

DANIEL'S PRAYER FOR THE NATION

July 2, 2017

Daniel 9:1-27

“O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto thee, but unto us confusion of faces.”

Daniel 9:7a

The people of Israel were scattered throughout the world. They were aliens, without honor in nations that had either taken them as captives or received them as refugees. Their homeland was overrun by enemies and their holy city, Jerusalem, was in ruins. Daniel understood from Scripture (Jeremiah 25:11, 12) that God would restore Israel. This prompted him to pray for that restoration. God responded powerfully to Daniel's prayer, and preserved it as an example of godly praying. We analyze Daniel's prayer for the nation.

1. Appeal to the nature of God (4)
2. Confession of sin (5-6)
3. Lament regarding woes resulting from sin (7-8))
4. Appeal to the nature of God (9)
5. Confession of sin (10)
6. Lament regarding woes resulting from sin (11-14)
7. Request (15-19)
 - A. The ground of Daniel's request:
 1. We are God's people: “O Lord our God” (15, 17); “O my God” (18)
“for thy city and thy people are called by thy name” (19)
 2. God's mercies: “God, that has brought thy people forth out of the land of Egypt” (15a, 18b)
 3. God's righteousness; “according to all thy righteousness” (16a)
 4. God's honor: (a). “thy people” (15, 16) (b). “thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain” (16)
(c). “thy sanctuary” (17) (d). “for the Lord's sake” (17, 19)
 5. God's word: “I Daniel, understood . . . the word of the Lord . . . to Jeremiah” (2)
“. . . the curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses” (11)
 - B. The substance of Daniel's request:
 1. “. . . let thine anger and thy fury be turned away” (16)
 2. “. . . cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary” (17)
 3. “. . . behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name” (18)
 - C. The earnestness of Daniel's request:

“O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God: for thy city and thy people are called by thy name.” (19)