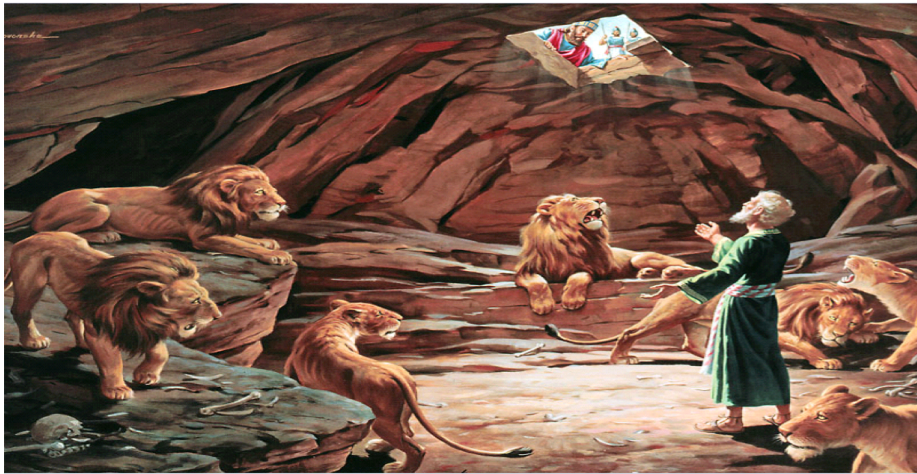


# Deliverance Through Prayer



**Is Your God Able to Deliver You?**



## THE PRAYERS OF DANIEL

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# INTRODUCTION TO THE PRAYERS OF DANIEL

*A terrorist bomb shakes the foundation of our security. A drunk driver claims an innocent victim. A tornado blows away a lifetime of savings, a stroke or heart attack suddenly kills a love one, divorce shatters the home, a child is imprisoned, our company suddenly goes bankrupt and we are left jobless. Personal and international tragedies and upheaval make our lives and world feel insecure and out of control. In this state of insecurity and uncertainty we wonder, where is God?*

Over two thousand five hundred years ago, the teenager Daniel could have feared and wondered where was the God of his fathers. He and thousands of his country men were violently uprooted from family, friends, and his country that he loved. They were taken captive to Babylon by the ruthless dictator and world ruler of those days, King Nebuchadnezzar. Throughout Daniel's turbulent experiences his attitude and actions proved that he knew that God was in control.

After a 500-mile trip on foot, Daniel and his friends finally reached Babylon. They were offered certain favors by the King. The king's intention was to gradually condition the minds of these youth so that they could forget their God and culture to serve him and the gods of Babylon. However, to the spiritually-discerning Daniel, these tests were subtle tests of the young men's faith in the True and Living God.

One of these subtle tests that Daniel and his friends faced was the test of appetite. They were required to partake of the King's meat and wine. Would they gratify their appetite and desires outside of the will of God, or would they obey God in the face of looking ungrateful for the King's favor?

Daniel resolutely and humbly decided to honor God by asking for a meal that was different from that of the King's but that was in harmony with God's word. "But Daniel purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself with the portion of the king's delicacies, nor with the wine which he drank; therefore he requested of the chief of the eunuchs that he might not defile himself" (Dan 1:8) . Daniel could not eat the royal food because it was contrary to God's diet found in Leviticus, and probably the food was offered to idols. These boys had proper home training and faith in God that not even the king delicacies could entice them.

According to Dan 1:9, God blessed Daniel's decision and gave him **favor** with the king's official. So Daniel never had to eat the King's diet; instead he ate a vegetarian diet. Ten days later the four boys were feeling and looking healthier than those who ate the King's diet. They also passed their college final exam with outstanding scores, the highest honors. As we plan to participate in this Daniel's Diet, we too will have to make up our mind whether we will be faithful to our commitment or not. With God's enabling we can. Yes we can! When we are faithful, God will grant us favor. God's favor is the shortest route to success in this life, and it prepares us for the life to come.

