

Daniel & Revelation End-time Prophecies Sermon Series
Study # 15: Invisible Warfare
Daniel 10
 Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor

Remember there are four major visions of the book of Daniel that reveal the rise and fall of a total of seven earthly kingdoms unto the everlasting kingdom of Jesus Christ. Based on Daniel 2, the rise and fall of these kingdoms begin with Babylon to the last earthly kingdom Papal Rome, the little horn. **The prophetic visions of Daniel centers on prophecies that directly affect God's people from Israel to worldwide.**

What are the four visions in the book of Daniel?

Vision 1: Daniel 2 [Foundation vision: Metallic Statue]
 Vision 2: Daniel 7 [Four Beasts rise out of sea, Little Horn, Judgment Scene]
 Vision 3: Daniel 8, 9 [Ram, He goat, Little Horn, cleansing of sanctuary prophecy, day of judgment]
 Vision 4: Daniel 10-12 [Last Vision – End of Time!]

After the vision of Daniel 2, each vision repeats some of the same kingdoms but with some added details. In Daniel 7 and 8 the introduction and details of a fifth empire, the little horn. The papacy was the fifth empire that ruled for 1260 years as prophesied from 538 to 1798. Daniel 8 also gives us clues that they will also be the earthly kingdom before the coming of Jesus Christ. Revelation 13:3 confirms this.

Never forget, each vision gives further details of the previous, moves orderly in sequence and progressively FORWARD in time.

[Review: show graphic of Daniel 2 – 8]

The last vision of Daniel starts in chapter 10 and ends in chapter 12. (Daniel 10 – 12 is one vision). Today we are going to look at the beginning of the fourth vision in Daniel 10.

How does the forth vision begin?

Daniel 10:1

1 In the **third year of Cyrus king of Persia** a thing was revealed unto Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar; and the thing was true, but the time appointed was long; and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision.

At the time of fourth vision, Daniel was approximately **86 years old**. Even though Daniel was brought to Babylon at the age of 15 or 16 years old as a captive from Judah, God favored and blessed him to be placed in high and influential positions in the kingdoms of Babylon and Media-Persia because of his faithfulness. For over seventy years Daniel was a true prophet and witness for the true God of Heaven. He personally witnessed some major prophecies that were revealed in Jeremiah, Isaiah and Daniel 2 completely fulfilled as prophesied. Like Peter, Daniel had a more SURE WORD of Bible prophecy because he witnessed some of its fulfillment personally.

What are some of the prophecies that Daniel personally witnessed while in Babylon?

- 1) Fall of Babylon and the Rise of Media-Persia (Daniel 2)
- 2) Seventy Years of Babylonian captivity fulfilled (Jeremiah 25:10, 11)
- 3) King Cyrus, the Median Persian king that would conquer Babylon (Isaiah 45:1, 2)

4) King Cyrus decreed captives from Judah free to go back to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple (Jeremiah 29:10; Isaiah 44:28)

Remember in Daniel 9:2 during Daniel's prayer he knew that the 70 years prophecy was almost complete and that he would personally see it happen.

When did Daniel witness the fulfillment of the end of the 70 years and the return of Judah captives in Babylon to Jerusalem to rebuild the temple?

Prophecy:

Jeremiah 29:10, 14

10 For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place.

14 And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.

Fulfillment of Prophecy!

2 Chronicles 36:22-23

22 Now in the **first year of Cyrus king of Persia**, that the word of the LORD spoken by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,

23 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the LORD God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah. Who is there among you of all his people? The LORD his God be with him, and let him go up.

This was the first official year of Cyrus that was the third year of his coreign with King Darius the Mede who died about 2 years after Babylon was conquered. The 70 year prophecy began in 606 BC and ended on time in 536 BC exactly seventy years. This was 3 years after Babylon was conquered by the Medes and Persians in 539 BC. **After seeing this prophecy completely fulfilled as well as the others, do you think Danial had a more sure WORD of PROPHECY?**

Why does it say at the end of Daniel 10:1 “...the thing was true, but the time appointed was long: and he understood the thing, and had understanding of the vision”?

