

## THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 5/22-23/2023 *Daniel 9:1-19*

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE STUDY!

**MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**

**THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**

**MEETING ID# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484**

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**TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada).**

**THE TUESDAY MORNING STUDY WILL BE MEETING, CC LIVING WORD, 17101 ARMSTRONG, IRVINE, CA, AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!!**

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### OPENING PRAYER

*Daniel - The Sovereignty of God – He Rules Over All; He Overrules All!*

*Chapter 9 Daniel's Prayer for the People – vs. 1-19; The Seventy-Weeks Prophecy – vs. 20-27!*

- **The third vision of Daniel the prophet**, concerns the program of God for Israel culminating in the coming of their Messiah to the earth to reign. Although other major prophets received detailed information concerning the nations and God's program for salvation, Daniel alone was given the comprehensive program for both the Gentiles, as revealed to Daniel in preceding chapters, and for Israel, as recorded in *Daniel 9:24-27*. **Because of the comprehensive and structural nature of Daniel's prophecies, both for the Gentiles and for Israel, the study of Daniel, and especially this chapter, is the key to understanding the prophetic Scriptures.** Of the four major programs revealed in the Bible—for the angels, the Gentiles, Israel, and the church, Daniel had the privilege of being the channel of revelation for the second and third of these programs in the Old Testament.
- **This chapter begins with Jeremiah's prophecy of seventy years** of the desolations of Jerusalem and is advanced by the intercessory prayer of Daniel. The chapter concludes with the third vision of

Daniel, given through the agency of the angel Gabriel, which provides one of the most important keys to understanding the Scriptures as a whole. **In many respects, this is the high point of the book of Daniel.** Although previously Gentile history and prophecy recorded in Daniel was related to the people of Israel, the ninth chapter specifically takes up prophecy as it applies to the chosen people.

**TEXT:**

- **(Dan 9:1-19)** *In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the lineage of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans— [2] in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the LORD through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. [3] Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.*
- *[4] And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, [5] we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments. [6] Neither have we heeded Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings and our princes, to our fathers and all the people of the land. [7] O Lord, righteousness belongs to You, but to us shame of face, as it is this day—to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, those near and those far off in all the countries to which You have driven them, because of the unfaithfulness which they have committed against You. [8] "O Lord, to us belongs shame of face, to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, because we have sinned against You. [9] To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him. [10] We have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets.[11] Yes, all Israel has transgressed Your law, and has departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse and the oath written in the Law of Moses the servant of God have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against Him. [12] And He has confirmed His words, which He spoke against us and against our judges who judged us, by bringing upon us a great disaster; for under the whole heaven such has never been done as what has been done to Jerusalem. [13] "As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth. [14] Therefore the LORD has kept the disaster in mind, and brought it upon us; for the LORD our God is righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice. [15] And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and made Yourself a name, as it is this day—we have sinned, we have done wickedly!*
- *[16] "O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people are a reproach to all those around us. [17] Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate. [18] O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies. [19] O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name."*

**Daniel's Prayer for His People**

**Dan 9:1** *In the first year (539 B.C.) of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the lineage of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans—*

**Dan 9:2** *in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the LORD (first use, 6X, all Chapter 9 in Daniel) through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. .*

- **Jeremiah was prophesying the captivity and their being taken into Babylon. (Jer 25:11-12)** *And this whole land shall be a desolation and an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of*

*Babylon seventy years.* [12] *'Then it will come to pass, when seventy years are completed, that I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity,' says the LORD; and I will make it a perpetual desolation.*

