

WHAT ARE YOU SEEKING GOD FOR ?

If you ever wondered, “what do I pray for – where do I start ?”

Just know that everything in your life is connected. It is all related. Start somewhere and address the real issue that connects everything. That is, your communication with God ! At the end of the day, Daniel chapter 10 is about an encounter that Daniel had with the messenger of God. It was about Daniel’s prayer – not his diet. It was about Daniel’s communication with the Almighty God. These next 21 days will likewise be a journey in communication with God. Take time to focus and talk with God and watch all of your areas of concern come into alignment. Don’t be distracted by what seems to be an issue in your life. Look beyond to the common thread – your connection with God.

WE ARE GOING TO EXAMINE 10 PRINCIPLES TO PROSPER YOU DURING YOUR FAST.

INTRODUCTION

- I. Daniel is a study on how to live a godly life in a contrary culture. We have to learn to live like Christians in an ungodly world.
- II. The story of Daniel in the Bible reminds us that we ultimately get what we really long for. Our goal should be to hunger and thirst for Jesus (Matthew 5:6). When we get to know Him, we will want more of Him.
- III. The prophecy of Daniel is about the reality of Kingdom struggling against kingdom. It points us to the reality of spiritual warfare. Daniel revealed a dream to King Nebuchadnezzar (Babylon) that there would be a succession of great Gentile kingdoms on the earth beginning with Babylon (head of gold), Persia (breast of silver), Greece (thighs of brass), Rome (legs of iron), and finally a 5th kingdom (feet of iron and clay) which will be smashed with rock of God’s Kingdom which will last forever (See Daniel 2:44-45 and Revelation 17:12-13).



Daniel 10 (NLT) - Daniel’s Vision of a Messenger

¹In the third year of the reign of King Cyrus of Persia, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) had another vision. He understood that the vision concerned events certain to happen in the future—times of war and great hardship.

²When this vision came to me, I, Daniel, had been in mourning for three whole weeks. ³All that time I had eaten no rich food. No meat or wine crossed my lips, and I used no fragrant lotions until those three weeks had passed.

⁴On April 23, as I was standing on the bank of the great Tigris River, ⁵I looked up and saw a man dressed in linen clothing, with a belt of pure gold around his waist. ⁶His body looked like a precious gem. His face flashed

like lightning, and his eyes flamed like torches. His arms and feet shone like polished bronze, and his voice roared like a vast multitude of people.

⁷Only I, Daniel, saw this vision. The men with me saw nothing, but they were suddenly terrified and ran away to hide. ⁸So I was left there all alone to see this amazing vision. My strength left me, my face grew deathly pale, and I felt very weak. ⁹Then I heard the man speak, and when I heard the sound of his voice, I fainted and lay there with my face to the ground.

¹⁰Just then a hand touched me and lifted me, still trembling, to my hands and knees. ¹¹And the man said to me, “Daniel, you are very precious to God, so listen carefully to what I have to say to you. Stand up, for I have been sent to you.” When he said this to me, I stood up, still trembling.

¹²Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer. ¹³But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia. ¹⁴Now I am here to explain what will happen to your people in the future, for this vision concerns a time yet to come.”

¹⁵While he was speaking to me, I looked down at the ground, unable to say a word. ¹⁶Then the one who looked like a man touched my lips, and I opened my mouth and began to speak. I said to the one standing in front of me, “I am filled with anguish because of the vision I have seen, my lord, and I am very weak. ¹⁷How can someone like me, your servant, talk to you, my lord? My strength is gone, and I can hardly breathe.”

¹⁸Then the one who looked like a man touched me again, and I felt my strength returning. ¹⁹“Don’t be afraid,” he said, “for you are very precious to God. Peace! Be encouraged! Be strong!”

As he spoke these words to me, I suddenly felt stronger and said to him, “Please speak to me, my lord, for you have strengthened me.”

²⁰He replied, “Do you know why I have come? Soon I must return to fight against the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia, and after that the spirit prince of the kingdom of Greece will come. ²¹Meanwhile, I will tell you what is written in the Book of Truth. (No one helps me against these spirit princes except Michael, your spirit prince.

PRINCIPLE # 1: v. 1: Background Noise (natural) in the midst of spiritual activity. The spiritual is more “real” than the physical. Another way of saying this is that the “spiritual” is the cause of what’s going on in the “_____.”

PRINCIPLE # 2: v.2: Daniel’s fasting regimen included (no pleasant food + no anointing himself). Daniel 1:12 clarifies Daniel’s diet as “pulse.” That is food which derives only from the _____ (see also Genesis 1:29).

PRINCIPLE # 3: vv.1-2; “At that time” – while you were fasting the _____ occurred.

PRINCIPLE # 4: vv. 4-6: Daniel received spiritual intervention on _____ turf.

PRINCIPLE # 5: v.7: Only Daniel _____ the vision. Yet he was with others. Could it be that we don’t spend enough time in His presence to be able to stand ?

PRINCIPLE # 6: v.12: There’s something about _____!
- Fasting = humbling yourself to gain spiritual understanding.
- Fasting – engaging in spiritual warfare
- Fasting – activating spiritual help
- **NKJV** says, “from the first day you set your heart to understand and to humble yourself before your God...”
- **Your heart must be in it ! The mouth can’t work in principle without the heart. Motive is everything.**

PRINCIPLE #7: Angel came in answer to Daniel’s prayer. NKJV (I have come because of your words). If we only knew the power of our _____ we would use them more responsibly (see also Psalm 103:20 – supernatural things happen when His word is given “voice”).

PRINCIPLE # 8: v.13: Who comes to _____ is superior to who comes to hurt (I John 4:4 – “Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world).

PRINCIPLE # 9: v.14: Prophecy is not meant to strike fear but to inspire hope ! Daniel’s prophecy gives us a context to walk out our lives in. We are a part of a _____ plan.

PRINCIPLE #10: vv.20-21: The reality is that you have _____ help in your human situation. You can trust God. It is our lack of expectation (largely due to lack of knowledge, Hosea 4:6) that keeps us in captivity. It won’t happen apart from His will and your expectation. Hebrews 11:1 – faith = substance (reality / materialization /manifestation of things hoped for – things for which you have a confident expectation.

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Another way of asking this is: **“What is blocking your blessing ?”** Something about you is causing your discomfort, discouragement and defeat.

Remember the following:

- The **GOAL** is Prosperity —→ Success along the journey (It’s BIGGER than money). God will feed you in the harvest field. Get out in the field and work!
- The **OBSTACLE** is Immaturity —→ Wanting our way instead of God’s way. Selfishness is a trait of the immature.
- The **ISSUE** is Idolatry —→ Honoring (and trusting) something or someone more than God. Making something BIGGER than God.
- The **SOLUTION** is Integrity —→ Who you are – God’s property / What you’re made of – God’s Spirit / What you stand for – God’

This 21 days is about development of your faith ! And, it is not just about you. God will feed us in the harvest field (1 Corinthians 9:9-10). It’s about your pre-ordained (Jeremiah 1:4-5) influence within God’s historical and prophetic plan.

Let’s Go To Work !