This first incident in the book of Daniel – choosing the right diet – brings out the three main themes in the book of Daniel:

1. *The cosmic conflict between good and evil*
2. *The fact that God is in control of every circumstance, good or bad*
3. *A display of the blessings and challenges of obedience to God*

**Note that the title of this Daniel's Diet Prayer Booklet is: "Deliverance Through Prayer."**

As we study and reflect on the four major prayers in the book of Daniel, we see the mighty hand of God in delivering His people from death, deception, destruction, and captivity. In Chapter 2, God delivered Daniel and the wise men from execution in answer to Daniel's prayer. In Chapter 4, through faith and prayer, Daniel was delivered from the lion's den. In Chapter 9, through prayer, fasting, and supplication God revealed to Daniel the deliverance and restoration of his people and the coming of the future Deliverer – the Messiah. Through the prevailing prayer in Chapter 10, God removes the curtain between the visible and invisible world and gives us a glimpse of the intergalactic struggle between the forces of good and evil that are battling for our souls. It reveals that no power on earth can enslave God's people forever. Through prevailing prayer, angels of God who excel in strength will be sent to break the stronghold of evil on God's people and to set God's people free. Hallelujah!

Though the book of Daniel was written over 2500 years ago, its focus is on the time of the end – our time – the end of the conflict between good and evil. For example, Chapter 2 ends with Christ's kingdom smashing all earthly kingdoms. In 12:4, 9, 13 the prophet says that God's people will have a greater understanding of the book of Daniel in the time of the end, which is our time.

Welcome to this fascinating, gripping, powerful, faith-building study and reflection on the prayers of Daniel! May you experience Deliverance Through the Prayers of Daniel, for Daniel's God surely does deliver.

*"Now the king went to his palace and spent the night fasting; and no musicians were brought before him. Also his sleep went from him. Then the king arose very early in the morning and went in haste to the den of lions. And when he came to the den, he cried out with a lamenting voice to Daniel. The king spoke, saying to Daniel, 'Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve*

*continually, been able **to deliver** you from the lions?’ Then Daniel said to the king, ‘O king, live forever! My God sent His angel and shut the lions’ mouths, so that they have not hurt me, because I was found innocent before Him; and also, O king, I have done no wrong before you.’ Now the king was exceedingly glad for him, and commanded that they should take Daniel up out of the den. So Daniel was taken up out of the den and no injury whatever was found on him, because he believed in his God.” (Dan 6:18-23)*

Praise the Lord! Please do not only read these prayers but reflect on them and see their deeper applications to your life.

**Ground Rules:**

- (a) These prayers are to be used in a devotional manner. Please avoid conflicts and contention in studying them.
- (b) The prophecies are not to be discussed and deliberated during the study of the prayers but at a later date.
- (c) Work through the application sections in each lesson. Don’t skip them. These prayers are not just designed to provide information but to touch and transform our hearts.
- (d) If you are studying in a group, try to get as many people as possible to participate.
- (e) These lessons are designed to be used for the Daniel’s Diet and not to be disseminated other wise. The author intends to develop this into a book. If you have any comments, email them to him with the understanding that they could include them in the book. The email is [ldaley@northeastern.org](mailto:ldaley@northeastern.org).

Let us pray...

*Dear God, I am thankful for the opportunity of studying the prayers of Daniel during these 10 days. I know that just as you were active in Daniel’s experience, you will be in mine today. Help me to be as faithful to you as Daniel was, especially in the area of being temperate in my eating and drinking. May my life be a daily testimony to your greatness and power. O God, I look forward with excitement and joy as you bless me, my church, and Northeastern Conference throughout these 10 days of participating in this Daniel’s Diet. God of Daniel, I surrender my life to you today. Make me a modern Daniel.*

## **CHANGING YOUR WORLD THROUGH PRAYER**

# Daniel 2

## HOW FOUR YOUNG MEN CHANGED THEIR WORLD THROUGH PRAYER

Are you in a present situation where your future and life depend on getting an answer to a puzzling question for yourself or someone else? Just imagine if you and your coworkers were on the verge of losing your jobs and life because you failed to solve your CEO's problem, a problem that you were trained and paid to solve. What would you do about this?