This is referring the prophecies in Daniel chapters, 2, 7, 8 and 9. Daniel understood the rise and fall of kingdoms starting with Babylon and ending with the everlasting kingdom. He knew three of the kingdoms by name, Babylon, Media-Persia, and Greece. **[show 2300 year graphic]** He understood the 2300 year prophecy of the cleansing of the sanctuary, the beginning of the time of Judgment based on the interpretation in Daniel 9:24-27. He knew that the 2300 year timeline would begin at the decree to rebuild Jerusalem. He understood also from that point that Israel was on a 490 year probation and that the Messiah would be anointed 483 years after the start of the 2300 day prophecy. He also understood that the Messiah was going to be killed.

Many years away

From Daniel's standpoint in time (around 535 BC) he understood that the fulfillment of many of these prophecies were still many years away. He understood that ALL these prophecies must be fulfilled as revealed in the Bible before Jesus sets up His everlasting kingdom.

We are the Last GENERATION

Our generation, as a viewpoint that Daniel did not have, we have seen every prophecy completely fulfilled on the 2300 year prophecy timeline. The judgment has begun in 1844 as prophesied where Jesus moved from the Holy place to the Most Holy place in the heaven temple. We are NO DOUBT the last generation. As we continue our study we will see that six of the earthly kingdoms prophesied as already rose and fell. There is ONLY one kingdom left and he is already set up! We will be studying this in more detail in Daniel chapters 11 and 12.

In the first part of fourth vision, what was Daniel doing?

Daniel 10:2-3

2 In those days I Daniel was **mourning three full weeks**.

3 I ate no pleasant bread, neither came flesh nor wine in my mouth, neither did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.

While in mourning and fasting when and where does Daniel's vision take place?

Daniel 10:4

4 And in the four and twentieth day of the first month, as I was by the side of the great river, which is **Hiddekel**.

Did you know that the river Hiddekel was one of the four rivers that came from the Garden of Eden?

Genesis 2:10, 14

10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.

14 And the name of the third river is **Hiddekel**: that is it which goeth toward the east of Assyria. And the fourth river is Euphrates.

The river Hiddekel is known as the Tigris river today. (show map)

Also, Hiddekel means "rapid". In the last days the final movements will be rapid ones!

Who does he see at the beginning of his fourth vision?

Daniel 10:5-6

5 Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man **clothed in linen**, whose loins [waist] **were girded with fine gold [belt]** of Uphaz:

6 His body also was like the beryl [topaz], and his face as the appearance of lightning, and his **eyes as lamps of fire**, and his arms and his **feet like in colour to polished brass**, and the **voice of his words like the voice of a multitude**.

The prophet John, in the sister book of Daniel sees a similar appearance of a certain man clothed in linen.

Revelation 1:13-15

13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, **clothed with a garment down to the foot**, and girt about the paps with a **golden girdle [belt]**.

14 His head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow; and his **eyes were as a flame of fire**;

15 And his **feet like unto fine brass**, as if they burned in a furnace; and his **voice as the sound of many waters**.

There is no doubt that who Daniel and John saw in vision was the same person. They both had the privilege of seeing Jesus Christ, the Messiah (anointed one) as the high priest in the Heavenly temple of God. **They see that Jesus is in control of His great work of saving souls for the kingdom of God.**

What was Daniel's reaction when he saw our Great High Priest, Jesus Christ, in vision?

Daniel 10:7-9

7 And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves.

8 Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there **remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength.**

9 Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground.

What was John's reaction after seeing Christ in vision?

Revelation 1:17

17 And when I saw him, **I fell at his feet as dead.** And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

Both Daniel and John had similar reactions after seeing Jesus Christ in vision as our high priest dressed in linen.

Questions to ask as we continue this study:

Why was Daniel fasting for 3 weeks? What goes on behind the scenes? What is the ultimate goal of Satan? Why was Daniel shown Jesus Christ at the beginning of the vision?

While Daniel's face was toward the ground after seeing Jesus in vision, what happened next?

