

Daniel's Vision by the River

Daniel 10

Setting the Stage (1-4)

- "In the 3rd year of Cyrus..." If Cyrus began his rule in 539 BC, what year is this?
- According to Daniel 1:21, when did Daniel end his governmental service?
- Daniel is in mourning, probably in keeping the Feast of Unleavened Bread/_____, which was to be marked with an attitude of mourning (unleavened bread, bitter herbs).
- "A word was revealed...& the word was true." This word (of prophecy) actually comes in chapters 11 & 12. So the three chapters form a unit.
- Just as ch. 7 (beasts) explains ch. ____ (idol), chs. 10-12 explains ch. ____ (ram/goat).
- So, the three chapters (according to my understanding) break down like this:
 - Ch. 10 – Prologue
 - Ch. 11:1 – 35 – Prophecy concerning Israel's "_____" future
 - Ch. 11:36 – end (12:13) – Prophecy concerning the end of days.

Mystery Man by the River

Is Christ Jesus the Mystery Man? Similarities & Differences (Dan. 10:4-6 & Rev. 1:12-16)		
Similarities		Notes
Clothed in linen	Clothed with a garment	Can see the mystery man's legs, while Jesus wears a "long robe" that probably goes to his feet.
Belt of fine gold	Golden band around the chest	Belts go around waists, not chests.
Body like beryl	n/a	
Face like...lightning	Head/hair white like wool	Angels described as looking like "lightning" (Matt 28:3). OTOH, Jesus' face "shone like the sun, & his clothes became white as light" (Matt 17:2).
Eyes like torches of fire	Eyes like flame of fire	
Feet like burnished bronze	Feet like burnished bronze	

Voice like a multitude	Voice like the sound of many waters	Both mean “really loud.”
Note: v. 13 is what makes this unlikely to be the preincarnate Christ. Does God need help?		

Angels, aka terrifying “Ministering Spirits.”

- Hebrews 1:14 describes angels as “ministering _____” sent to serve the saints.
- What common experience did those with Daniel (v. 7) have with those who were with Jesus in his last week (John 12:27-29) and Saul’s conversion (Acts 9:7; 22:9)?
- What was Daniel’s reaction to encountering this angel? (See also 8:17-18)
 - Lost his _____ (8, 16) and momentarily stopped breathing (17)
 - Passed out (9) and couldn’t _____ (15)
 - Trembling in fear (10, 11).
- Angels unmasked are terrifying beings.
 - The women at Jesus’ tomb were too afraid to look at them (Luke 24:5).
 - Hardened Roman guards passed out at seeing one (Matthew 28:4).
 - John the Revelator attempted to _____ an angel (Revelation 22:8).
- Several times the angel touches Daniel to give him strength. (See 1 Kings 19:5ff).

Principalities and Powers

- This angel was opposed by the “prince of the kingdom of Persia.” What clues do we have to his identity?
 - This prince opposes an angel, and is defeated by _____ the archangel (13).
 - Followed by the “prince of the kingdom of Greece” (20). Persia followed by Greece...what is this a reference to?
- Paul describes angelic realities in Ephesians 6:12. He calls them _____, authorities, cosmic powers, spiritual forces of evil in heavenly places.

Lessons on Prayer

- What was Daniel’s attitude during this time of prayer (3)?
- How does Daniel’s posture square with Jesus’ instructions in Matthew 6:16-18?
- How long had Daniel been fasting/praying (2)? How long was the angel postponed (13)?

- The angel's primary message was to discourage _____ and develop _____ (19).

Applications

- What about Bible study can we learn from the fact that chs. 10-12 form a solid unit of thought?
- What can we learn about angelic beings and their effect on people? And what does that say about their Creator?
- How should the Bible's teachings on angels/demons impact our political views?
- Times of mourning should lead to dependence not depression. "Wait, I say, on the Lord" (Psalm 27:14).