In Daniel 2:1-11, we discover that the king's advisors – the magicians, astrologers, sorcerers, and Chaldeans, who were trained to find solutions to problems like what the king had – had failed to solve the problem. What follows is an exciting drama of how prayer saved lives and changed the destiny of the world. This drama has fascinated past generations and has a significant meaning for this generation.

1. What problem did King Nebuchadnezzar face? Daniel 2:1-3
2. Whom did he call to help him solve his problem? Why should they have been able to provide answers and solutions to the king's problem?

“Highly trained and apparently well motivated, they were charged in discovering the will of the gods, something that seemed really important. The magicians and sorcerers were trained to protect the people by warding off demons. The astrologers interpreted omens and predicted the future. The Chaldeans offered a variety of services and constituted the ruling group in Babylon.... The whole body of wise men saw themselves as scholars and scientists.... They believed that if nature could be properly understood... people would be able to explain past failures, heal present illnesses, and secure future success.”

**Application:** In these stories in the Book of Daniel God discredited the wisdom of the worldly wise men. In chapter 1, Daniel and his friends were proven to be ten times wiser than they. In chapter 2, the wise men could not tell the king his dream. In chapter 4, though the king told them his dream, they could not tell him the interpretation, and in chapter 5, they could not read the writing on the wall. In contrast, Daniel and his friends who were in touch with the living God were always ready to provide answers to the most difficult problems.

**Who do you turn to for answers to questions that baffle you and problems that overwhelm you? Do you get better results than Nebuchadnezzar got from his counselors?**

The Apostle Paul tells us that we do not receive sound spiritual advice from the worldly wise because spiritual things are spiritually discerned. “Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.... But the natural man receives not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.” (1 Cor. 2:11-14)

3. What was the final conclusion that the king advisors came to about his request to reveal his forgotten dream? (Daniel 2:10-12) \_\_\_\_\_. They knew that the answer lies with the God whose dwelling is not with flesh, but they did not know Him or how to get answers from Him.

**Application: You know that God is all-powerful and all-wise, but do you know how to connect with Him so that you can find solutions to your problems and those of whom you serve? Pause and reflect on this question. Who in your circle of influence needs to have a divine intervention? Can you lead them to such an experience as Daniel did with Nebuchadnezzar?**

4. Have you ever wondered where Daniel was and why he, as one of the wise men, was not invited to the initial meeting to find an answer to the king's question?
5. How did Daniel respond when he discovered that the king decreed that all the wise men of Babylon and their families should be destroyed immediately? (Daniel 2:13-16)
6. How did Daniel and his young buddies find solutions to a problem that threatened their lives and the lives of their friends? \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Daniel 2:17-18) What are some of the life-threatening issues that face our young men in the church and in America today? How can united prayer help to bring solutions? How can we get young men to pray?**
7. In Daniel 2:18-19, the Bible says the answer that Daniel and his friends prayed for was revealed to them in a vision.

**Application: Please discuss the following question: In what ways does God answer prayer, and how can I be certain that the answer I receive is from Him? Could you pause right now and pray about conditions that are threatening the health and life of those in your group? What revelations are you getting from God concerning these conditions?**

8. To whom did Daniel give credit for answering his prayer about revelation of the king's dream? \_\_\_\_\_ ( 2:20,26-28)
9. As Daniel blessed God for revealing the dream to him, he stated some of His characteristics. (2:19-23) What are seven of these characteristics? a)  
b) c) d)  
e) f) g)

10. Daniel was able to describe God based on how He answered his prayers. How would you describe God based on how He has answered your prayers?

