

DANIEL TEN



Our study takes us to the final unit in Daniel. Chapters 10-12 surround the final vision that Daniel is shown. Chapter 10 is about the events before the vision is shown. Chapter 11 is the actual vision and chapter 12 reveals the aftermath. Daniel loses strength and is troubled about these things (8). Twice Daniel is told to “not be afraid” (12, 19).

Textual Background

1. The chapter begins in the 3rd year of Cyrus’ reign (536 B.C.)
 - Cyrus allowed the Jews to return in his first year (Ezra 1:1)
2. Daniel’s Babylonian name is given, likely to identify him as the same person throughout the book
3. Daniel has been mourning for three weeks (2)
4. Michael, the angel, appears in this chapter (13)
5. Daniel is called “highly esteemed” twice (11, 19)

Daniel sees an unusual messenger (4-6)

1. In many ways this is similar in appearance as Jesus in Revelation 1—but it is doubtful that it is since this “man” needs Michael, the angel to help him.
2. The man is dressed in linen—which priests wore
 - a belt of gold was around him
 - his body was “yellow”; his face like “lightning”; his eyes “torches”; arms “polished bronze”
3. The man touches Daniel twice, as assurance and comfort and speaks to him (18)

The beginning of the vision (7-9)

“The visions increase in length and complexity as the book carries on”—Boice

1. Daniel was with others, but only Daniel saw the vision (7)
 - great dread came upon the others
 - the vision was of “great conflict” (1) - warfare
2. There was a delay in explaining the vision to Daniel for three weeks—the same time period Daniel was mourning (13)
3. The divine messenger Daniel saw was in conflict with the “Prince of Persia” (13)
 - this opens the thought to a Heavenly or spiritual battle
 - Satan’s evil forces were trying to prevent the messenger from reaching Daniel
 - Michael, who is called archangel in Jude 9, helped the messenger out
4. The vision involves what will happen to God’s people in latter days (14)
 - this divine messenger is to again fight the Prince of Persia (20)
 - the Prince of Greece is about to come (at this time in history, Greece wasn’t a nation)
5. Michael is called “Your prince” (21) - angel to help Daniel

Concluding Thoughts

1. Even at an advanced age, likely in his 90’s, God is still _____ Daniel
2. There are spiritual things that go on _____ the scene that we never _____ or _____ about (Eph 6:12; Rev 12:7)
3. We see a divine method to _____ those who are troubled and frightened
 - pr _____ them; c _____ them; helped him to s _____ (10,11); a _____ them (12, 19)