

Living in Exile

Daniel ~ Chapter 9

Daniel 7 & 8

Lion, and it had the wings of an eagle...

Bear... eating flesh...

Leopard four wings like those of a bird... four heads...

4th beast - terrifying and frightening and very powerful... iron teeth... ten horns.



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Daniel 7 & 8

2 horned ram & 1 horned goat



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Daniel 7 & 8

Sequence of empires...

Culminating in never-ending kingdom

"Duality of Reality"

Sovereignty of God...



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Daniel 9

v1-4

"In the first year of Darius son of Xerxes (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom, in the first year of his reign,

**Babylon has fallen...
Now what???**

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Daniel 9

seventy years of captivity

"In the first year of Darius (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom, in the first year of his reign,

Scriptures, according to the word of the Lord given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years.

Jeremiah 25:1-11

25 The word came to Jeremiah concerning all the people of Judah in the fourth year of Jehoiakim son of Josiah king of Judah, which was the first year of Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. 2 So Jeremiah the prophet said to all the people of Judah and to all those living in Jerusalem: 3 For seventy-seven years—from the thirteenth year of Josiah son of Amon king of Judah until this very day—the word of the Lord has come to me and I have spoken to you again and again, but you have not listened. 4 And though the Lord has sent all his servants the prophets to you again and again, you have not listened nor paid any attention. 5 Now call to mind now, each of you, from your evil ways. 6 For I have sent you the land the Lord gave to you and I have said to you, 'Do not follow other gods to serve and to worship; do not provoke my anger with what your hands have made. Then I will not be angry with you and will not bring harm to yourselves.' 7 But you did not listen to me, declares the Lord, and you have aroused my anger with what your hands have made, and you have brought harm to yourselves. 8 Therefore the Lord Almighty says this: 'Because you have not listened to my words, 9 I will summon all the peoples of the north and my servant Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon,' declares the Lord, 'and I will bring them against this land and its inhabitants and against all the surrounding nations. I will completely destroy them and make them an object of horror and scorn, and an everlasting ruin. 10 I will banish from them the sounds of joy and gladness, the voices of bride and bridegroom, the sound of millstones and the light of the lamp.' 11 This whole country will become a desolate wasteland, and these nations will serve the king of Babylon seventy years.

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Daniel 9
Letter to the Exiles

"In the first year of Daniel's descent), who was made ruler in the first year of his reign. Scriptures, according to the word of the Lord given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years.

Jeremiah 29:1-13

29 This is the text of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders among the exiles and to the priests, the prophets and all the other people Jehoiachaz had carried into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. (This was after King Jehoiachin¹) and the queen mother, the court officials and the others of Judah and Jerusalem; the skilled workers and the artisans had gone into exile from Jerusalem.)² He entrusted the letter to Elishah son of Shaphan and to Jehoiachaz son of Jehoiachin, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to King Nebuchadnezzar in Babylon. It said:
³ This is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel says to those I carried into exile from Jerusalem: "The Lord your God has said this: Do not grieve for your exiles or for your children in marriage, for you may have sons and daughters, and you may prosper in the land where you go. Do not weep for the city that has been destroyed, for you will not see it again. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper; for this is what the Lord Almighty, the God of Israel says: 'Do not let the prophets and diviners among you deceive you. Do not listen to the dreams you encourage them to have.'
⁴ They are prophesying lies to you in my name. I have not sent them," declares the Lord.
⁵ This is what the Lord says: "When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will come to you and fulfill my good promise to bring you back to this place.
⁶ For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you; plans to give you hope and a future."
⁷ Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you.
⁸ You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.
⁹ I will be found by you," declares the Lord, "and will bring you back from captivity."
¹⁰ I will gather you from all the nations and bring you back to the land where your ancestors lived."
¹¹ For I am the Lord your God, who rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians and led you out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm.
¹² I brought you to the land I swore to your ancestors to give you, but you did not obey me, declares the Lord your God.
¹³ Therefore you will be exiled to Babylon seven years, says the Lord, and then I will send you back to this land."
 The letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent to the exiles in Babylon is recorded in Daniel 9:1-23.

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Daniel 9
v1-4

So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes.

I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed...

**Innocent, yet exiled!
Served Babylon!
Maintained integrity!
Dreams... Revelations...**

**Still Engaged!
Still Studying!
Still Seeking!**

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v1-4

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*Jerusalem ~
Not just a casualty of the past but
a symbol of God's faithfulness...
"A hope and a future!"*



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Daniel 9:4-6

"Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land..."

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| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| <i>Sinned!</i> | <i>Not listened!</i> |
| <i>Done wrong!</i> | <i>Shame</i> |
| <i>Been wicked!</i> | <i>Unfaithfulness</i> |
| <i>Rebelled!</i> | <i>Not obeyed</i> |
| <i>Turned away!</i> | <i>Transgressed</i> |



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It's not about
 "Babylon" but us!



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Daniel 9:7-11

"Lord, you are righteous, but this day we are covered with shame - the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, both near and far, in all the countries where you have scattered us because of our unfaithfulness to you. We and our kings, our princes and our ancestors are covered with shame, Lord, because we have sinned against you. The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him; we have not obeyed the Lord our God or kept the laws he gave us through his servants the prophets. All Israel has transgressed your law and turned away, refusing to obey you..."

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Daniel 9:11-14

"Therefore the curses and sworn judgments written in the Law of Moses, the servant of God, have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against you. You have fulfilled the words spoken against us and against our rulers by bringing on us great disaster. Under the whole heaven nothing has ever been done like what has been done to Jerusalem. Just as it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come on us, yet we have not sought the favor of the Lord our God by turning from our sins and giving attention to your truth. The Lord did not hesitate to bring the disaster on us, for the Lord our God is righteous in everything he does; yet we have not obeyed him..."

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God

*Faithful!
Righteous!*

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Daniel 9:15-16

"Now, Lord our God, who brought your people out of Egypt with a mighty hand and who made for yourself a name that endures to this day, we have sinned, we have done wrong. Lord, in keeping with all your righteous acts, turn away your anger and your wrath from Jerusalem, your city, your holy hill. Our sins and the iniquities of our ancestors have made Jerusalem and your people an object of scorn to all those around us."

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Daniel 9:17-19

"Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, Lord, look with favor on your desolate sanctuary. Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy. Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, hear and act! For your sake, my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name."

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Be YOU!

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Daniel 9:20-23

"While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and making my request to the Lord my God for his holy hill — while I was still in prayer, Gabriel, the man I had seen in the earlier vision, came to me in swift flight about the time of the evening sacrifice. He instructed me and said to me, 'Daniel, I have now come to give you insight and understanding. As soon as you began to pray, a word went out, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed. Therefore, consider the word and understand the vision...'"

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Daniel's Prayer

Not about "stuff!"

Rooted in God's character...

Humility!

Springs from an abiding relationship...



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Daniel's Prayer

Not about "stuff!"

His

Name!

Honor!

Reputation!

Covenant!



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"Before they call, I will answer!"

Isaiah 65:24

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