting that part in with this group of men. Suddenly the mighty angel breaks in, terror fills these men and they all flee. Daniel is overwhelmed by the glory of the angel and he falls over and he, angel please help me talk a little bit. The angel helps him.

Then the angel says, I want you to know I was sent twenty-one days ago. Your prayers actually matter, if you would have stopped praying I would not have come, I would have been resisted. I mean it really matters what we are doing. He says, but I have come because of your words. I mean what a glorious thing that our weak words by the blood of Jesus actually angels come because we say things in agreement with God. If we do not say them less happens. If we say it more, more happens. We are not earning it, we are just coming into agreement with God's heart. Agreement is the principle for which more Holy Spirit activity happens.

Again verse 13, the demonic prince, there is a demonic prince that is inspiring the human prince. The human prince would be you know the king, in this case it would be Cyrus. So this human prince, Cyrus is already made a godly decree two years earlier inspired by the Spirit of God.

This demonic prince of Persia is wanting to now bring this human prince, this king, this Cyrus bring him under constant frustration and anger and confusion and darkness. He goes, that demonic prince in the spirit realm withstood me. Michael the archangel came to help me.

Verse 14, but I have come, there is going to be a breakthrough in circumstances. I want you to know, I want to give you understanding why. Why do we want more understanding? Because with more understanding we are in greater unity with God's heart, we are praying in the will of God and more happens. Understanding is an issue of life and death.

Some folks think, well you know just whatever God wants will happen. The Lord says, no if you understand what My Word says then agree with My heart, persevere in agreement, and more will happen. Do not just say, ah it does not really matter one way or the other. Now we do not have to understand all the details of when it is going to happen, how it is going to happen. We want to understand what is on God's heart, what is, what is the victory He has promised, what is some of the resistance that is in the Bible that we are standing against with perseverance.

- B. ***Set your heart to understand:*** Daniel sought understanding about each of his four visions.
- C. ***I have come to make you understand:*** The angel gave Daniel understanding (10:12, 14) of what will happen to Israel in the end times. He gave the prophet the Daniel 11-12 vision. Daniel's four visions give insight into God's end time plan for Israel and to transition the earth to the age to come.
- D. ***From the first day:*** There is activity in the angelic realm from the first day that we set our heart to understand and to humble ourselves before our God.
- E. ***I have come because of your words:*** Angels respond to the prayers of the saints. If Daniel had not prayed, the two angels would not have come. Daniel wrestled against demonic powers with fasting and prayer. Our prayers make a dynamic impact on what happens in the earthly and heavenly realms. Michael the archangel came because of Daniel's continued prayer.
- F. ***Greatly beloved:*** The Lord revealed His love to Daniel in a fresh and deep way (10:11, 19). The angel revealed that Daniel was greatly beloved of the Lord. Jesus spoke of the Father loving all who obey Him. He loves the relationship and life choices of all who obey Him (Jn. 14:21).
²¹"He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him." (Jn. 14:21)
- G. ***The prince of Persia:*** The demonic principality of the kingdom of Persia (Iran) withstood the angel for twenty-one days.
- H. ***Withstood me:*** The mighty angel was resisted by a demonic prince (principality) over Persia. This demonic power sought to stir up the human king of Persia against Israel (10:13, 20-21).
- I. ***Came to help:*** Michael, one of the chief princes or archangels *came to help this mighty angel*. The mighty angel had been left alone without another high-ranking angel to assist him in his battle against the demonic principalities of Persia.
- J. ***Archangels:*** Michael and Gabriel are the only two angels mentioned by name in the Bible.

Michael is mentioned five times in the Scripture— three times in Daniel (10:13, 21; 12:1) and in Jude 9 and Revelation 12:7. Each time he is described as fighting. Thus some refer to him as the "warrior angel."

Michael is referred to as a chief prince or archangel (one who leads angels).