- **We read in (Jer 29:10-14) For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.** [11] *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.* [12] **Then you will call upon Me and go and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.** [13] **And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.** [14] **I will be found by you, says the LORD, and I will bring you back from your captivity; I will gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you, says the LORD, and I will bring you to the place from which I cause you to be carried away captive.**
- **Here in the prophecies of Daniel, the Lord declares that the time of captivity in Babylon would be seventy years.** Daniel was carried away as a captive in the year 605 B.C. He knew that the seventy years that the Lord had prophesied was just about over. So now in response, he is seeking the Lord just as the prophet Jeremiah said, *And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.* Daniel is seeking the Lord, really presenting himself to God, knowing that God had placed him in a very strategic position. Darius loved Daniel. He was thinking of putting Daniel over all the counselors. Knowing that he was in that strategic position in the kingdom, he may have felt that the Lord may have some special task for him, even though at this time he was close to ninety years old. I believe that in this prayer he is just letting the Lord know that he is there, available and if God wants to use him in any way, there he is.
- **Am I continually available for use by the Lord?** It is just a great thrill to just make yourself available to God. I do not know what the Lord might be wanting to do in my life each day, but I just want to make myself available to Him. When I wake up in the morning I like to just make myself available to God, saying, "Lord, I am here. I am available. If you want anything from me today, or if you have any plans, Lord I am here. Use me however you see fit." That is why when suddenly a change of plans comes. I may be planning something and all of a sudden, bang. It all falls apart, but I do not get upset. I just look around and say, "Well, Lord you have something else in line, I guess. What is it?" To me it is an opportunity to be open to the Lord rather than all bummed out because my plans are wiped out, because this happened or that happened. You just say, "Lord, you have got something else in mind for me, and I am available."
- **Do you expect to get disturbed?** The person who is expecting to get disturbed is never disturbed, because he is expecting to be disturbed. The only one that is disturbed over disturbances is the one who does not want to be disturbed. Disturbances are always disturbing. He evidently has something in mind. So, Lord workout your plan.

**Dan 9:3 Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.**

- **Does the Word of God, in what He has done, cause us to go to prayer, seeking Him** with all of our hearts, as Daniel does here? He is getting serious before the Lord, responding, **(Jer 29:13-14a) And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart.** [14a] *I will be found by you, says the LORD.*
- **So Daniel is really committing himself, in undivided attention, to this time of prayer and supplication and fasting**, putting on sackcloth and ashes, always a sign of mourning unto the Jew. Whenever some sad event took place, as a sign of their mourning, they would wear sackcloth, which was a camel skin garment worn backwards, so that that itchy camel skin would be against your flesh. It was a way of punishing yourself with the sackcloth. The *ashes* were a sign of mourning. They put it on their foreheads. Daniel left nothing undone that might make his prayer more effective or more persuasive.
- **Then I set my face toward the Lord God.** This was a formal beginning in which Daniel turns away from other things to concentrate on his prayer to the Lord. It implies faith, devotion, and worship.

- **To make request by prayer and supplications.** His activity in prayer has a specific end. It anticipates finding ground for an answer to his prayers. The attitude of mind and steadfastness of purpose indicated, now moves to prayer and supplications.
- **Why should we believers pray for prophetic Bible events?** First we have to pray for us to have a proper perspective in the midst of the unfolding events. That constant reminder of God being in charge. If we did not pray related to that, we would not have the hope, the confidence that things are going to change. Hence, the model prayer given to the disciples, at such a time. *(Mat 6:9-10) In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. [10] Your kingdom come. Your will be done On earth as it is in heaven.* Every time we pray that prayer we are reminded that God's kingdom is coming, His will be done on the earth. I want to be on the right side, because of the grace and mercy of God, when that occurs.
- **Also the aspect, that God really does heed our prayers.** That our prayers make a difference. God will never have us pray a prayer that is meaningless or of no value, that He will not take seriously and answer. In Revelation when the judgments are poured out in association with our prayer, in that heavenly scene, note the reference to our prayers. *(Rev 5:8b) ....golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints. His kingdom really is coming here on earth!*
- **Note the characteristics of effective prayer!** While God honors the briefest of prayers, effective prayer requires faith in the Word of God, proper attitude of mind and heart, privacy, and unhurried confession and petition. Daniel's humility, reverence, and earnestness are the hallmarks of effective prayer.

