

DANIEL - Daniel's Vision and the Conflict Between Good and Evil

DN-24 - DANIEL 10

Daniel's Vision of the Man Clothed in Linen - Daniel 10

Daniel 10 is introductory to chapters 11 & 12—all three together form a unit in which Gabriel reveals events to transpire in the future, till the close of time. Daniel is fasting “three full weeks” (vs.3), afflicting his soul before God, to “seek a knowledge of the purposes of the Most High.”

Background:

Work on the temple in Jerusalem, recently begun due to Cyrus's authorized decree comes to a halt due to stiff opposition from the Samaritans. Ezra 4:5 indicates that counselors were hired possible to bribe government officials to influence King Cyrus to rescind his decree. Only the altar had been completed thus far, while the temple of God was now imperiled. Daniel as the prayer warrior he is, takes to his knees.

So Daniel is by the great river Hiddekel (Tigris) as verse 4 tells us in the 24th day of the first month (Nisan)—time of the Passover. {More than likely Daniel called to mind the history of God's might power to deliver Israel in Egypt about 900 years earlier.

The Man Clothed in Linen

We find in Daniel's vision (vs.5,6) a striking resemblance to that of the Apostle John as recorded in the Revelation 1:13-16. We see a summation of this picture in Rev. 10:1. How many similarities can you found:

Vs. 5, 6

- A certain man _____,
- Whose loins _____,
- His Body _____,
- His face _____,
- His eyes _____,
- His arms and feet _____,
- The voice of His words _____,

Rev 1:13-16

- The Son of Man _____,
- Girded about _____,
- His Head and _____,
- His eyes _____,
- His feet _____,
- His voice _____,
- In His right hand _____,
- Out of His mouth _____,
- His countenance _____,

It is very interesting to note, that from verse 7 through the end of the chapter, Daniel is overwhelmed by the vision three times and “no strength remained in me.” In which verses do you find Daniel falling to the ground with no strength and the corresponding passages that he was strengthened:

<u>No Strength</u>	<u>Encouraged</u>
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____

Vs. 13

In this verse we find the reason why the angel Gabriel has been held up in coming to Daniel, though he persisted for 21 days “afflicting his soul” by fasting in an attitude of prayer. Vs.14 and 21 are significant for God reveals to the prophet what will befall His people in the last days, as unfolded in chapters 11 and 12.

Thought Question:

As we close Daniel 10, and turn our attention to the last two chapters of this tremendous prophetic book, we will find that nearly the entire 11th chp of Daniel was fulfilled while the book of Daniel was closed up (12:4). The question that should come to mind, is why?

*“We have before us in the Word of God instances of heavenly agencies working on the minds of kings and rulers, while at the same time satanic agencies were also at work on their minds... **Satan seeks continually to block the way, so that the truth shall be bound about by human devising; and those who have light and knowledge are in the greatest danger unless they constantly consecrate themselves to God, humiliating self, and realizing the peril of the times...***

Heavenly beings are appointed to answer the prayers of those who are working unselfishly for the interests of the cause of God. The very highest angels in the heavenly courts are appointed to work out the prayers which ascend to God for the advancement of the cause of God. Each angel has his particular post of duty, which he is not permitted to leave for any other place. If he should leave, the powers of darkness would gain an advantage. . . .

As a people we do not understand as we should the great conflict going on between invisible agencies, the controversy between loyal and disloyal angels. Evil angels are constantly at work, planning their line of attack, controlling as commanders, kings, and rulers, the disloyal human forces. . . . I call upon the ministers of Christ to press home upon the understanding of all who come within the reach of their voice, the truth of the ministration of angels...The Written Word is our only safety. We must pray as did Daniel, that we may be guarded by heavenly intelligences. As ministering spirits angels are sent forth to minister to those who shall be heirs of salvation. Pray, my brethren, pray as you have never prayed before. We are not prepared for the Lord's coming. We need to make thorough work for eternity. {4BC 1173}