- K. In the end times Michael will again stand up to help Israel (Dan. 12:1; Rev. 12:7-9). Michael's involvement implies that it involves Israel's destiny as Michael is entrusted with protecting Israel.
¹"At that time [the end times] Michael shall stand up, the great prince [archangel] who stands watch over the sons of your people [Israel]; and there shall be a time of trouble [Great

Tribulation], such as never was since there was a nation, even to that time. And at that time your people [Israel] shall be delivered...” (Dan. 12:1)

Top of page four, let's go clear to the bottom of page four, K. Now it is interesting that Michael, Michael the archangel is the one that came to help this mighty angel. Again that is one of the reasons why I believe the mighty angel is not an Old Testament vision of Jesus. Because Jesus would not need Michael to come help Him. Look what it says later on in the vision, now this is the same Daniel 10-12, it is the same experience. At the end of the experience Michael is brought up again.

It says, that at that time, talking about in the end-times of the great tribulation Michael will stand up. He is the great prince, he is the great archangel. Again he is an angelic prince. That is what it means by Michael the great prince, a prince in the angelic realm, a leader over many, many angels. It is understood or supposed that because of a couple of verses we have here in the notes here that he is over a third of all of the angels are under his command. We do not know that for sure but that is what some say.

Michael in the last days, in the, I mean in the Great Tribulation will stand up and he will stand watch over Israel. Michael is assigned particularly to the nation of Israel. That is why people draw the conclusion Michael is over Israel, therefore the assumption and I think it is a true assumption but it is still an assumption there are mighty angels over other nations as well. Israel is not the only nation that has an angel assigned because the Lord is the Lord of all the nations. His glory covers all the ends of the earth. So the whole thing is all the nations are under Him.

Notice Michael the great archangel stands watch over Israel. Now this is the verse, the Great Tribulation verse. The mighty angels says, for there is coming a time of trouble. This trouble will be such as never been ever before since there was a nation even up to that time. There is coming a time of trouble the mighty angel tells Daniel that it is a time of trouble that no time before it or no time after it will equal this trouble, it will be unique. This is the actual the very verse Jesus quotes in Matthew 24 when He talks about the Great Tribulation. He quotes this passage right here what the mighty angel told Daniel.

The point I am making here is that during this time of great trouble, the Great Tribulation Michael arises. It means he takes this very aggressive activity, he arises to action. He is deeply involved in the affairs of Israel. This is good because the Antichrist is trying to wipe out Israel in the Great Tribulation but Michael arises in that final hour in the same way that Michael arose back here in Daniel 10. So when we understand Daniel 10 it gives us a snapshot in the way that the prayers of the saints are going to release Michael and other angels to combat demonic powers even in the Great Tribulation.

L. The mighty angel's continued conflict (10:20-11:1).

²⁰Then he said, “Do you know why I have come to you? And now I must return to fight with the prince of Persia; and when I have gone forth, indeed the prince of Greece will come. ²¹But I will tell you what is noted in the Scripture of Truth. No one upholds me against these, except Michael your prince.” ^{11:1}“Also in the first year of Darius the Mede [538 BC, two years earlier], I, even I, stood up to confirm and strengthen him [Michael].” (Dan. 10:20-11:1)

Let's look at top of page five. He says, he is going back, we are going back to Daniel 10. He says to Daniel, the angel, he says, do you know why I came to you? You know Daniel is still on the floor, I mean he is up now because he had to stand up. He is probably trembling, he is, again he is in eighties and he has been fasting

twenty-one days. He is overwhelmed by an angelic glory. He is standing there, the angel asked him a question. Do you know why I came? He says, but I want you to know this before I give you the answer, and the answer is to give him the information in Daniel 11-12 that we are not going to get to this week.

He goes, but I want you to know this, I have to go return to fight against the demonic principality of Iran or Persia. I have to go fight against that demonic power again. He goes, just because there is a breakthrough here the battle is not over. Part of what he is saying is, keep praying Daniel, stay with this because the battle is not over because the prince of Persia he is returning again and he wants to wipe out Israel.

We find out what happen is that, I have got it in the notes here, the next sixteen years Israel had huge setbacks. I mean that demonic prince of Persia was coming against Israel even over in the land, over in Jerusalem.