11. How did God's answer to Daniel's prayer change the king's personal world and his view of Daniel's God? How were Daniel's and his young friends' worlds changed through answers to this prayer? (Daniel 2:27-49)

**Please note that this is not the place and time to explain the symbols in this vision.**

## **12. Conclusion:**

**What serious challenges are you presently facing in your personal life, job, church, community and nation that you need to ask Daniel's God to help you overcome? If you are convinced that Daniel's God can answer your prayers about difficult challenges, list these challenges and ask your prayer group to pray earnestly with you.**

**According to one of my favorite quotation, why is prayer so powerful?**

**“Prayer is the Answer to Every Problem in Life. It puts us in touch with divine wisdom which knows how to adjust everything perfectly.** So often we do not pray in certain situations because, from our standpoint, the outlook is hopeless. But nothing is impossible with God. Nothing is so entangled that it cannot be remedied. No human relationship is too strained for God to bring about reconciliation and understanding; not habit is so deep rooted that it cannot be overcome; no one is so weak that he cannot be made strong; no one is so ill that he cannot be healed; no mind is so dull that it cannot be made brilliant. Whatever we need, if we trust God, he will supply it. If any thing is causing worry or anxiety, let us stop rehearsing the difficulty and trust God for healing, love and power.”

**GO NOW IN THE NAME OF JESUS AND CHANGE YOUR WORLD THROUGH PRAYER!**

# PRAYER AND POLITICS IN THE PALACE

## Chapter 6

**If like Daniel, your coworkers accused you of being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you? ( ) Yes ( ) No**

**Let us follow this intriguing drama in Chapter 6 of the Book of Daniel and see how prayer can empower you and strengthen your witness for God in the workplace.**

1. What was the name of the king that placed one hundred and twenty princes over his entire kingdom and three presidents over them? Daniel 6:1-2
2. In Daniel 6:3, the Bible says that there was an excellent spirit in Daniel that distinguished him from all of the princes and presidents? **Discuss this spirit. What do you think it was? Have you ever seen this in anyone, and has anyone ever seen it in you?**
3. Why were the princes and presidents jealous over Daniel? Could it be that God was behind this jealousy in the politics in the palace? (Dan 6:4-6) **How is your relationship with those on your job or in your church? Are your fellow workers and worshipers jealous of you?**
4. In verses 4-6, Daniel's coworkers were jealous of him because the king elevated him to the highest position. Therefore, they tried to find reasons to accuse Daniel of inefficiency in his conduct of government affairs, but they could not find any because he was so faithful. So they accused him of being a Christian. In this, they found ample evidence to convict him.

**APPLICATION: If like Daniel, your coworkers accused you of being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you? ( ) Yes ( ) No**

5. What was the plan that the princes and presidents conceived and executed to trap and destroy Daniel? (Dan 2:5-9)

In Ephesians 6:11-12, the Bible tells us that we must put on the armor of God because, like in Daniel, the devil and his cohorts are scheming to destroy us: "Put on the full armor of God so that you can take **your stand against the devil's schemes**. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realm." (NIV) In Ephesians, the Scriptures tell us that those who are "in Christ" have already gotten victory over these enemies. Praise God! One of the means through which we experience this victory is prayer. "Pray in the Spirit on all occasions with **all kinds of prayers and requests**. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be



given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.” (Eph 6:18-20 NIV)

6. Daniel faced this life-threatening emergency in the manner that he had always faced his life’s situations. **He prayed and did not panic!** There is no evidence or sign of anxiety and revenge in Daniel. This is amazing! How do we deal with coworkers and worshipers who politic against us on the job and in the church? How should we face diseases that are threatening to destroy us? **Pray and not panic.**
7. Discuss verses 10 and 11. What are some things that we need to learn about prayer from these verses?
8. King Darius seriously regretted the decision that he made to pass the law that people should not worship any other god except him for 30 days? On what basis did he make the decision? What can we learn from him about making serious decisions? Dan 6: 11-14
9. What serious decisions have you made that you are now regretting. Like Darius, you can seek the Lord’s mercy, and power through prayer, fasting, and supplication to deliver you from the terrible consequences of those decisions.
10. This idol-worshipping king knew that Daniel served the true and living God, the great Deliverer. **Pause and reflect on the following question for about five minutes. What do your coworkers and church members know about God as a result of their association with you?**
11. There is an old saying, “What goes around comes around.” These princes and presidents plotted that Daniel would become *Lunch for the Lions* but the lions had them for lunch. What a great turn of fortune! Be careful that you are not caught up in the politics of the palace – the workplace – or the place of worship. (Dan 2; 18-10-19)
12. Daniel 10:13 says that one of the reasons that God sent His angels to deliver Daniel was that he believed in God. Have faith in God dear friend.