Daniel 10:10-11

10 And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands.

11 And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling.

This is no doubt, the angel Gabriel who gave Daniel understanding of the visions in Daniel 8 and 9.

Why Daniel was mourning and fasting for 21 days?

Daniel 10:12-13

12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words.

13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.

Gabriel came in response to Daniel's prayers to give him more understanding of the visions. The little horn was one who caused Daniel much sorrow! There was still more to learn from the subjects in his visions that were not fully explained, especially that little horn! Gabriel came to give Daniel more light and wisdom from God.

In verse 13 Gabriel reveals the warfare behind the scenes with demonic forces. Gabriel was held up for 21 days dealing with the kingdom of Persia, but Michael [one who is like God], the commander and chief, Jesus Christ had to come help Gabriel.

Ephesians 6:11-12

11 Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.
12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

Who was the king of Persia at time of Daniel's fourth vision? King Cyrus

What year did Daniel have the fourth vision in Daniel 10? The third year of king Cyrus. Again the third year of his co-reign with King Darius and the first year of his sole reign.

At the end of the 70 years of Judah's captivity, did King Cyrus understand his duty to free them and give them the decree to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem? Yes!

Ezra 1:1-5

1 Now in the **first year of Cyrus king of Persia**, that the word of the LORD by the mouth of Jeremiah might be fulfilled, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and put it also in writing, saying,
2 Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, The LORD God of heaven hath given me all the kingdoms of the earth; and he hath charged me to build him an house at Jerusalem, which is in Judah.
3 Who is there among you of all his people? his God be with him, and let him go up to Jerusalem, which is in Judah, and build the house of the LORD God of Israel, (he is the God,) which is in Jerusalem.
4 And whosoever remaineth in any place where he sojourneth, let the men of his place help him with silver, and with gold, and with goods, and with beasts, beside the freewill offering for the house of God that is in Jerusalem.
5 Then rose up the chief of the fathers of Judah and Benjamin, and the priests, and the Levites, with all them whose spirit God had raised, to go up to build the house of the LORD which is in Jerusalem.

“While Satan was striving to influence the highest powers in the kingdom of Medo-Persia to show disfavor to God’s people, angels worked in behalf of the exiles. The controversy was one in which all heaven was interested. Through the prophet Daniel we are given a glimpse of this mighty struggle between the forces of good and the forces of evil. For three weeks Gabriel wrestled with the powers of darkness, seeking to counteract the influences at work on the mind of Cyrus; and before the contest closed, Christ Himself came to Gabriel’s aid. “The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days,” Gabriel declares; “but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia.” Dan_10:13. All that heaven could do in behalf of the people of God was done. The victory was finally gained; the forces of the enemy were held in check all the days of Cyrus, and all the days of his son Cambyses, who reigned about seven and a half years.” {Ellen White, Prophets & Kings Pg. 571.2}

Satan and demons were warring to prevent the return of the Jews in fulfillment of the prophecy and the rebuilding of the temple!

Ezra 3:6, 8

6 From the **first day of the seventh month** began they to offer burnt offerings unto the LORD. But the foundation of the temple of the LORD was not yet laid.
8 Now in the **second year of their coming unto the house of God at Jerusalem, in the second month**, began Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, and Jeshua the son of Jozadak, and the remnant of their brethren the priests and

the Levites, and all they that were come out of the captivity unto Jerusalem; and appointed the Levites, from twenty years old and upward, to set forward the work of the house of the LORD.

10 And when the builders **laid the foundation of the temple of the LORD**, they set the priests in their apparel with trumpets, and the Levites the sons of Asaph with cymbals, to praise the LORD, after the ordinance of David king of Israel.

After the temple foundation was complete what did Satan try to do to stop the work of the temple?

Ezra 4:1-5

1 Now when the adversaries of Judah and Benjamin heard that the children of the captivity builded the temple unto the LORD God of Israel;

2 Then they came to Zerubbabel, and to the chief of the fathers, and said unto them, Let us build with you: for we seek your God, as ye do; and we do sacrifice unto him since the days of Esarhaddon king of Assur, which brought us up hither.