Remember Daniel is in Babylon, he is praying and the angel says, I have got to fight that prince of Persia because the saints, the redeemed over in Jerusalem they are going to come under a greater attack, another wave of attack is going to hit them.

So he is really telling Daniel in part of this message is, stay with it, do not draw back, do not give up, it is not over. I tell you back in Jerusalem they are building the house of prayer and they got so discouraged because of all the troubles there, they actually gave up for sixteen years, they just quit. They gave up and gave in. You know and probably Daniel does not live much longer than this, we do not know, we do not hear of him again after this.

There is just, the prince of Persia, the authority structure of Persia which was over Jerusalem and all the authorities there, there was just resistance that wave after wave of resistance but eventually the breakthrough came. God anointed prophets and they broke through and Zerubbabel finished it and the house of prayer got established and the nation got victory. I mean there is these setbacks but there is prayer and then there is victory, then setbacks. It is like we say, Lord we just wanted this to be easy. I mean we do not want all this conflict. Beloved there is a real war.

As you know there is no time out zone in the demonic kingdom. You know I have heard this for many, many years. People say, I am just so tired, I am just going to draw back. I go, you think there is a no fire zone somewhere in the spirit? Because you are tired the demon that hates you is going to say, okay I will give you a, okay you got three weeks off to get your strength back then get back in the ring. I am just tired, I do not know. The demon says, exactly what I was hoping. He will just destroy you. There is no, there is no time out zone, there is no no-fire zone in the demonic kingdom

He wants you tired and quitting. He does not give you a time out and then says, come back into the boxing ring later, we will pick up where we left off. He will destroy you if you quit, that is the goal. That is why we want to stay connected to one another, we want to stay connected to the Word and we want to stay connected to the Spirit. Because there is resistance but there is victory and it really matters.

Then he goes on to say here, he goes, I have got to return to fight against the prince of Persia. He goes, know this when I have gone forth after Persia the demon behind Greece is coming next. It was 200 years later, Alexander the Great rose up and wiped out the Persians. Then Alexander the Great and the Greeks they were the ones that in the premiere authority and they were harassing Israel. The angel told Daniel ahead of time, he goes, there is a big picture story going on Daniel and you are a part of it and the intercessors after you for centuries and generations onto the, up to the coming of the Lord. There is a battle, it is unfolding. There is a continuity, we are all in this together. There is a big plan that is happening.

He goes, verse 21, he goes; I want to tell you what is noted or what is emphasized in the Scripture. Again he tells him what is emphasized, it is the next chapter in Daniel 11 he unfolds it. He goes, well let me tell you there

is no one who upholds me against these kings of Persia except for Michael the archangel. He is saying, there is no other angelic power that has the stature that Michael has to help me against the kings of Persia that are fighting me, these demonic kings.

Again we are getting insight into how angels help angel and how they resist demons and how there are intercessors on the earth affect the angels working more, I mean the angels helping and supporting one another against demonic powers.

Look at verse 21 again, no one upholds me, no one strengthens me against these. These are the kings of Persia, the demonic kings except for Michael your prince. The archangel, the one that is assigned to Israel, he goes, Daniel the archangel over your nation is the one that is helping me so keep praying is the idea.

Now look at this, the next verse, he goes, I want you to know this Daniel, now that we are talking and we are just kind of sharing everything with you here. He goes, I want you to know this. He goes, two years earlier back in the first year of Darius the Mede which is the same year as the first year of Cyrus the king of Persia. It is the same time frame.

He goes, two years ago, he goes, I want you to know, I, even I stood up and helped Michael. He goes, two years ago back when Israel was first released out of Babylonian captivity in the Daniel 9 time, two years earlier, he goes, Michael was at the front and I helped him. He goes, really? How does this, this is quite remarkable how the prayers of the saints cause the angels even to have greater activity and greater effectiveness in the actual out working of the spiritual battle over that city in that generation, that particular timeframe.

