

# DANIEL: PILGRIM OF THE EXILE

## Part 3: A Prayer and a Promise (Daniel 9)

### Message of the Book

I must trust that God is working out His plans in the world and in my life.

### Key Verse

Daniel 4:35 – “And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?”

### Daniel’s Life in Babylon



## The Prophet Prays for His People

### Introduction (1-3)

- Time: First year of Darius (1) – \_\_\_\_\_ – King of Babylon under Cyrus
- Daniel was reading Jeremiah 25:11-12 and 29:10-14.
- The captivity began in 605 B.C. – It was now about \_\_\_ years afterward.
- “LORD” (2) – First use of God’s covenant name in the book – Points to a focus on God’s \_\_\_\_\_

### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ – God’s character (4, 7, 9)

- Awesome (4) – “The great and dreadful [terrible] God”
- Faithful (4) – “Keeping the covenant and mercy [*chesed*] to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments”
- Righteous (7, 14, 16)
- Merciful and forgiving (9) – Compassionate, full of pity, loving, tender

### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ – Confession – “We have no grounds to make a complaint to God.”

- Early indicators that this is the primary focus of the prayer
  - “Fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes” (3) – Acts of penitence
  - “Confession” (4)

## God Answers from Glory

- Eight-fold description of \_\_\_\_ (5-7)
  - “Sinned” (5, 15) – To deliberately miss the right mark or path because of a choice to aim at the wrong one
  - “Committed iniquity” (5) – To demonstrate a character that is bent, twisted, fallen, and perverted
  - “Done wickedly” (5, 15) – To do actions that are wrong, becoming guilty
  - “Rebelled” (5, 9) – To resist authority, revolt
  - “Departing” (5) – To turn aside, fall away, leave  
“From thy precepts and from thy judgments” – Going away from God’s commands and ordinances, His known will
  - “Neither have we harkened unto thy servants the prophets” (6) – Did not hear and listen to God’s spokesmen
  - “Trespassed” (7) – To commit treachery, breach trust, be unfaithful
  - “Yet made we not our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities, and understand thy truth” (13)
- Ownership of the \_\_\_\_\_
  - “Unto us [belongeth] confusion of faces” (7) – We earned our shame.
  - “The curse is poured upon us, and the oath that is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, because we have sinned.” (11)
  - “He hath confirmed his words, which he spake against us” (12)
  - “As it is written in the law of Moses, all this evil is come upon us” (13)
  - Fulfillment of Leviticus 26:14-45; Deuteronomy 28:15-68
  - “Because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and thy people *are become* a reproach to all *that are* about us” (16b)
- 3. Petition: Listen to us and be merciful to us
  - “Let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain” (16a)
  - “Hear the prayer of thy servant and his supplications” (17a)
  - “Cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate” (17b)
  - “Incline thine ear, and hear” (18a)
  - “Open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name” (18)
  - Basis for the petition: God’s mercy (18b)
  - Goal of the petition: God’s glory (17end, 19b)

The Answer: Zerubbabel returns to begin rebuilding the temple in \_\_\_\_ B.C., exactly 70 years after the captivity began in 605 B.C. Furthermore, the newly rebuilt temple was rededicated in March of \_\_\_\_ B.C., 70 years after it was destroyed (August of 586 B.C.)

1. Gabriel’s \_\_\_\_\_ to the Prophet’s Prayer (20-23)
  - This angel came from heaven \_\_\_\_\_! – In the time it took Daniel to pray verses 3-19.
  - “Understand the matter, and consider the vision” (23, 25) – Don’t miss what I’m about to say!
2. God’s \_\_\_\_\_ of His Plans for His People (24-27)  
*Note the repetition of the term “\_\_\_\_\_” (24, 26, 27).*
  1. The period of time (24): “\_\_\_\_\_ weeks”
    - “Weeks” = Heb. *Shabua*, literally “\_\_\_\_\_” – “Seventy sevens” – Context determines what the “sevens” are: days, weeks, years.
    - A “year” in biblical reckoning was \_\_\_\_\_ days long, not 365 days (Genesis 7:11-24; 8:3-4).
  2. The people (24): Daniel’s people, \_\_\_\_\_
  3. The place (24): \_\_\_\_\_
  4. The predeterminations (24)
    - To finish the \_\_\_\_\_ – To bring an end to sin, to restrain sin
    - To make an end of sins – To take away sins, or to bring sin to final judgment, or seal up sin
    - To make reconciliation for \_\_\_\_\_ – To atone for sin or to cover sin
    - To bring in everlasting righteousness – To justify and extend a righteous rule
    - To seal up the \_\_\_\_\_ and prophecy – To make an end of revelation through visions and prophecies
    - To anoint the most Holy [place]
  5. The princes (25-26): \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_
  6. The partitions of the time period (25-27)
    - The first partition: \_\_\_\_\_ weeks (25)
    - The second partition: \_\_\_\_\_ weeks (25-26)
    - The third partition: \_\_\_\_\_ week (27)
  7. The plundering – 26 – “The people of the prince that shall come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary”
    - Fulfilled in the Roman destruction of Jerusalem under Titus in \_\_\_\_\_

### Applications:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ that the Lord will fulfill His Word!
2. Pay \_\_\_\_\_ to God’s Word and heed it.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ for what you know to be God’s will and trust that He will answer.