***Dan 9:4 And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments,***

- **The importance of the address in prayer!** The address, first of all is always important with prayer. We need to remind ourselves to whom we are praying. To see the greatness of our problems in the light of His greatness! Who are you addressing? Jesus said, *(Mat 6:9) In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.* That is a good address for prayer! The disciples, praying in *(Act 4:24) So when they heard that, they raised their voice to God with one accord and said: "Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them,* This is a good address for prayer. It is important the address you put on your prayer!
- **In beginning his prayer to the Lord, Daniel relies upon the fact that the majesty of God's person and the greatness of His power are manifested especially in His fulfilling His covenant promises and manifesting mercy to those who love Him and keep His commandments.**
- **O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy...** Lord You are faithful. You are an awesome God, who always keeps Your word! We see that it was the basis of God's word that prompted the prayer. He knew that God had declared that their captivity would be for seventy years. On the basis of that declaration, knowing that God, without exception, always keeps His word! He keeps His covenant! Daniel is praying to God on the basis that Lord, You are the God that keeps Your word. You keep Your covenant, Your promises!
- **The importance of the confession of sin. How important it is to recognize my sin, willingly acknowledging it before God!** The Bible says, *(1Jn 1:9) If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.* The Bible tells us that if you seek to cover your sins you will not prosper. Sometimes we seek to cover our sins by trying to make ourselves look better before God than we really are. Assume we have tremendous hatred and anger toward a person. We hate them. But, when we pray we say, Lord you know that I do not love them as deeply as I should." It does not sound too bad, does it? I do not have that intense love that I know You would like me to have Lord."
- **Be honest with Him!** God I really do not have all the love for that person...when in fact, I hate him. Forgive me Lord. I know that is not the attitude that you would like me to have." That kind of honesty God can work with. He cannot really deal with the hypocrisy. It is important to be honest with God. We might as well, because He knows the truth anyhow. You are not fooling Him. You are only deceiving yourself.

**Dan 9:5** we have sinned and committed iniquity (perversity, twisted), we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments.

**Dan 9:6** Neither have we heeded Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings and our princes, to our fathers and all the people of the land.

- **“We!” Notice the humility of Daniel. He uses the pronoun “ ” twelve times** in this confession section of his prayer. He looks and considers himself as all-inclusive in being at fault. It is interesting that so many times when God’s judgment comes upon a person’s life, they want to “blame-shift.” Not wanting to take personal responsibility, they blame God! Lord, why would You do this to me? Why would You allow this to happen? They will do terrible things and then when they begin to reap the consequences of what they have done, they blame God. They want to curse God.
- **We see the importance of confession, and that of being in detail!** No blame-shifting! How refreshing this is! Daniel just confesses, Lord, we are at fault! We have sinned. We are the ones that have committed iniquity. We have done wickedly. We have rebelled. We have departed from Your laws, from Your precepts, from Your judgments! Neither have we listened to Your servants, the prophets, which spoke in Your name to our kings, and our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land!
- **Now Daniel had heard Jeremiah prophesying in Jerusalem** at the time that Daniel was growing up. Daniel was one of the princes. Jeremiah was often in the court of the king prophesying and telling the king and the people that they needed to turn toward God, to turn away from the idols, or else God would allow the Babylonians to come and destroy the city and to be taken captive. He had heard these prophecies of Jeremiah. But he acknowledges that they did not listen to God’s *servants, the prophets who spoke* in God’s name to the kings and the princes.

**Dan 9:7** *O Lord, righteousness belongs to You, but to us shame of face, as it is this day—to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, those near and those far off in all the countries to which You have driven them, because of the unfaithfulness which they have committed against You.*

- **This is such an important basic foundational truth - God is righteous! Notice how Daniel appropriately accredits God in His righteousness!** He says, *O Lord, righteousness belongs to You.* He is not blaming God. He is not saying God is not fair, or Lord what you are doing is not fair. But Lord You are righteous, even in judgment. Let that be one of the basic foundational truths that you have established in your heart. God is righteous. God is just. Because many times people are prone to challenge the fairness or the justice of God.
- **O Lord, righteousness belongs to You! What about the person** that has never heard about Jesus Christ? What about the person that lives in some remote jungle who lives and dies without ever hearing or knowing of the name of Jesus Christ? Is God going to confine that person to eternal torment in hell because they did not believe in Jesus when no one ever told them, or they had never heard about Jesus? I do not know. But what I do know, is that God is just, and whatever God does will be righteous and will be fair!
- **When you come up against something you do not know, fall back on what you do know.** God is fair. God is righteous. God is just. No one will be judged unjustly by God! No one is going to get a bum rap from God. No one can say, “Well, God is not fair.” For God is fair and righteous in all that He does! Daniel acknowledges it, saying what has happened to Israel is because they have trespassed. You are a fair God. You are righteous in what You did. They are suffering the consequences of their own actions as is always the case.