- M. Before giving the details of Daniel 11, more parenthetical information was given. The first year of Darius (11:1) was 538 BC (or two years earlier than this current vision).
- N. The mighty angel came (10:20) to aid Israel in fighting against the prince of Persia and to give Daniel prophetic insight into Israel's future (Dan. 11-12).
- O. ***Must return to fight***: Israel faced great resistance from Persia over the next 100 years or so—to such a degree that they stopped the work on the temple for 16 years (535-520 BC).

The restoration of Jerusalem and temple (the house of prayer) did come in God's timing, even though it was delayed for 16 years. The story of this restoration is found in three passages (Ezra 1-6; Hag. 1-2; Zech. 3-8). Soon after arriving at Jerusalem, they laid the foundation of the temple, but because of opposition from enemies and economic troubles (Ezra 4:1-6; 24) and quit for 16 years (535-520 BC). In 520 BC they restarted their labors (Ezra 5:1-2).

The main obstacles included the ***Samaritans*** who opposed them (Ezra 4:1-5, 24), the spiritual compromise and fear in the ***remnant of Israel*** (Hag. 1:1-11; Zech. 1:1-6), and the ***economic crisis*** that was intensified by drought and agricultural failures (Hag. 1:1-11).

Two years earlier, in Daniel 9:25, Gabriel prophesied that the blessing of the restoration of Jerusalem would occur in the context of trouble and difficulty.

25...to restore and build Jerusalem...the street [open square] shall be built again, and the wall, even in troublesome times. (Dan. 9:25)

- P. The demonic principality of Persia/Iran who resisted this angel is still very powerful today. The Antichrist will bring many nations to fight Israel (Ezek. 38:5). Persia is the first one mentioned.

³“I am against you, O Gog [Antichrist]... ⁴I will turn you around, put hooks into your jaws, and lead you out, with all your army...⁵“Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya are with them [Antichrist’s army], all of them with shield and helmet; ⁶Gomer [Turkey] and all its troops; the house of Togarmah [eastern Turkey] from the far north and all its troops...” (Ezek. 38:3-6)

Well I have a lot of, a bit more on the notes you can read. Here I am going to give you, let's go down to bottom of page five. I just want to highlight two more verses real quickly then leave the notes to you. Go to Paragraph P., it is Ezekiel 38. Now you know Ezekiel is the prophet that is in the slave camp in Babylon while Daniel is in the king's palace in Babylon. They are both in Babylon in the same generation.

Ezekiel is, he is getting insight into what is going to happen in the end times too. Look at Ezekiel 38, God speaks and says, I am against you Oh Gog. I believe that is the Antichrist. I will turn you around, I will put hooks in your jaw. I will lead you out with all of your army. He goes out to identify the army that is in league with the Antichrist. He goes, Persia, Iran will be in league with the Antichrist in that period of time. Iran is the first nation mentioned, of course it is mentioned by its ancient name.

Beloved the very fact that Iran is rising up, it is that principality of Persia is rising up against Israel again right now. This whole nuclear war thing and all, I mean the nuclear arms, all these things that are going on in the Middle East, it is the principality of Persia. It is the Daniel 10 storyline replaying again.

- Q. God is raising up a “corporate Daniel” to pray for Israel. Michael will again stand up to fight for Israel and will cast Satan down (Rev. 12:7-9). Michael gives leadership in a war in the spirit against Satan and his fallen angels. I believe Michael will do this in response to the prayers of a “global corporate Daniel” in a way that parallels his response in Daniel 10.

⁷And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought...⁹The great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan...he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him. (Rev. 12:7-9)

Paragraph Q., here is the, we will end with this. Now Daniel, I mean John the apostle in the book of Revelation gives us a little bit of insight on this. This is I believe talking about in the final three and a half of this age, war broke out in heaven, Revelation 12. Some people think this happened at the cross, I believe clearly and there is real strong evidence this is yet a future event.

Daniel, I mean Revelation 12:7, we will end with this. War broke out in heaven, Michael arose. There is Michael again, he is in action just like back in Daniel 10; it is going to happen again. Michael and all of his angels fought Satan and all of Satan's angels.