3 But Zerubbabel, and Jeshua, and the rest of the chief of the fathers of Israel, said unto them, Ye have nothing to do with us to build an house unto our God; but we ourselves together will build unto the LORD God of Israel, as king Cyrus the king of Persia hath commanded us.

4 Then the people of the land weakened the hands of the people of Judah, and troubled them in building,

5 And hired counsellors against them, to frustrate their purpose, all the days of Cyrus king of Persia, even until the reign of Darius king of Persia.

Satan was working with all his power to stop the work of rebuilding the temple.

How is it confirmed that Michael is Jesus Christ, not a created angel, but the chief of the angels?

Jude 1:9

9 Yet Michael **the archangel**, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee.

Michael = who is like God - Thayer Greek Dictionary.

Archangel = Chief of the angels – Thayer Greek Dictionary

1 Thessalonians 4:16

16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

Jesus, the Lord himself is the voice if the archangel, chief angel. Only He has the power to resurrect the dead in Christ!

Daniel 12:1

1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.

Not only is Michael the chief over the angels, but He is the Great Prince!

Who is the Great Prince? Jesus Christ, the Messiah. The Son Of God.

Isaiah 9:6

6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, **The mighty God**, The everlasting Father, **The Prince of Peace**.

Has Michael the Archangel ever lost? NO! He is God! The Son of the Father.

As the battle to stop to rebuild the temple continued from the time of Cyrus to Darius king of Persia, what encouragement did Jesus give to Zerubbabel through the prophet Zechariah to continue to rebuild the temple in Jerusalem?

Zechariah 4:6-9

6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

7 Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

8 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you.

Even though Satan and his demons will do all they can to STOP the work of the Lord, we must NEVER forget that Jesus Christ, Michael the Archangel is in control. We must stay faithful to His truth, the WORK will get done, Jesus WILL come again. We must rest assured of ALL His promises and have a more sure word of prophecy!

“Good and evil angels are taking a part in the planning of God in His earthly kingdom. It is God's purpose to carry forward His work in correct lines, in ways that will advance His glory. But Satan is ever trying to counterwork God's purpose. Only by humbling themselves before God can God's servants advance His work.”
Ellen White, Manuscript Release, Volume 11, *Appeal For Spiritual Ministers*, p. 99

What did Gabriel reveal to Daniel in the fourth vision?

Daniel 10:14

14 Now I am come to make thee understand what shall **befall [happen to] thy people in the latter days**: for yet the vision is for many days.

Latter days = end days at the end of time. Especially the last generation.

So the fourth vision in Daniel will reveal what will happen to God's people at the end of time. For Daniel's time the vision of the “latter days” was still a great distance off. But now we are living in it!

What was Daniel reaction?

Daniel 10:15-17

15 And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb.

16 And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength.

17 For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me.

What did Gabriel do and say after seeing Daniel's reaction?

Daniel 10:18-19

18 Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,

19 And said, O man **greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong.** And when he had spoken unto me, **I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.**

After Daniel is strengthen what did Gabriel say next concerning the vision?**Daniel 10:20-21**

20 Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of **Grecia shall come.**

21 But I will shew thee that which is noted in the **scripture of truth:** and **there is none that holdeth [strengthens] with me in these things, but Michael your prince.**

Media-Persia reigned from 539-331 BC [208 years]. Gabriel confirms that Greece would be the third empire since Babylon. .

It is Michael the great prince, the archangel, the mighty God that has ALL power in heaven and earth to complete the work of setting up his everlasting kingdom.

The vision continues into Daniel chapters 11 and 12. Daniel is given more details of the rise and fall of empires. A sixth empire will be revealed and there will be more details about the seventh empire of Papal Rome and things that will take place concerning the "latter days".

Like Daniel we must ask, seek, and knock for understanding of Bible prophecy especially in the last days.

Luke 11:9-10

9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

10 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

A.S.K. principle

Ask (Greek) = Beg!

Seek = Study with earnest desire to the truth

Knock = Apply the truth in your life. Live the TRUTH by forsaking sin and all worldliness.

Jeremiah 29:13

13 And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

Jeremiah 33:3

3 Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.

Appeal!