

**"Daniel's Prayer"**

**Part 3**

**Daniel 9:1-19**

**Introduction:** Tonight, in our study of Daniel, we are returning to the prayer which Daniel offered to God in Daniel 9. He was moved to pray because at this time in his life he discovered as he read Jeremiah that the captivity would be 70 years. When he discovered this the Jews were 67 years into the captivity. Daniel therefore offered this prayer and his basis for his supplications were 2 things.

1. The lovingkindness of God to the nation.
2. The fact that he understood God to be a covenant keeping God.

**Notice Daniel 9:4**

I just want to point out one more time that Daniel refers to a specific Covenant. He calls it THE COVENANT. This is the Mosaic Covenant that promises restoration when there is repentance. It is in the Mosaic Coven where God promises restoration because of the Abrahamic Covenant.

**Leviticus 26:40-46**

<sup>40</sup> *If they shall confess their iniquity, and the iniquity of their fathers, with their trespass which they trespassed against me, and that also they have walked contrary unto me;*

<sup>41</sup> *And that I also have walked contrary unto them, and have brought them into the land of their enemies; if then their uncircumcised hearts be humbled, and they then accept of the punishment of their iniquity:*

<sup>42</sup> *Then will I remember my covenant with Jacob, and also my covenant with Isaac, and also my covenant with Abraham will I remember; and I will remember the land.*

<sup>43</sup> *The land also shall be left of them, and shall enjoy her sabbaths, while she lieth desolate without them: and they shall accept of the punishment of their iniquity:*

*because, even because they despised my judgments, and because their soul abhorred my statutes.*

*<sup>44</sup> And yet for all that, when they be in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, neither will I abhor them, to destroy them utterly, and to break my covenant with them: for I am the LORD their God.*

*<sup>45</sup> But I will for their sakes remember the covenant of their ancestors, whom I brought forth out of the land of Egypt in the sight of the heathen, that I might be their God: I am the LORD.*

*<sup>46</sup> These are the statutes and judgments and laws, which the LORD made between him and the children of Israel in mount Sinai by the hand of Moses.*

Daniel began his prayer with confession, and we looked at his confession last week. The confession is found in verses 5-10. In his confession Daniel included himself with the Jews who had sinned. This now brings us to where we are this evening.

➤ **Deserved Judgment**

**Daniel 9:11-14**

**Notice Daniel 9:11**

Daniel acknowledges that they had fallen under the curse because they had turned away from God. We need to notice that he did not blame God for what they were facing in the captivity because Daniel knew that they deserved what they were going through. They had been warned in the Law. It was the result of their choices that brought about the captivity. In Deuteronomy God made an oath.

**Deuteronomy 30:19-20**

*<sup>19</sup> I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live:*

*<sup>20</sup> That thou mayest love the LORD thy God, and that thou mayest obey his voice, and that thou mayest cleave unto him: for he is thy life, and the length of thy*

*days: that thou mayest dwell in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.*

### **Notice Daniel 9:12**

God was just being true to His Word. Daniel tells us that they went through a great evil and he also states that no other nation had ever faced anything like they faced in the Babylonian captivity. The chastening was equal to the sin. Let us notice a few things that the Jews experienced.

### **Lamentations 4:4-6**

*<sup>4</sup> The tongue of the sucking child cleaveth to the roof of his mouth for thirst: the young children ask bread, and no man breaketh it unto them.*

*<sup>5</sup> They that did feed delicately are desolate in the streets: they that were brought up in scarlet embrace dunghills.*

*<sup>6</sup> For the punishment of the iniquity of the daughter of my people is greater than the punishment of the sin of Sodom, that was overthrown as in a moment, and no hands stayed on her.*

Let us notice what Ezekiel writes.

### **Ezekiel 5:8-9**

*<sup>8</sup> Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I, even I, am against thee, and will execute judgments in the midst of thee in the sight of the nations.*

*<sup>9</sup> And I will do in thee that which I have not done, and whereunto I will not do any more the like, because of all thine abominations.*

Jerusalem was the center of blessings for Judah, and it was for all the world to see. But under Babylon they would suffer like no other nation, and it would be for all the world to see.

