

# The Book of Daniel

## God's Prophet and Statesman

### VII. Daniel's *Testimony* of His Visions and Prophetic Revelation (7:1-12:13)

- A. The *Vision* of the 4 Beasts (7:1-8)
- B. The *Vision* of God (7:9-10)
- C. The *Vision* of the 4 Beasts Continued (7:11-12)
- D. The *Vision* of the "Son of Man" (7:13-14)
- E. The *Vision* of the 4th Beast Interpreted (7:15-28)
- F. The *Vision* of the Ram, Goat, and Small Horn (8:1-28)
- G. The *Prophecy* of the Seventy Weeks (9:1-27)

### I. The *Final Visions* and *Prophecies* of Daniel (Chapters 10-12)

#### 1. A *Vexing Message* Received (10:1)

**10** In the **third year** of **Cyrus king** of **Persia** a **message** was revealed to **Daniel**, who was named **Belteshazzar**; and the **message** was **true** and **one of great conflict**, but he **understood** the **message** and had an **understanding** of the **vision**.

#### 2. A *Vigilant time* of Fasting and Prayer (10:2-3)

<sup>2</sup>In those days, **I, Daniel**, had been **mourning** for **three entire weeks**.

<sup>3</sup>I did **not** eat any **tasty food**, nor did **meat** or **wine** enter my mouth, nor did I use any **ointment** at all until the entire **three weeks** were **completed**.

#### 3. A *Vision* of a Man, "**Radiant** and **Daunting**" (10:4-9)

<sup>4</sup>On the **twenty-fourth day** of the **first month**, while I was by the bank of the great river, that is, the **Tigris**,  
<sup>5</sup>I lifted my eyes and looked, and **behold**, there was a **certain man dressed in linen**, whose **waist** was girded with a **belt of pure gold** of **Uphaz**.

<sup>6</sup> His body also was like *beryl*, his face had the appearance of *lightning*, his eyes were like *flaming torches*, his arms and feet like the gleam of *polished bronze*, and the sound of his words like the sound of a *tumult*.

<sup>7</sup> Now I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, while the men who were with me did *not* see the vision; nevertheless, a *great dread* fell on them, and they *ran away* to *hide* themselves.

<sup>8</sup> So I was *left alone* and saw this *great vision*; yet *no strength* was left in me, for my natural color turned to a *deathly pallor*, and I retained *no strength*.

<sup>9</sup> But I heard the *sound* of his words; and as soon as I heard the *sound* of his words, I fell into a *deep sleep* on my face, with my face to the ground.

#### 4. A *Venerable Messenger Reappears (Gabriel)* (10:10-15)

<sup>10</sup> Then behold, a hand *touched me* and set me *trembling* on my hands and knees.

<sup>11</sup> He said to me, “O Daniel, man of *high esteem*, understand the words that I am about to tell you and *stand upright*, for I have now been sent to you.” And when he had *spoken* this word to me, I *stood up trembling*.

<sup>12</sup> Then he said to me, “Do *not* be afraid, Daniel, for from the *first day* that you *set your heart* on *understanding this* and on *humbling yourself* before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in *response* to your words.

<sup>13</sup> But the prince of the kingdom of Persia was *withstanding me* for *twenty-one days*; then behold, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I had been *left there* with the kings of Persia.

<sup>14</sup> Now I have come to give you an *understanding* of what will happen to your people in the *latter days*, for the vision pertains to the *days yet future*.”

<sup>15</sup> When he had *spoken* to me according to *these words*, I turned *my face* toward the *ground* and became *speechless*.

#### 5. A *Vitality Returns to Daniel* (10:16-21)

<sup>16</sup> And behold, *one* who resembled a *human being* was *touching my lips*; then I opened *my mouth* and *spoke* and said to him who was *standing* before me, “O my lord, as a *result* of the *vision anguish* has come upon me, and I have retained *no strength*.”

<sup>17</sup> For **how** can such a **servant of my lord** *talk* with such as **my lord**?  
As for **me**, there remains just now **no strength** in me,  
nor has any **breath** been left in me.”

<sup>18</sup> Then *this one* with **human appearance** *touched me* again and **strengthened me**. <sup>19</sup> He said, “**O man of high esteem**, do not be afraid.  
**Peace** be with you; take **courage** and **be courageous!**”

Now as soon as **he spoke** to me, **I received strength** and said,  
“**May my lord speak**, for **you have strengthened me.**”

<sup>20</sup> Then **he said**, “Do you **understand** (now) **why I came** to you?  
But I shall now **return** to **fight** against the **prince of Persia**;  
so I am going forth, and behold, the **prince of Greece** is about to come.

<sup>21</sup> However, I will **tell you** what is **inscribed** in the **writing of truth**.  
Yet there is **no one** who **stands firmly** with me  
**against** these *forces* except **Michael your prince**.

## Topical Study **Angels—God’s Messengers** **What did we learn about them Tonight?**

### {Introduction}

The word “**angel**” means **messenger**. The **existence of angels**  
is taught in at least **thirty-four books** of the **Bible**,  
and the word **angel** is found in **275 references**.