**Dan 9:8** *"O Lord, to us belongs shame of face, to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, because we have sinned against You.*

- **Lord, to us belongs shame of face.** We lie under the shame of the punishment of our iniquity, for shame is our due. If Israel had retained their character, and had continued a holy people, they would have been high above all nations in praise, and in name and in honor (*Deu 26:19*); but now that they

have sinned and done wickedly. All had been partakers of the guilt; all were involved in the calamities consequent on the guilt. As all had sinned, the judgments had come upon all, and it was proper that the confession should be made in the name of all.

***Dan 9:9 To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him.***

- **We have sinned against him. *We have rebelled against Him.*** Over and over he is acknowledging their guilt.
- ***To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness.*** *Mercy* is His nature, and what He delights in! It is abundant! He is plenteous in it. The fountain of *mercy* is with Him. Numerous are the streams which flow from it, called "the multitude of his tender mercies! All temporal favors spring from that, as well as all spiritual blessings, the sure mercies of David, particularly the *forgiveness* of sin, which is the Lord's prerogative, and is according to the tender mercies of our God, and the riches of His grace, which He pours out abundantly to pardon all that apply to Him for it! He also forgives all trespasses!
- ***Though we have rebelled against Him,*** there is *mercy* with the Lord, and *forgiveness* with Him, even for rebellious ones, which is an exaggeration and illustration of His pardoning grace and mercy! We have rebelled against Him. It is a plain case that He is merciful, forgiving our iniquities, since He has spared us, and not destroyed us, and now is about to put an end to our captivity, according to His promise. If He had not shown mercy to us, and did not forgive our sins, we must perish in them, there would be no hope of salvation for us! From God's goodness, flows God's *mercy*, from His mercies; *forgiveness!*

***Dan 9:10 We have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets.***

- **Neither have we obeyed the voice of the Lord our God.** Speaking in the law, and by His prophets; for what was spoken by them, should have been considered, not as the word of man, but as the word of God, and should have been attended to and obeyed. Refusing to hearken to Him, obeying His voice, was a sin, provoking resentment by Him.
- **To walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets;** by Moses and others. It seems to include the system of laws which were delivered by Moses, and there were many. The doctrines of the prophets were explained and enforcements of them. The Lord set these before them by both, as a rule to walk by, and a path to walk in. Not to do this, was very sinful in them, and displeasing to Him.

***Dan 9:11 Yes, all Israel has transgressed Your law, and has departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse and the oath written in the Law of Moses the servant of God have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against Him.***

- **In Deuteronomy it speaks of the curse of the law. (Deu 28:15) "But it shall come to pass, if you do not obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments and His statutes which I command you today, that all these curses will come upon you and overtake you:** And it begins to list all of these curses that would come..
- **When God was giving the law to Moses, as yet Israel had not had a king. God was still ruling over them.** Israel was to be ruled by God. They were to be a theocracy in contrast to a monarchy. It was not until years later when Samuel was the prophet and they came to Samuel and they said, "Appoint a king over us." But God knew that they were going to reject Him from ruling, and they were going to demand a king. In the law, the Lord said, (Deu 28:36-37) "*The LORD will bring you and the king whom you set over you to a nation which neither you nor your fathers have known, and there you shall serve other gods—wood and stone. [37] And you shall become an astonishment, a proverb, and a byword among all nations where the LORD will drive you.*
- **Daniel is acknowledging this. This curse of the law has come upon us.** Here we are in this foreign nation and our king has been taken captive also because we have sinned against the Lord.