We serve a mighty God! Through a life of prayer and faith:

- He brings to naught the counsels of evil men and women
- He causes men in the highest authority to respect us and fear Him
- He can shut the mouths of lions preventing us from becoming lunch for them.
- He turns what men meant for evil into good

What a mighty God we serve!

**What is the most significant lesson that you are taking away from the study of prayer and politics in the workplace and in the place of**

**worship? What steps will you take to apply this lesson to your life beginning today?**

## **PRAYER AND FASTING**

### **Daniel Chapter 9**

The vision in Chapter 9 was given to Daniel during the same time period as that of Chapter 6. This Darius mentioned in Chapter 9 is also the person mentioned in Chapter 6.

In Mark 9:29, Jesus said that there are certain kinds of issues that cannot be resolved except through prayer and fasting. In chapter 9 of Daniel, we encounter one of these issues that needed to be resolved through prayer and fasting. **Are you presently facing an issue that prayer alone has not resolved? *Maybe you need to fast and pray about it.***

1. What did Daniel do when he understood by reading the prophecy of Jeremiah (25:11, 12; 12:29) that the time of Israel's restoration to their home land in Jerusalem was near? (Dan 9:1-4)

**Application:** According to the Holy Scriptures, are there any significant prophecies that should be fulfilled in our time that you need to pray and supplicate about? While you are thinking, here are two that I encourage you to pray and fast about: First, a revival among God's people. "'Now, therefore,' says the LORD, 'Turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning. So rend your heart, and not your garments.... And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on my menservants and on my maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.... And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be deliverance, as the LORD has said, among the remnant whom the LORD calls.'" (Joel 2: 12-13, 28-32.) The second is Matthew 24:14, "And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the entire world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come." NKJV

2. What does it mean that Daniel prayed with supplication, sackcloth and ashes? (Dan 9:3)
3. Can you identify the following elements in Daniel's prayer: covenant-keeping God, confession of sins, rebellion of the people, specific sins of the people, and the many contrasts between the righteousness of God and the sinfulness of His people? (Dan 9:4-19)

"In Daniel's prayer for the nation, he confessed his own sins, using the pronoun 'we' throughout. In times of adversity, it is easy to blame others and excuse our own actions. If any Israelite was

righteous, it was Daniel; and yet he confessed his sinfulness and his need for forgiveness. Instead of looking for others to blame, first look inside and confess your own sin to God.” Amen!

4. Daniel said that because the people disobeyed the voice of the Lord the curses of Moses fell upon them. What were these curses? Dan 9:9-13; Deuteronomy 28.
5. In Daniel 9:13-14, he called the destruction of Jerusalem and the Babylonian captivity of Israel a great evil, and the worse thing that has even being done under the whole heaven. Daniel was alarmed by how God’s people responded to this great evil. How did they respond?

Application: As you think about our condition as God’s Remnant people today in the light of the soon coming of Jesus Christ, how does it make you feel? As you read through verses 14-19, can you feel Daniel’s deep passion and humility as he cried out to the mighty God, the righteous God whose name was made a reproach among the unbelieving nations as a result of the sins of God’s people?

6. While Daniel was having his evening worship, the angel Gabriel was sent in answer to his earnest prayers. What answers did Gabriel bring to him?

Group Discussion: God is a prayer-answering God! He may or may not send an angel to answer our prayers, but He answers our prayers in different ways. Talk about other ways in which God answers our prayers. Cite some personal examples.

In chapter 8:14, Daniel received the vision of the 2300 days prophecy but only a part of the prophecy was explained to Him. As a matter of fact, he was astonished by the vision to the extent that he fainted and was sick. (8:26, 27) Are you ready to bear all that God wants to reveal to you?

