

Battle Prayers!

Part 4



Daniel's Prayer

OUR DAILY BREAD

Junior Edition

6-22-08



SOMETHING YOU MUST KNOW:

God is perfect. He is Holy. We are all sinners. ***For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.***

(Romans 3:23a KJB)

None of us could ever make ourselves perfect or holy to be accepted by God. But God loves us all so much, that He gave His only Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, to go to the cross and pay the penalty for our sins IN FULL, ONCE and FOR ALL. Jesus died and rose again. Because of the Lord Jesus Christ, God can now make us holy and acceptable to Himself. ***For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit.*** (1 Peter 3:18 KJB)

Jesus Christ is our ONLY WAY to God and heaven.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life, no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

(John 14:6 KJB)

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved. (Acts 16:31 KJB)

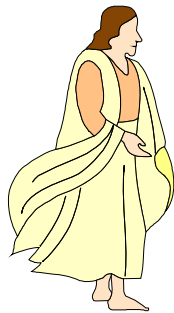
Without Jesus Christ, you can NEVER be accepted by God or go to heaven. When you believe in Jesus Christ as your Savior, God makes you His child. When you leave this world, you will spend all of eternity with Him! ***But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.*** (John 1:12 KJB) While you are still here on earth, learn His beautiful Word. Believe it and obey it, so you can enjoy all God has done for you.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.

(Colossians 3:16a KJB)

Last week we met a young Jewish teenager named Daniel! We learned that Daniel & his family & all the other Jews who lived in Jerusalem had been captured by the Babylonian army & taken to Babylon. Then, because Daniel was so intelligent, the King ordered that he & other young children be taken away from their families & brought to live in the king's palace. King Nebuchadnezzar ordered that these children be given the king's kind of food & drink. He ordered that these children be trained in the language & ways of the people of Babylon. King Nebuchadnezzar especially wanted these children to be trained to obey & worship him rather than God.

But as we learned last week, Daniel made a bold decision NOT to disobey God no matter WHAT King Nebuchadnezzar commanded him to do!



"But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's meat, nor with the wine which he drank:"

Daniel 1:8a-b KJB

Have YOU decided that YOU will OBEY GOD NO MATTER WHAT! Well, if you HAVE decided that, God will provide EVERYTHING you need to do it- just like he did for Daniel! You should read the whole book of Daniel. As you read it, watch how God provided EVERYTHING Daniel needed to obey God no matter how BAD things got! God ALWAYS provided EVERYTHING

for us to obey Him when we truly want to obey Him!

“But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”

Philippians 4:19 KJB

So NEVER be afraid to obey God, no matter WHAT circumstances God allows in your life! Read the book of Daniel & you'll see what God does for those who truly want to obey Him!

So we see then, that even as a young teenager living in the enemy's household, Daniel decided that he would OBEY GOD! And even though Daniel was held captive until he was an OLD MAN, Daniel obeyed God! Daniel was a man who knew that his PURPOSE in life was to know, love, OBEY & worship GOD! Here is something else that is important to know about Daniel.

Daniel was a

MAN OF PRAYER!

You can read some of Daniel's prayers & what he prayed for in Daniel 2:17-23;

Daniel 6:10; 9:13-19; Daniel 10

In fact, it was because of Daniel's PURPOSE to OBEY GOD & PRAY that got Daniel thrown into the LIONS' DEN! Read

Daniel 6! But as we said, God ALWAYS provided EVERYTHING that Daniel needed to obey Him - EVEN IN THE LIONS' DEN!!!



As you read through Daniel's prayers, you will see that

1. Daniel's prayers show us DEFINITELY that there IS a BATTLE going on between Satan & his followers & God & His followers.

2. Daniel's prayers show us that PRAYER is DEFINITEY part of that BATTLE!

Today we are going to look at one of Daniel's prayers & what happened when he prayed this prayer. Daniel prayed this prayer when he was about 85 or 90 years old! One day while Daniel was READING & STUDYING God's written Word, Daniel found 2 amazing PROMISES from God for Israel. Here is the 1st promise:



"And this whole land shall be a desolation, *and* an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years."

Jeremiah 25:11 KJB

(Imagine that! You have JUST READ the EXACT WORDS that Daniel READ over 2500 years ago! God's Word NEVER CHANGES!)

Now Daniel of course knew that this PROMISE had ABSOLUTELY come true because he and his people had been serving the king of Babylon as captives for almost 70 years by the time Daniel read this promise. He & all the people of Israel were STILL being held captive by the Babylonians. Imagine! God allowed these people to be held captive for almost 70 years! Why? Because He LOVED them & wanted them to get back to doing the RIGHT things! When God causes or allows us to have problems it is because He loves us & wants the best for us! Read Lamentations 3:31-33 KJB. God had told the people of Israel OVER & OVER again, that they should obey ONLY HIM because He ALONE knows what is BEST for

them. But the people WOULD NOT LISTEN to God. They started worshipping pagan gods. They started treating each other badly. So God sent them into captivity for 70 YEARS so that they would WANT to start obeying Him again & living the RIGHT WAY toward Him & each other.