***Dan 9:12 And He has confirmed His words (the truth of God), which He spoke against us and against our judges who judged us, by bringing upon us a great disaster; for under the whole heaven such has never been done as what has been done to Jerusalem.***

- ***And He has confirmed His words, which He spoke against us.*** That is, He has made good His threatenings of wrath and vengeance, in case of disobedience to his law:
- ***And against our judges that judged us;*** kings, and judges, that ruled over them, who perverted justice, and did not execute righteous judgment; and against them the Lord performed what He threatened:
- ***By bringing upon us a great disaster,*** the desolation of the whole land, the destruction of Jerusalem; the death of many by the sword, famine, and pestilence, and the captivity of the rest. All which was a great punishment considered in itself, but, when compared with their offences, was less than they deserved:
- ***For under the whole heaven such has never been done as what has been done to Jerusalem!*** Its walls were broken down! Its houses were burnt with fire, even the palaces of the king and nobles. Most importantly, the temple of the Lord itself had been burned! Never has a city been so utterly destroyed, wiped out, obliterated! All its inhabitants destroyed, dispersed, or carried captive.

***Dan 9:13 'As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth.***

- ***In spite of the fact that God gave this horrible judgment,*** still the people did not turn toward God. I wonder what it does take to wake people up and to turn them toward God. Our nation had a little taste of that in “Nine Eleven!” Although the church woke up for a short time, but soon went back to slumbering. We have a long list of the most ungodly and blasphemous laws being passed since then!
- ***We see the terrorists beginning to operate within our nation.*** We see the gang warfare. We see the drive by shootings. When are we going to wake up? When are we going to pray? When are we going to seek God? When are we going to turn to the Lord? When are we going to confess, God we have sinned? What is it going to take to awaken the national consciousness? These things do not seem to stir people. We just continue to go on in sin, rejecting God, saying He has no place in our country!
- ***Yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn and understand Your truth!*** In America, we have turned our back on God. But what is it going to take to wake us up and turn us around? What is it going to take to get us to prayer like Daniel is praying, acknowledging to the Lord that we have sinned and have turned from His law and done wickedly. Thus, Lord this judgment has come upon us. He has only confirmed His word that He spoke against us.
- ***In Revelation as it is describing the cataclysmic events of the Great Tribulation,*** these catastrophes that are happening upon the earth, in the midst of them, it says (*Rev 16:9*) *And men were scorched with great heat, and they blasphemed the name of God who has power over these plagues; and they did not repent and give Him glory.* In other words, all of this judgment and still they do not repent. Rather than repenting, they are cursing God for the calamities that have come.

***Dan 9:14 Therefore the LORD has kept the disaster in mind, and brought it upon us; for the LORD our God is righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice.***

- ***Therefore the LORD has kept the disaster in mind, and brought it upon us;*** In consequence of our manifold rebellions, God has now watched for an opportunity to bring these calamities upon us.
- ***For the LORD, our God is righteous in all the works which He does.*** The prophet is continuing to be careful to clear God from any injustice in any of His works. This is the language which is always used by one who has right feelings when he reflects on the Divine dealings toward him. God is seen to be righteous in His law and in His dealings. The only reason we suffer is that we have sinned! This will be found to be true always; and whatever calamities we suffer, it should be a fixed principle with us! (*Job 36:3*) *I will fetch my knowledge from afar; I will ascribe righteousness to my Maker.*

- *Though we have not obeyed His voice*, neither in His word, nor in His providences. Neither by His prophets, nor by His judgments; and being guilty of the evil of fault, it was but just they should bear the evil of punishment.

***Dan 9:15 And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and made Yourself a name, as it is this day—we have sinned, we have done wickedly!***

- **He is talking about the birth of the nation, Israel.** We were in bondage in Egypt. You were the One that created the nation. You brought us out. You are a delivering God. As Daniel prayed, he remembered that the Lord our God delivered Israel from Egypt, which was a standard of power in the Old Testament, whereas the New Testament standard of God's power is the resurrection of Jesus Christ!
- **And made Yourself a name, as it is this day.** People talked about the God that delivered these slaves out of Egypt. The idea is, that that great event had been the means of making Him known as a faithful God, and a God able to deliver. Daniel prayed that He would again interpose, and would now show that He was as able to deliver His people as in former times.
- **We have sinned, we have done wickedly!** This turn in the thought shows how deeply the idea of their sinfulness pressed upon the mind of Daniel. The natural and obvious course of thought would have been, that, as God had interposed when his people were delivered from Egyptian bondage, he would now again interpose; but instead of that, the mind of Daniel is overwhelmed with the thought that they had sinned grievously against One who had shown that He was a God so great and glorious, and who had laid them under such obligations to love and serve Him.

