



Daniel 59 – Spiritual War; Answered Prayer

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Daniel 10:10-14



Prologue: Absolute Truth of Sin – Total Corruptibility

- Daniel, like all people, does not experientially understand the extent of his fleshly sinfulness; heart is deceitful beyond understanding (Jb 17:9)
 - Man and Woman deliberately chose corruption because they loved their flesh greater than they loved God; this remains true of all people (Ro 1:21-25; Ep 5:29a)
 - Sinner's worldview presents one's fleshly way as *right* justifying one's sin; root of religiosity and works even among the faithful: Eijah and Peter (1Ki 19:9-14; Pt 21:2; Mt 16:21-23)
 - Flesh is altogether corrupted; Christ only able to control His flesh via Holy Spirit (Jb 61; 1Co 1:29; Hb 2:14-18) [Jb 61:6 cf. Ex 19:3]
 - Flesh must be destroyed, changed, from corruptible to incorruptible just as the *old nature* had to be destroyed and replaced with *new nature* (1Co 15:50-55; 2Co 5:17)
 - Daniel had to learn, as we do, God's kingdom is not eating and drinking, or lack of (Legalism) which strengthens flesh; only righteousness in Christ (Ro 14:17; Col 2:20-23)



Prologue: Christians First Fruits of New Covenant—Looking Through an Enigma

- Christians first receive the seal of the New Covenant, indwelling Spirit with our *new minds*; however, we retain our fleshly bodies which war against our minds (Ro 7:7-24; 2Co 1:21-22; Ep 1:13-14; 4:30)
 - Paul whose vision of Christ in Heaven prepared him for his ministry, declared he only knew Christ partially, limited by his flesh (1Co 13:12)
 - Our fleshly bodies lust to sin and cannot be controlled by us, only by the indwelling Spirit; it will never submit to God (Ro 7:14-8:10)
- Why do we retain fleshly bodies? Why are we not changed into our new bodies like Christ as we are adopted sons of God? (1Ki 19:9-14, 18; Ga 4:5-6)
 - Image if we, clothed in Christ's righteousness with a similar body appeared to those remaining in the flesh; the effect would be the same: Falling down weakness
 - They would seek to worship us and we would be in danger of not only accepting such worship, we would also be tempted to lose the very quality for which Christ donned the flesh: Mercy and Compassion
 - We would be tyrants rather than helpers fulfilling the goal of Satan; not Christ (Ge 3:5; Hb 2:14-18)

Passage Triad: Relevant Today

- This passage yields three major truths behind ALL Scripture
 - Apparent delay in answering believer's prayers
 - Restraining spiritual influences in the kosmos
 - Eschatological revelation of Man's Salvation—Christ's Kingdom
- Man is the subject-object
 - Man is ineffectual in this Process
 - God's election cannot be thwarted; only resisted (Hagiazo)



Daniel Strengthened: Daniel Comforted

- Daniel reports the touch strengthened him, transference of power; Christ strengthened Daniel who, of his own accord, only raised himself on all fours, position of an animal
 - A voice, angelic speaker (not clearly detailed), tells Daniel how loved he is by God – Words of Love driving out fear of judgment: To those who believe (1Jo 4:17-19)
 - Daniel has to be told to stand, reminiscent of Job, for Christ intercedes with people and not with lesser beings such as demons or animals (Job 38:1-3; Ps 73:21-24)
 - Sin degrades spiritually and physically by first presenting God as an image of not God: Element of God's Creation (Satan an Element of God's Creation) (Ro 1:18-28; He 1)
- Now that Daniel experientially realizes his total depravity, he still remains totally helpless to achieve the position God has reserved for Man (Election) (Ep 1:3-14)
 - Salvation not only restores Man, but fulfills Satan's promise by making ALL believers adopted sons of God, knowing Good and Evil and Spiritually alive forevermore (Ge 3:5; Ro 8:28-30; Ga 4:1-7; He 1:3-14)

God Heard Daniel: Daniel Prepared for the Answer

- Daniel is told God heard his prayers from the first day, from the very moment he conceived the words in his mind (Ro 8:15-27)
 - Spirit, through the propitiation of the Son, is the conduit to the Father even in our ignorance as infants in grace (Ro 3:21-26)
 - God answered Daniel's repentant prayer; trembling often sign of Jewish repentance, (Da 9:3-19)
- Angel was delayed by Satan's demonic authority over Persia, for 21, actually 24, days, preparing everyone to receive God's answer
 - God's plans cannot be thwarted, delayed or altered by any created beings (Hab 2:2-3)
 - Hence, God, answering the prayer in Heavenly present tense prepared Daniel to understand the answer upon reception; future tense to us
 - Answer delayed, not by Satan, but by maturation; ability to understand the answer (1Co 2:14; 13:12)

Spiritual Warfare: Restraining Forces

- Hyperliteral interpretation would believe that demons can delay or thwart God's plan(s); however, this reduces God from infiniteness to finite (Tao)
 - Fallen angel of some authority, resisted this angel from visiting Daniel for 21 days
 - Angel reinforced by Michael who is True Jews authoritative angel (Da 10:21)
 - This angel will return to dealing with authoritative demon of Persia to be replaced by authoritative angel who restrains Hellen's authoritative demon; etc. (Da 10:20)
- Why? Sin rejects Control over itself while inflicting tyranny over sinners (Ga 5:22-24; 2Th 2:3-5)
 - If left unchecked Satan's forces would quickly destroy all hope: Cataclysm (Ge 6:1-3-8; Re 9; 20:7-10)
 - Holy Spirit, with the angels, restrains Satanic Control according to God's plan (2Th 2:6-8)
 - In Last Days God reduces restraint revealing truth of Satanic governance: Slavery (2Th 2:9-12)

Preparing for Last Days: Jews – Gentiles

- Bible defines *last*, or *latter*, days as that time period in which Christ speaks to mankind concerning His sacrifice for sin and the New Covenant (Je 31:31-34; Joel 2:28-32; Ac 2:14-41; He 1:1-2; 1Pe 1:20-21)
 - Last Days – Began with Christ's ministry which prepared and paid for New Covenant salvation which occurred on Shavuot (Pentecost)
- This began with the Jews and moved outward to Gentiles (Mt 28:18-20; Ac 1:6-11)
 - Jews – Jerusalem (Ac 2:1-4)
 - Samaritans (Ac 8:14-17)
 - Gentiles (Ac 10:44-48)
 - John Baptist's Disciples (Ac 19:1-7)
- Continues to end of Creation; includes *Day of the Lord* judgments which opens and closes *Millennial Kingdom* (He 1:10-12; 2Pe 3:10-12; Re 19:11-21; 20:7-15)

Defines Purpose of This Vision: Revelation of Times Yet to Come

- Purpose of this vision:
 - Put Daniel's entire ministry, spanning over 70+ years into a single, coherent context pointing to the future redemption-fulfillment of God's promises to Man; Jews and Gentiles; One Faith (Ex 19:5; Is 61:6; Ze 12:10)
 - Explains why God reveals in stages, Dispensations; prepares believers to grasp His revelation as they mature in grace even though all was prepared in eternity past (Ep 1:3-14; 1Pe 1:3-9)
 - Satan has been fighting God's plan since Christ's monogenesis preparing this Creation for Man's Redemption; rise over Satan (Is 14:12-16; Ez 28:12-19; 1Co 6:3; He 1:5-14)
- Thus, Paul can say "God's calling is without repentance" for Jews and Gentiles who are called according to His will (Ro 9:1-18; 11:25-36)
 - Daniel, and we, are given a glimpse behind this reality; like Job (Job 1-2)