### **Notice Daniel 9:13**

God had warned the Jews many times over, but they had refused to repent and now they found themselves in the captivity. God had made known that before they had come this far there was a way to escape the captivity. Notice the words of John Phillips.

*"Did the people repent when the Assyrians carried away the entire northern kingdom and ravaged Judah right down to Jerusalem itself? Only until the death of godly King Hezekiah—then Judah followed Manasseh into worse wickedness than before. Did the people repent when Josiah found a copy of the law in the temple after God's Word had been so completely forgotten that he read it with astonishment and resolve? Only until his death (The truth is they had remorse but not repentance!). Did the people repent when the Babylonians first appeared and encamped in battle array around Jerusalem? No. Did they repent when Jerusalem fell in 605BC and the cream of the Judean aristocracy was taken away to Babylon? No. Did they repent when the second Babylonian expedition appeared before Jerusalem and Jehoiachin was deposed and Zedekiah installed as a puppet king in his place in 597BC? No. Did they repent when Zedekiah was summoned to Babylon in 594BC? No. Did they repent when the Babylonians appeared in force before Jerusalem for the final siege in 587BC? Not at all. Did they repent when Jerusalem fell at last and was sacked in 586BC? No. Did they repent in Babylon? No."*

**Notice Daniel 9:13 again.**

There is something here that we can miss if we do not look closely. Because there was no repentance in the Jews, they could not understand the Truth of God's Word.

**Application:**

When I consider this, I am reminded that if we are going to understand the Truth of the Bible then our hearts must be right and we must repent of our sin. Let us notice what Peter wrote about this same thought.

**1 Peter 2:1-2**

*Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,*

*<sup>2</sup> As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:*

Here we can clearly see that sin must be put away before there will be a deep hunger for the Word and sin must be put away if there is to be an understanding of the Truth. This then raises a question for each of us. Do we have a hunger for the Bible like a baby does for milk? If we do not have the hunger, then let us look closely at our lives to see if one of the 5 sins that Peter mentions is existing in our lives.

#### **Notice Daniel 9:14**

There are 2 thoughts to consider here.

##### **1. The Lord watched upon the evil.**

This means that God was very careful that none of the sins of Judah would escape the judgment. He was like a watchman on guard day and night.

##### **Application:**

This is a solemn reminder that God will not allow sin to go unjudged. Unsaved people need to know that every one of their sins will be exposed and judged at the Great White Throne judgment.

##### **2. Daniel recognizes that even in the captivity God is righteous.**

This connects with the first point. Because God is righteous, He cannot allow sin to go unjudged.

##### **Application:**

Let the world know that God will show no favoritism on judgment day. If He judged Israel, He will also judge the people of the world. He is righteous and for that reason no sinner will be given a pass.

#### **➤ Daniel's Supplications**

**Daniel 9:15-19**

**Notice Daniel 9:15**

Daniel begins his supplications by reminding God that He had brought the nation out of Egypt and through the Exodus God was glorified. Daniel also acknowledges the sins of Judah.

**Notice Daniel 9:16**

Now based upon the righteousness of God Daniel asks that God's anger and fury be turned away from Jerusalem. He states that the Jews had now become a reproach to all the people around them. In his own way Daniel is asking God in His righteousness to remove His anger and fury so that He would be glorified through His people.

**Application:**

We need to be reminded that God's purpose throughout all of history and all the future is that He would be glorified. This is His purpose and it is His purpose in our lives as well. Therefore, our prayers should be that God works in our lives in a way that whatever unfolds the circumstances would bring glory to Him.

**Notice Daniel 9:17**

Here we see that Daniel prayed for restoration not so that he and his people would be relieved, but for the Lord's sake. Daniel understood something that we often forget or that we just refuse to admit. That point is that our lives are all about God.

**Romans 12:1-2**

*I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

<sup>2</sup> *And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.*

We are called to be living sacrifices that bring glory to God.

**Matthew 5:14-16**

<sup>14</sup> *Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.*

<sup>15</sup> *Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.*

<sup>16</sup> *Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.*

**Notice Daniel 9:18-19**

Again, Daniel is more concerned for God's glory than he is for his comfort.

**Conclusion:**

Next week we will see that Daniel's prayer was effective and before he was finished God sent Gabriel to give him a vision.

Let us remember that our lives are all about glorifying God in ALL circumstances.