***Dan 9:16 "O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people are a reproach to all those around us.***

- **Now notice he is not appealing to God on the basis of their righteousness**, or their deserving, but he is appealing to God on the basis of *Your righteousness*, God's goodness, God's grace, and God's love!
- **When you come to God it is always good to just make your petition on the basis of God's love and God's grace and not on your merits or your worth.** I never say I want justice. No sir! God, I want Your mercy! So, he is appealing to God on the basis of God's *righteousness*.
- **Daniel prayed for restoration in three respects.** In effect, he asked God to bring back *Your city*, (*Dan 9:16, Dan 9:18*); *Your sanctuary*, (*Dan 9:17*); and *Your people*, (*Dan 9:19*). God's answer embraced all three (*Dan 9:24*).

***Dan 9:17 Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary (Your temple), which is desolate.***

- **Now, therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications.** In behalf of the people, he pleaded for his people and country, entreating the Lord to be merciful. His argument is based on the confession of sin; on the character of God; on the condition of the city and sanctuary (temple); on the former Divine interposing in behalf of the people; and by all these considerations, Daniel pleads with God to have mercy upon his people and land.
- **For the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate... Do not delay for Your own sake:** Daniel's prayer was consumed with the glory of God, not primarily with the benefit of man. His purpose in prayer was to see God's work accomplished and His cause glorified! We also see the purity of Daniel's motive in his prayer, which is to pray for the sake of the Lord's cause, both in our words and heart.
- **Cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary!** Give us proof that You are reconciled to us. That the Lord would smile upon it again, and upon them, causing it to be rebuilt, and worship restored in it!

***Dan 9:18 O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies.***

- **It is based on God's compassion.** Not justice Lord, mercy Lord, is what Daniel is saying. Not because we are so righteous, but we come on the basis of *Your great mercies*. (**Lam 3:22**) *Through the LORD's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not.* Great is His faithfulness! When we come to God, it is based on God's compassion. That is, His mercy!
- **We do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies!** Even during the time of the Old Testament, Daniel prayed as we should pray. His confidence was not in his goodness, but in God's goodness. Daniel, a great man of prayer, was not great in simply praying. He was great because his prayer was the necessity of trusting and depending on *the great mercies* of God. Many spend countless hours in prayer, achieving nothing because it is not rooted in the goodness and righteousness of God, but in their self-righteousness and trusting in themselves. Daniel's dependency was entirely on God!

***Dan 9:19 O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name.***

- **It is based on God's calling!** God has called His family of believers. He takes people from every walk of life, bringing them to Himself, having a plan for each of us. He knows why He is doing what He is doing. We are His children, and it is a picture of His love. When we come to prayer, we appeal to God based on His calling. He has called us! We want to live for Him! We so need to have His answers to our prayers, which is a very legitimate reason to pour out our hearts to Him!
- **This is the climactic plea of Daniel. He asks God to hear and answer because of who He is and what He has promised.** No good thing rests upon Israel. Daniel doesn't plead because he is Daniel. Rather, he associates himself with his people, saying "We have sinned," including himself. God's name is at stake! Daniel is deeply concerned about the name of God and the glory of God. This is the basis for his plea. How about our concern for His name and His glory?
- **So, he comes to the end of his prayer beseeching God to hear, respond, and forgive.** It is always beneficial to meditate on prayers that produce results. This is a wonderful model for prayer. It produced results. Next week, we shall see that while Daniel was praying, an answer was on its way.

#### **SUMMARY:**

- **Daniel, a Godly man, faithful in prayer, goes to the Word.** Understands the prophecy. Obediently and profoundly responds in prayer! What an encouraging example for us!
- **Vs. 1-3 Daniel goes to the Word of God** – seventy weeks of captivity is almost over! He responds so positively and completely, causing Him to prepare – fasting; sackcloth, ashes, to go to prayer and seek Him with all of his hearts! We notice how he responds to (*Jer 29:13-1*) *And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart. [14a] I will be found by you, says the LORD.*
- **Vs. 4-19; Daniel prayed to the LORD**
- **V. 4 Daniel addresses the LORD; Begins detailed, humble, confession of sins -** *We have sinned, we have done wickedly!*
- **Vs. 5-18; He begins confirming Israel's sins:** *We have sinned; committed iniquity; done wickedly; rebelled; by departing; Neither have we heeded; shame of face; because of the unfaithfulness; belongs shame of face, we have sinned against You; have rebelled against Him; not obeyed the voice of the LORD; all Israel has transgressed Your law; departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse, because we have sinned against Him; yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD*
- **Vs. 7-19 He praises and blesses the LORD for who He is and what He has done!** *His righteousness belongs to You; mercy and forgiveness; confirmed His words; God is righteous in all the works; made Yourself a name; according to all Your righteousness; for the Lord's sake cause*