Verse 9, and the great dragon, Satan was cast out, that is the serpent of old, the devil, he was cast to the earth. Beloved there is coming a time where Satan and the prince of Persia and all the others, they will rise up and try to exterminate Israel and completely destroy them. Michael will arise again. Michael will take on not the prince of Persia this time but Satan himself and cast Satan out of his position in the heavenly places. All the demon realms and ranks will be cast down to the earth and that will make them far less effective. Of course they will have rage on the earth but far less effective.

Here is the point I want you to see, it is Michael rising up to do that. Why is Michael going to rise up in the Great Tribulation to help Israel? Because I believe there will be a global prayer movement, there will be a corporate global Daniel doing the Daniel 10 storyline. Michael will rise up again just like then, demonic power will be cast aside in the future, and the great glory of God and the second coming of Christ and all that will come to full culmination.

So I believe this Daniel 10 storyline is going to be replayed again in Revelation 12. The whole Body of Christ will be a part of that corporate Daniel. So that is why understanding these principles though we do not have to understand perfectly but the broad strokes, the broad themes gives us a sense of confidence and resolve to really enter into this battle and to see that it really is going to win and our prayers really do matter. Well amen and amen.

VII. THE LIFE OF DANIEL: THE POWER OF A LIFE DEDICATED TO GOD

- A. No study on the book of Daniel would be complete without mentioning Daniel's dedication, with emphasis on his prayer life. The effectiveness of his life was undergirded by a lifetime of prayer (6:10) and setting his heart to walk in wholeheartedness (1:8) and gain understanding (10:12).

¹⁰Daniel...knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days. (Dan. 6:10)

⁸But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank... (Dan. 1:8)

¹²"Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard..." (Dan. 10:12)

- B. Daniel is the only man who was used by God as an example while he was still alive.

¹³"When a land sins against Me by persistent unfaithfulness, I will stretch out My hand against it; I will cut off its supply of bread, send famine on it...¹⁴Even if these three men, Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it, they would deliver only themselves"... ¹⁹"If I send a pestilence into that land and pour out My fury on it...²⁰even though Noah, Daniel, and Job were in it...they would deliver only themselves by their righteousness." (Ezek. 14:13-20)

- C. The first six chapters of Daniel give insight into the effectiveness of his prayer here in Daniel 10.

***Daniel 1:** Dedication of youth; refuses to compromise; embraces a fasted lifestyle in Babylon*

***Daniel 2:** Nebuchadnezzar's first dream – receiving the word of Lord in crisis*

***Daniel 3:** Being faithful witnesses (Rev. 13); deliverance from the fiery furnace*

***Daniel 4:** Nebuchadnezzar's second dream – calling leaders to righteousness*

***Daniel 5:** Belshazzar's feast – the sudden downfall of governments (fall of Babylon)*

***Daniel 6:** Daniel in the lion's den – supernatural deliverance of believers in persecution*

- D. ***The forerunner spirit:*** seeking greater understanding of God's heart and end-time plan. The four visions in Daniel give insight into God's plan for Israel and for transitioning the earth to the age to come. One emphasis in all four visions was for Daniel to understand God's end-time plan (7:16; 8:15-19; 9:2-3, 22-23; 10:1, 11-14; 11:33, 35; 12:4, 9-10).

22“O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you skill to understand.” (Dan. 9:22)

12“...you [Daniel] set your heart to understand...14Now I [an angel] have come to make you understand what will happen to your people in the latter days...” (Dan. 10:12-14)

- E. Part of our ministry assignment is to function in a forerunner spirit which includes proclaiming some of the unique dynamics that will occur in the generation in which the Lord returns, both positive and negative ones. The Lord is raising up forerunners from many streams in the body of Christ who will give some understanding of what both the Lord and the enemy will do in that hour. Understanding will be essential in equipping God's people not to be fearful, deceived, confused, offended, or seduced by sin in the context of the unique dynamics occurring in that hour. The Lord's people are to be filled with peace, gratitude, confidence, clarity, and holy love.