In Daniel 9:24-27, the angel explained the 70 weeks or 490 years section of the 2300 days prophecy. This is a very important prophecy. However it’s not the purpose of this lesson to explain the prophecy. Please do not discuss it now. **The lesson that needs to be learned is that when we earnestly pray to God on the behalf of His people and the vindication of His name, He will hear us. Amen!**

7. What is the spiritual condition of the members in your local and regional church? Are they backslidden, rebellious, worldly, and indifferent, like the people of God in Daniel’s time? Will you, like Daniel, begin to pray and for your sins, the sins of God’s people, and the vindication of God’s great name.

#### CONCLUSION:

**There are certain answers to our questions, and solutions to our problems that we will not receive until our prayers are coupled with fasting and supplication. Daniel understood this concept and applied it. God heard his supplications by sending His highest angel to assure him that God loved him and was in control of the future destiny of His people and the**

world. Thank God for Daniel's example! What are some mega-issues that you need to fast and pray about today? Why not dedicate a half day or a whole day this week to prayer and fasting.

**Below is an article on prayer and fasting throughout the Bible. Use it to prepare yourself for your own season of prayer and fasting.**

# Experiencing God's Power

## THROUGH PRAYER AND FASTING

[Mark 9:29] “So He (Jesus) said to them, this kind can come out by nothing but **prayer and fasting.**” (Read from verse 17)

### **Bible Passages about Prayer and fasting**

#### **A. Old Testament Passages**

1. Ezra 8:21-32. When Ezra was coming from Babylon to Jerusalem with millions of dollars worth of silver and gold, he fasted and asked God for protection and preservation. What was the result?
2. Esther 4:1-17; 5:1-8; 6:1-3. When Esther's people, the Jews, were threatened with extinction, what did she do and what was the result?
3. According to Nehemiah 1:1-11, what drove him to prayer and fasting and what was the result?
4. Daniel chapters 9 and 10. Daniel and his people were in Babylonian captivity, but Daniel realized through studying the book of Jeremiah that their time of deliverance was near. According to Chapters 9 and 10, what did he do and what was the result?
5. According to Jonah 3:1-10, a great destruction was about to come upon the people of Nineveh; how did they prevent it?
6. Joel 2:1-32. The Lord was about to destroy Israel with a mighty army of locust, but Israel could prevent it. How could they prevent it and restore favor with God? (Joel 2:12-28)
7. 2 Chron. 20:1-33. What did King Jehoshaphat do when a coalition of three enemy nations attacked Israel and what was the result?

#### **B. NEW TESTAMENT PASSAGES**

8. Matthew 4:1-11. If Jesus felt the need to communicate with his Father through fasting and prayer, what about us? Through prayer and fasting, He was able to face and overcome the

devil. Do you believe that through prayer and fasting we can overcome the devil like Jesus did?

**As you fast and pray during these days, reflect on Hebrews 10:35-39 and 2 Corinthians 4:7-9; 16-18.**

9. Matthew 6:16-18 tells us what our attitude should be in fasting. In your own words, describe what our attitude should be when we are fasting.
10. According to Mark 9:17-29, there are three things we need to do to receive certain miracles from God. Fasting is one. What are the other two?
11. 1 Corinthians 11:27 says Paul fasted frequently. Read Verses 21-33 and determine why he fasted so often. What needs do you have that should motivate you to pray and fast?
12. What two or three things impress you the most about prayer and fasting from the above passages?
13. **As a result of reading the above texts, how would you answer the following questions?**
  - a. *What is fasting?*
  - b. *What are some of the elements of successful fasting?*
  - c. *What is the purpose of fasting?*
  - d. *Do you believe that the God who worked mightily through prayer and fasting in Bible days will work for us in like manner today if we seek Him with all our hearts? ( ) Yes ( ) No*  
*Give reasons for your answer.*
  - e. *In what ways will you apply the lessons learned from the study of prayer and fasting to your life?*

**[Mark 9:29] “So He (Jesus) said to them, this kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.”**

*As you fast and pray during these days, put all those who are participating in the Daniel’s Diet in your prayers.*

## **Prevailing in Prayer**

### **Daniel Chapter 10**

## **What do you do when it seems as if you are not getting answers to prayer?**

In Daniel chapters 10-12, we have an account of his final vision. In it, he was given further insight into the great spiritual warfare between the people of God and those who wanted to destroy them. In it, there is more detailed information about the future, especially the struggle between the king of the north (the Seleucids) and the kings of the south (the Ptolemy).

