

CALL to PRAYER – Pray about our relationships with each other and with our Redeemer

## *Daniel 10:9-21 - Spiritual Powers behind Earthly Thrones*

Intro - Today we jump into Dan. 10 mid-stream. 10 begins the final vision recorded in Daniel and this chapter relays the means of the delivery <sup>(11-12 content)</sup>. Daniel had been in mourning and fasting for 3 weeks. 3 years earlier the Jews were allowed to return to their land, but Daniel didn't get to go home <sup>(??disappointed??)</sup>. God dispatched an angel to deliver a message to His mourning servant. This alien/angelic encounter was out of this world. Daniel's companions ran for the hills, and he alone engaged this magnificent heavenly messenger. We pick up the action today and will consider: *THE PHYSICAL*      *THE RELATIONAL*      *THE SPIRITUAL*

### *THE PHYSICAL*

1. The Bible records various physical responses to angelic encounters
  - a. No response - Heb. 13:2      angels can be incognito
  - b. Fearful response - Shepherds - Luke 2:9      Soldiers - Matt. 28:2-4      Dan's friends - 10:7 (Job 4:14-16)
2. Daniel was terrified.
  - a. Faints and face-plants 10:9      Trembling on hands and knees - 10:10
  - b. stood trembling - 10:11      Humbled/Speechless/ Dumbfounded - 10:15
  - c. Breathless and without strength - 10:8, 17
3. The power of touch and spoken words
  - a. The angel touched him 10:10, 16, 18      touched by an angel
  - b. The angel's words strengthened him 10:19
4. I don't know the full significance of this....but I find it interesting.
  - a. Angelic encounters can be fearful and physical.
    - i. If these ministering spirits *touch & speak* to help the fearful...we can too

### *THE RELATIONAL*

- Angels are ministering spirits sent to help God's friends Heb. 1:14
  - Daniel was a special friend. 10:11      10:19
  - A man of *high esteem & greatly beloved* <sup>(NKJV)</sup>      special/close/unique relationship
    - Like the apostle John - "*the disciple who Jesus loved*" <sup>(best of friends)</sup>
      - 3 of the 12 were close but John was extra close
    - Daniel walked with God and had a very special relationship with God
- God has made us relational beings...in His image
  - Inter-Trinitarian relationship between Father, Son, & Spirit
  - We are invited to have a relationship with our Creator, not just other creatures.
    - 1 John 1:3
- A good relationship with God <sup>(or others)</sup> is not automatic.
  - It can be a...good relationship...bad relationship...or a non-existent relationship.
  - We can improve our relationship with God.

- ...growing in...favor with God and man. 1 Sam. 2:26 Luke 2:52
- Communication is a key to any good relationship.
  - Daniel was praying and God was responding. 10:12 (reciprocal)
  - Are you talking to God? (communication is a good gauge to any relationship) How often=how good
- Good friends share their plans and inner thoughts
  - 10:14 10:21a
  - Daniel didn't get to go back to the land, so God shows him the future of the land.
    - Amos 3:7 John 15:15
  - Daniel was a good friend, so God showed him His plans.
  - Those in the inner circle get in on the inner-workings. (greatly loved get great revelation - John)
    - That is how relationships work.

### THE SPIRITUAL

- ❖ There was an interference to this relationship.....a spiritual entity who interfered.
  - 10:12-13 dispatched the 1<sup>st</sup> day but 21 day delay....detained
    - Daniel was on a 21 day fast - 10:2-3
    - God answered and sent the angel on day 1 (but the angel was assaulted)
    - A spiritual battle "extended" Daniel's fasting and mourning.
- ❖ There is more to life than meets the eye.
  - We are not alone in the universe.
  - There is a spiritual dimension & spiritual beings of a higher order of life than us
  - Col. 1:16
- ❖ These beings battle each other and fight for different sides.
  - Eph. 6:12
  - They are termed "*princes*" 10:13
  - Satan is "...the prince of the power of air..." Eph. 2:2
    - Satan has a kingdom <sup>Matt. 12:26</sup> and his minions are called: *Thrones, Rulers, Dominions, Principalities, Powers, Forces of darkness / wickedness*
  - Michael is a "*chief prince*" <sup>10:13</sup> and fights for *good* against the bad "*princes*".
    - Michael came to the rescue of the angel sent to Daniel who was assaulted
    - That angel was going to return and fight against his enemy - 10:20
    - There is an angelic war to come - Rev. 12:7
- ❖ These spiritual forces influence and interfere with mankind
  - They influence governments & politics. The powers behind the thrones
    - *Prince of Persia....Prince of Greece*
      - Prince of America???? China....Russia...Canada....Nigeria...
  - It seems that Michael is charged with protecting Israel - 10:21 Daniel 12:1
    - The angel sent to Daniel helped Darius - Daniel 11:1
  - There is an unseen battle going on in our world.
    - 2 Kings 6:16-17
- ❖ There is more to life than THE PHYSICAL.....there is THE SPIRITUAL
  - There is also THE RELATIONAL
  - There are no neutral parties friend , foe, fiend