

INTRODUCTION

- * We have been studying the book of Daniel for the past three months. We have been considering the incredible impact of his God through his life and writings. In chapter 1, we learned that Daniel began serving Nebuchadnezzar at the beginning of Nebuchadnezzar's reign, and that he continued serving the rulers of Babylon and then Persia until the first year of Cyrus. We have seen that there was a great probability that it was Daniel who probably informed Cyrus that YHWH had prophesied regarding him, by name, through the prophet Isaiah, and that YHWH had also declared that they would be under Babylonian rule for seventy years. Hence, that is probably why Cyrus, in the first year of his reign, decreed that the Jewish people would be allowed to return to their land and rebuild the Temple of YHWH!
- * Over the past five weeks we have been considering the prophetic portion of Daniel's writing. It is amazing to see the great detail which YHWH declared the future happenings of Israel, specifically as it dealt with the nation of Greece. That detail will become even more profound over these next three weeks as we consider the final portion of Daniel's book. Chapters 10 through 12 deal with one longer prophetic revelation which actually covers two different portions of Israel's future history: The Time of the Persians and Greeks and the Time of the End.
- * A detail that is very interesting is that this revelation comes to Daniel AFTER the decree of Cyrus for the Jews to rebuild the Temple! Daniel ministered unto the 1st year of Cyrus. This prophecy comes during the third year of Cyrus! Daniel, in a sense, is retired ... but not as a prophet!
- * Today, we will look at the Prologue to these prophecies, where we are introduced to the two primary characters - the Prophet of God and the Messenger of God, and their interactions. Next week, Lord willing we will look at the prophecy regarding The Time of the Persians and Greeks, and then conclude this series with a consideration of the prophecy regarding The Time of the End.

INSTRUCTION

I. THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SERVANTS OF GOD (v. 25-27)

A. The Prophet (v. 1-4)

1. HIS I _____ (v. 1)
2. HIS L _____ (v. 4)
3. HIS S _____ (v. 2-4)

B. The Messenger (v. 5-10)

1. THE DESCRIPTION OF HIS A _____ (v. 5-6)
2. THE EFFECT OF HIS P _____ (v. 7-10)
3. THE CONSIDERATION OF HIS I _____
 - * cf. Daniel 3:25; 4:13; 7:13-14; 8:13-17; 9:21-22; 12:5-7; Revelation 1:10-18; 10:1-7; 11:1-3
 - * cf. Matthew 4:1-11; Hebrews 4:14-16; Philippians 2:5-11; 1 Timothy 3:16; Romans 9:3-5

II. THE INTERACTION OF THE SERVANTS OF GOD (v. 11-19)

A. The Messenger's Ex _____ (v. 11-14)

1. HIS D _____ (v. 11-12; Isaiah 48:16; Zechariah 2:6-11)
2. HIS D _____ (v. 13; Ephesians 6:10-13)
3. HIS D _____ (v. 14)

B. The Messenger's Ex _____ (v. 15-19)

1. DANIEL'S E _____ (v. 15, 16, 17)
2. DANIEL'S E _____ (v. 18-19)
 - a. His Touch (v. 18; cf. Matthew 8:3; 8:14-15; 9:27-29; **17:5-7**; 20:31-34)
 - b. His Words (v. 19; Joshua 1:5-7; 9)

INTROSPECTION

- * WHAT DOES YOUR PRAYER TIME LOOK LIKE?
- * HOW EARNEST ARE YOU IN YOUR DESIRE TO GROW IN THE GRACE AND KNOWLEDGE OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR - JESUS THE CHRIST?
- * ARE YOU IN AWE OF THE PRESENCE OF YHWH?
- * DO YOU HAVE THE PEACE AND STRENGTH OF THE LORD IN YOUR LIFE?
- * IF YOUR PRAYER LIFE IS DISMAL OR NON-EXISTENT, AND YOU DO NOT HAVE PEACE AND STRENGTH ... DO YOU SEE THE CONNECTION?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * Read Esther 4:15-5:2ff and 2 Chronicles 20:1-6,14-24. Take time to consider and meditate upon the power of prayer, fasting, and worship.