1. Why was Daniel mourning and fasting for three weeks, and what were some of the things that he abstained from during this fast? (10:1-2, 13-14) **When last have you felt that conviction to pray and fast as earnestly as Daniel did?**
2. What was the name of the Persian King that was reigning at the time of this prayer and for how long was he reigning? (10:1)

Note: According to Ezra chapter one, in the first year of the reign of King Cyrus, the Lord moved upon his heart to issue a proclamation allowing the Jews to return to their homeland in Jerusalem. By the third year of Cyrus' reign, Daniel, who was still in Babylon, was praying God's people. At that time, there was a strong, determined opposition against rebuilding their nation in Jerusalem. They needed divine intervention to complete the task. Daniel prayed for the present and future prosperity and victory of his people, but Satan did not want God's people to triumph.

3. Describe the being that Daniel saw in his vision in 10:4, 5. How does he resemble the being that John saw in his vision in Revelation 1:11-15?

**Application: Throughout Biblical history, God chooses to reveal himself in an awesome way to His people who are in trouble. Are you in trouble right now? God is about to show up in awesome ways.**

4. What did Daniel experience during the reception of this prophetic vision? (10:7-9) What did the hand that touched him say to him? (10:10-14). **Application: Have you felt the touch of the divine hand recently? When last have you been encouraged by God?**
5. What indication is there in verses 12 and 13 that we are in an invisible spiritual warfare between good and evil angels?

**In Daniel chapter 10, God pulls back the curtain and gives us a glimpse of the invisible, cosmic, intergalactic battle between good and evil angels for the souls of men and women.** For how long was Daniel praying and fasting? Dan 10:1-4 \_\_\_\_\_. When did God hear Daniel's prayer? \_\_\_\_\_. How long did the evil angels prevent God's angel from bringing the answer to Daniel? Dan. 10:10-13 \_\_\_\_\_. Can you believe that the evil angel with stood the good angel for so long?

**Application: Answers to our prayers may be hindered by unseen obstacles. Don't always expect God's answers to come too quickly or too easily. Prayers may be challenged by evil forces. So pray fervently and earnestly. These types of prayers are called "prevailing prayers." Expect God to answer at the right time.**

6. According to Eph. 6:10-12, John 10:10, and 1 Pet. 5:8, who are we fighting against and what is their aim?
7. Can you give God thanks that you have thousands of good angels fighting for you? According to Heb 2:14, who are the good angels sent to minister to? \_\_\_\_\_. Who are these heirs? (Gal 3:13, 14, 27-29) \_\_\_\_\_. How many of these angels did Daniel, Paul, and John see in vision? (Dan 9:9-10; Heb12:22; Rev 5:11-12) \_\_\_\_\_.
8. Can you imagine it? We have countless angels on our side. Praise God! In doing this Daniel's Diet, we can be assured that there must be some angels who are sent to help us win the battle with appetite. With David we can confidently affirm, "The angels of the Lord encamp round about those who love and fear him and deliver them." (Ps. 34:7)
9. After the angel explained the struggle with the prince of Persia (demonic ruler) to Daniel and the son of man touched him, what happened to Daniel? (10:15-18)

**CONCLUSION: This tenth chapter of Daniel heightens our awareness that an intense, invisible, life and death battle is being waged for our souls and the souls of those whom we love? With God's help, will you commit today to being determined to pray and persevere like Daniel in full knowledge that God's people are destined to triumph?**