Now Daniel knew that this promise from God had ALREADY been kept. But then, Daniel KEPT ON READING & STUDYING GOD'S BEAUTIFUL WORD FILLED WITH PROMISES! God has TONS of promises for YOU TOO in His written Word. Keep on READING IT! And as Daniel kept on reading God's Word, he then found this WONDERFUL PROMISE OF HOPE for Israel:

"For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.



For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

And ye shall seek me, and find *me* when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD: and I will bring you again into the place

whence I caused you to be carried away captive."

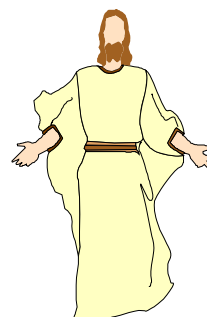
Jeremiah 29:10-14 KJB

Daniel was SO EXCITED! He had read God's Word & found promises of HOPE that the people of Israel would be allowed to RETURN IN FREEDOM to their land! So what did Daniel do next? Here is what Daniel tells us he did:

"And I set my face unto the LORD God, to seek by prayer and supplications (requests) with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

And I prayed unto the LORD my God..."

Daniel 9:3-4a LKB



After Daniel read those awesome promises from God, Daniel determined to ask the Lord to help him understand more of what he had just read. And then DANIEL PRAYED! You can read Daniel's prayer on your own - CAREFULLY! You will see that Daniel wanted to UNDERSTAND more about what he had read there in God's Word so he could pray for the right things for Israel. Do YOU want to know the right things to pray for yourself & others? Well, KEEP ON READING your King James Bible & the Lord will show you what things you should pray for.

Now RIGHT WHILE Daniel was seeking the Lord by praying this prayer, something FANTASTIC happened. Read what Daniel said happened:

"And whiles I *was* speaking, and praying, and

confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication (request) before the LORD my God for the holy mountain of my God;

Yea, whiles I was speaking in prayer, even the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the beginning, being caused to fly swiftly, touched me about the time of the evening oblation (an offering to God). " Daniel 9:20-21 KJB

While Daniel was speaking to God in prayer, asking God to help him understand what was going to happen to Israel, SOMEONE visited Daniel! Who was this visitor? Daniel said that it was THE MAN GABRIEL!

It was the ANGEL GABRIEL!

Do you know WHY Daniel called the angel Gabriel a MAN? Because whenever angel's appear to man, the bible says that they look LIKE MEN! You see angels DO NOT have wings! The Bible says that whenever angels show themselves to people, they appear as MEN! While Daniel was praying so hard to the Lord, the Lord sent the angel Gabriel to visit Daniel. Let's see WHY as we read what Gabriel said to Daniel:

"...O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding.

At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to show *thee*; for thou *art* greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision."

Daniel 9:22b-23 KJB



The Lord had commanded the angel Gabriel to bring Daniel the Lord's answer. And Gabriel came IMMEDIATELY - right while Daniel was praying! Remember! The Lord ALREADY knows everything we will pray because THE LORD KNOWS EVERYTHING! Read Matthew 6:8 KJB

Take some time to read all of Daniel's prayer in Daniel 9:4-19. As you read it, write down what Daniel said about the Lord, what Daniel said about himself & God's people & what Daniel asked the Lord.

Next week we will read about another one of Daniel's prayers to the Lord. We will see that something AMAZING happened when Daniel prayed this prayer. We will see that this time Daniel did NOT get an answer immediately. He WAITED for 3 weeks for God to answer that prayer. And the AMAZING reason for that delay will show us that

- #1. There is a spiritual battle going on!
- #2. Prayer is part of that battle!

Something to think about: Why did God send an angel to bring His answer to Daniel? Why doesn't God send angels to tell us His answers to our prayers today?

Hint:

We have something that was NOT completed in Daniel's day. We have something that Daniel did NOT have all of back then! And today all God's answers for us are in that "something"! By the way, God even had Daniel WRITE part of that "something" so that YOU & I could read it today to tell us about Daniel & Israel! In fact, YOU just read some of what God had Daniel write there in the book of Daniel! What this "something" is, is the answer to those 2 questions above!!! See if you can FIGURE OUT what it is!

GRACE CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Pastor John A. Ricci

Sunday Morning Service

10:00 A.M.

Sunday Transportation Service ~ Call 24 hours Prior

Weekly Services

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:30 P.M.

Prayer Meeting

Wednesday & Friday Evenings, 7:00-7:20 P.M.

Communion Service

First Sunday of Every Month

Children's Prep School (Ages 5-14) & Mother's Room

Available for Every Service

Email

info@gracecfellowship.org

Directions

From I-95

- RI Exit #22; *Left* at split to **Rt. 6 W.**
- Take Killingly St (Rt. 128) Exit; *Right* off Exit.
- Take Killingly to end; *Right* on Manton Ave; cross bridge.
- Turn *Left* at light (CVS on corner), and then bear *Left* at the split. You are now on Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1 mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Left*.

From Rt. 146

- Mineral Spring Ave Exit in Providence.
- From **146 N** turn *Left* off Exit; from **146 S** turn *Right*.
- Take Mineral Spring to end and stay *Left* around the rotary (pass North Providence Town Hall).
- Take next *Right* onto Woonasquatucket Ave.
- Go about 1½ mi.
- **G.C.F.** is on the *Right*.



Grace Christian Fellowship

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