**Angels** are “**ministering spirits**” (Hebrews 1:14),  
**created** by **God** before the foundation of the **world** (Job 38:6-7).

There are different **classifications of angels**,  
and they are described as being **innumerable** (Hebrews 12:22).

**Angels** were **created** in a state of **holiness** (Jude 6), however,  
along with **Satan** (Lucifer) (Isaiah 14:12-15),  
a certain number of **angels** have “**fallen**” from this **position**,  
having **rebelled** against **God** (Jude 6, II Peter 2:4, Revelation 12:9).

These are sometimes called **demons** (Matthew 12:24),  
and are among the **well-organized** ranks of **angels** that attempt to **resist**  
and **thwart** the **purposes of God** (Ephesians 6:11-12).

**Angels**→Observations in **Daniel**

1. **Angels** can be **sent by God** in response to our prayers. (9:20-23, 10:12) (Acts 12:5-7)
2. **Angels** can be **sent by God** to interpret the meaning of **visions** and to declare the *revelation* of future prophetic events. (9:23-27, 10:12-14)

Now I have come to give you an **understanding** of what will happen to **your people** in the *latter days*, for the **vision** pertains to the **days yet future.**" (10:14)

3. There are *two* **holy angels** actually named in scripture, **Gabriel** and **Michael**.

**Gabriel** means "the mighty one of God." He was a **messenger** of **revelation**, and was sent to interpret Daniel's vision in Chapter 8, and **reveal** God's future program for **Israel** (the prophecy of the seventy weeks) in Chapter 9. It was **Gabriel** who revealed to **Zacharias** the coming birth of **John the Baptist** (Luke 1:11-20), and revealed to **Mary** the coming birth of **Jesus the Messiah** (Luke 1:26-38).

**Michael** means "who is like God." He is called the "great prince," (12:1) and the archangel—"chief angel." (Jude 9). Tonight we read that it was **Michael** who helped the "comforting" angel to come, and be in the position to help **Daniel** understand this **last vision** (10:13), that prompted him to *mourn* and *fast* (10:1-3). **Michael** has a special relationship as a **guardian** over the nation of **Israel** (12:1).

4. As we saw tonight, **angels** can **intervene** and give **believers strength**, and a **comforting "touch"** to help sustain them in **difficult times**. (see Matthew 4:11, Luke 22:43, Hebrews 1:14, Acts 27:23-24)

Then *this one* (angel) with human appearance *touched me* again and *strengthened me*. (10:18)

5. Tonight we read that **Daniel's prayer** was **not** answered immediately because the **angel** sent to him was **hindered** for **twenty-one days** by the "prince" of the kingdom of **Persia**. This "prince" was likely a **supernatural being** (*fallen angel/demon*) that apparently **influenced** the *human Persian rulers*, and caused the **delay** (10:13).

There is no doubt that a **spiritual war** is being fought in **unseen realms** that affects **all of humanity**, and that **angels**, both **good** and **bad**, are **influencing** the affairs of **mankind**. Dr. John Walvoord writes that;

"...behind the **political** and **social conditions** of the world there is **angelic influence—good** on the part of the **holy angels**, **evil** on the part of the **angels** under **satanic control.**" (**Daniel**, pg. 247)

In the *scriptures* we read:

For **our struggle** is **not** against **flesh and blood**, but against the **rulers**, against the **powers**, against the **world forces** of this **darkness**, against the **spiritual forces** of **wickedness** in the **heavenly places**.  
(Ephesians 6:12)

Be of **sober spirit**, be on the **alert**. Your **adversary**, the **devil**, **prows** around like a **roaring lion**, seeking someone to **devour**. But **resist him**, firm in **your faith**, knowing that the same **experiences** of **suffering** are being accomplished by your **brethren** who are in the **world**.  
(I Peter 5:8-9)

Now the **king of Aram** was **warring** against **Israel**..

He sent **horses** and **chariots** and a **great army** there, and they came by night and **surrounded the city**.

Now when the **attendant** of the **man of God** had risen early and gone out, behold, an **army** with horses and chariots was **circling the city**.

And his **servant** said to him (**Elisha**), "Alas, **my master!** **What** shall **we do?**" So he answered, "**Do not fear**, for **those** who are **with us** are **more** than **those** who are **with them.**"

Then **Elisha prayed** and said, "**O LORD, I pray, open his eyes** that he may **see.**" And the **LORD opened** the **servant's eyes** and he **saw**; and behold, the **mountain** was **full of horses** and **chariots of fire** all around **Elisha**.  
(II Kings 6:8a, 14-17)

## Personal Application

Putting on **Spiritual Armor**, for a **Spiritual War**  
(Ephesians 6:13-18)

Helmet of Salvation  
(Ephesians 6:17)

Breastplate of Righteousness  
(Ephesians 6:14)

Belt of Truth  
(Ephesians 6:14)

Sword of the Spirit  
(Ephesians 6:17)

Shield of Faith  
(Ephesians 6:16)

Feet of Peace  
(Ephesians 6:15)



Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.