In the book, *Testimonies to the Church*, Vol. 1, p.345, the author got a glimpse of this life and death struggle and tells us the only way the struggle can be won:

***"I saw evil angels contending for souls, and angels of God resisting them. The conflict was severe. Evil angels were corrupting the atmosphere with their poisonous influence and crowding about these souls to stupefy their sensibilities. Holy angels were anxiously watching and waiting to drive back Satan's host. But it is not the work of good angels to control the minds of men against their will. If they yield to the enemy, and make no effort to resist him, then the angels of God can do but little more than hold in check the host of Satan that they shall not destroy, until further light be given to those in peril, to move them to arouse and look to heaven for help.***

***"If Satan sees that he is in danger of losing one soul, he will exert himself to the utmost to keep that one. And when the individual is aroused to his danger, and, with distress and fervor, looks to Jesus for strength, Satan fears that he will lose a captive, and he calls a reinforcement of his angels to hedge in the***



*poor soul and form a wall of darkness around him that heaven's light may not reach him. But if the one in danger perseveres, and in his helplessness casts himself upon the merits of the blood of Christ, our Savior listens to the earnest prayer of faith and sends a reinforcement of those angels that excel in strength to deliver him. Satan cannot endure to have his powerful rival appealed to, for he fears and trembles before His strength and majesty. At the sound of fervent prayer, Satan's whole host trembles. He continues to call legions of evil angels to accomplish his objective. And when angels, all-powerful, clothed with the armory of heaven, come to the help of the fainting, pursued soul, Satan and his host fall back, well knowing that their battle is lost."*

**APPLICATION: What significant lessons are you personally taking away from this study of Daniel 10 that will help you win in your spiritual battles and in reforming your health practices?**

## **CONCLUSION TO THE PRAYERS OF DANIEL**

Daniel was a high-ranking government official with serious responsibilities and a busy schedule. Yet, according to Daniel 6:10, Daniel had specific times and a place for his daily devotion and prayer. To him, prayer was a priority. Therefore, he took time alone to be with his God. He could have made the excuse of being too busy to pray. But he was not too busy to pray.

Are you too busy to pray? One of our great sins is the sin of prayerlessness. In 1 Sam. 12:23, Samuel recognized this and pledged not to commit it: "Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you." Our Jesus was very busy, yet He set said regular time for communing with His Father. He went between the mountain and the multitude, never too busy not to pray. Like Jesus and like Daniel, do you have regular times to be alone with God?

Notice that the life and death situations that called Daniel to prayer were not of his making. He could have complained, murmured, or wondered why he had so much bad luck, but he did none of those. Daniel knew how to face crisis without his blood pressure escalating and without losing his mind or his faith in God. He prayed and did not panic. Through faith in his awesome, all-wise, and all-loving God, Daniel was at peace in the midst of his storms. He epitomized Jesus' council in Luke 18:1, "Men ought always to pray and not to faint."

We normally view Daniel as a faithful and great statesman - a man of faith, courage, and firm resolution. But during these 10 days, we have come to see him first as a man who made prayer his priority. He was a man who demonstrated that prayer is the answer to every problem in life

because it puts us in tune with divine wisdom which knows how to adjust every situation perfectly. Undoubtedly prayer was the secret of Daniel's success.

We have seen Daniel as a man who demonstrated that our God is a mighty Deliverer, one who can deliver us from any and every situation when we seek him through prayer. May you experience the power of God to deliver you from any unwanted habits and practices that enslave you! I trust that as your family and friends observe your life, they will form an image of your God as the mighty Deliverer, just like King Darius did of God when he saw Daniel. He said that Daniel's God "delivereth and rescueth and he worketh signs and wonders in heaven and in earth, by delivering Daniel from the power of the lions."

Let us pray. *Dear God, You are the true and ever living God. Help me to know Your power through prayer like Daniel did. Help me to be a modern Daniel, demonstrating through my life that You can deliver us, Your people from any bondage, trap, bad habit, or crisis. I pray that You will make us faithful throughout this Daniel's Diet experience and beyond. Thank you! In Jesus name I pray, Amen!*