Your face to shine on Your sanctuary; because of Your great mercies; for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name

- **Vs. 16-19 – He makes supplication and petitions, with correct motives “All for the LORD’s sake”** - O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away. [17] Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate. [18] O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies! [19] O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name."
- **APPLICATION: How similar to Daniel’s response, should our response be to the Model prayer (“The Lord’s prayer”), as well as to the promised Second Coming of our Lord and Savior, to the Rapture of the church? Consider the promise in His Word! (Joh 14:3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. (Rev 4:1b) After these things I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven. And the first voice which I heard was like a trumpet speaking with me, saying, "Come up here, and I will show you things which must take place after this."**
  - ✓ **Eagerly Wait!** - (1Co 1:7) so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ; (Tit 2:13) looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ; (Heb 9:28) so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.
  - ✓ **Watch!** (1Th 5:6) Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober; (1Pe 5:8) Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. (Mar 13:33) Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. (1Pe 4:7) But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.
  - ✓ **Pray!** (1 Th 5:17) pray without ceasing; (Mat 26:41 – Gethsemane prayer) Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak;" (Luk 11:9) "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you; (Luk 21:36) Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man. **Next week -- an answer to his prayer, and what an answer it is!**

## CLOSING SONG:

**SWEET HOUR OF PRAYER** - W. Walford/W. Bradbury – Maranatha Praise Band (3:27/3:30)

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! That calls me from a world of care, And bids me at my Father’s throne Make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief, My soul has often found relief, And oft escaped the tempter’s snare, By thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer! sweet hour of prayer! Thy wings shall my petition bear To Him whose truth and faithfulness Engage the waiting soul to bless. And since **He bids me seek His face, Believe His Word and trust His grace, I’ll cast on Him my every care, And wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer!**

## CLOSING PRAYER:

**Read Chapter 9:20-27! What a tremendous prophecy!**

### **Highlighted TEXT - Daniel's Prayer for His People (vs. 1-19)**

Showing in highlight text:

- **Daniel's confession of Israel's sin;**
- **Daniel Praises and blesses the LORD;**
- **Daniel's supplication and petitions - vs. 16-19**

**(Dan 9:1-19)** *In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the lineage of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans— [2] in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the LORD through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem. [3] Then I set my face toward the Lord God to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes. [4] And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments, [5] **we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments.** [6] **Neither have we heeded** Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings and our princes, to our fathers and all the people of the land. [7] **O Lord, righteousness belongs to You, but to us shame of face, as it is this day—to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, those near and those far off in all the countries to which You have driven them, because of the unfaithfulness which they have committed against You. [8] "O Lord, to us belongs shame of face, to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, because we have sinned against You. [9] To the Lord our God belong mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him. [10] We have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets.[11] Yes, **all Israel has transgressed Your law, and has departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse and the oath** written in the Law of Moses the servant of God **have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against Him.** [12] **And He has confirmed His words, which He spoke against us and against our judges who judged us, by bringing upon us a great disaster; for under the whole heaven such has never been done as what has been done to Jerusalem. [13] "As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth. [14] Therefore the LORD has kept the disaster in mind, and brought it upon us; for the LORD our God is righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice. [15] And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and made Yourself a name, as it is this day—we have sinned, we have done wickedly! [16] 'O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, **let Your anger and Your fury be turned away** from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people are a reproach to all those around us. [17] Now therefore, **our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications,** and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate. [18] **O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes** and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies. [19] O Lord, **hear!** O Lord, **forgive!** O Lord, **listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake,** my God, for Your city and Your people are called by Your name."*****