

Daniel 10

An Introduction to the Warring Kings Vision

The context of the final revelation (10:1-3)

Daniel was _____.

vs.1a *In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia, a revelation was given to Daniel (who was called Belteshazzar).*

Date (BC)	Daniel's Age	Event / Vision	Reference	Kingdom
605	15–20	Taken to Babylon	Daniel 1	Babylon
603–602	18–25	Nebuchadnezzar's Statue Dream	Daniel 2	Babylon
590–580	20s–30s	Fiery Furnace	Daniel 3	Babylon
570	40s–50s	Nebuchadnezzar's Tree Dream	Daniel 4	Babylon
553	67–72	Vision of Four Beasts	Daniel 7	Babylon
551	69–74	Vision of Ram & Goat	Daniel 8	Babylon
539	80–85	Writing on the Wall	Daniel 5	Babylon → Persia
538	81–86	Lions' Den	Daniel 6	Persia
538	Mid–80s	Seventy Weeks Prophecy	Daniel 9	Persia
536	Mid–Late 80s	Final Vision	Daniel 10–12	Persia

Daniel was _____.

Vs. 2-3 *When this vision came to me, I, Daniel, had been in mourning for three whole weeks. All 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.*

- ➔ The most likely reason why was troubling news about the Jews who had returned to Jerusalem.

Chronology of Persian Decrees and Biblical Events

Date	Persian King	Decree or Event
538BC	Cyrus the Great	Daniel reads in Jeremiah that the captivity will last 70 years. (Daniel 9)
538 BC	Cyrus the Great	Decree allowing Jews to return and rebuild the temple (Ezra 1)
536 BC	Cyrus the Great	Daniel receives news about his countrymen and receives final revelation. (Daniel 10)
520 BC	Darius I	Decree ordering full support and funding for temple rebuilding (Ezra 6)
480 BC	Xerxes I (Ahasuerus)	Esther saves the Jewish people from annihilation (Book of Esther)
458 BC	Artaxerxes I	Decree authorizing Ezra to lead a return, teach the Law, and establish spiritual order (Ezra 7)
445 BC	Artaxerxes I	Decree allowing and supporting Nehemiah in the rebuilding of Jerusalem. (Nehemiah 2)

A vision of God. (10:4-11)

On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river (that is, the Tigris) 5 I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a man clothed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist. 6 His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a multitude. 7 And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision, but a great trembling fell upon them, and they fled to hide themselves. 8 So I was left alone and saw this great vision, and no strength was left in me. My radiant appearance was fearfully changed, [b] and I retained no strength. 9 Then I heard the sound of his words, and as I heard the sound of his words, I fell on my face in deep sleep with my face to the ground.

God is _____ revealed.

- This is being is not the angel.

- It is similar to other visible manifestations of God

→ Revelation 1:10-18

→ Ezekiel 1:26-28

Companions are _____ and flee.

Daniel is _____ overcome.

**The interaction with an angel.
(10:12 to 11:1)**

Daniel is _____ by the angel.

Vs. 10-11 Just then a hand touched me and lifted me, still trembling, to my hands and knees. 11 And 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.

- He is strengthened by the touch from his angelic visitor.

- He is strengthened by the reminder of his standing before God.
- He is strengthened by the promise of God's help.

Observation: Being strengthened by God means you are capable, no matter how you feel.

A story is _____ by the angel.

Vs. 12-14. *12 Then 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. 13 But 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. 14 Now I am here to explain what will happen to your people in the future, for this vision concerns a time yet to come."*

- Daniel's requests had been _____.
- The angel's visit had been _____.
- Daniel's understanding would be _____.

Daniel is _____.

Vs. 15-19 15 While he was speaking to me, I looked down at the ground, unable to say a word. 16 Then 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. 17 How can someone like me, your servant, talk to you, my lord? My strength is gone, and I can hardly breathe." 18 Then 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."

- Daniel's _____ is evidenced.

- God's _____ are confirmed.

- ➔ This should bring peace.

- ➔ This should bring encouragement.

- ➔ This should bring strength.

The _____ for the visit is revealed.

Vs. 20-11:2. 20 He 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. 21 Meanwhile, 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. 1 I have been standing beside Michael to support and strengthen him since the first year of the reign of Darius the Mede.) 2 “Now then, I will reveal the truth to you.

- The coming angelic battle is _____.

- The coming human history is _____.

Reflection and Discussion Questions

- ▶ When you think of why Daniel mourned and fasted for three weeks, what does that reveal about a godly heart? What would it look like for us to care that deeply about God’s people or God’s work today?
- ▶ Daniel’s prayer was heard immediately, but the answer was delayed. What does this teach us about what may be happening behind the scenes when we pray? How should this shape the way we respond when God seems slow to answer?
- ▶ This chapter reveals an unseen spiritual battle. How aware are we of spiritual realities in our daily lives—and how should that awareness change the way we live? What are some practical ways we can engage spiritually without becoming fearful or extreme?
- ▶ What would change in your life this week if you truly believed that your prayers matter in a real, unseen battle?

Before the next session: Read Daniel 11 three times in three different versions.