



**Help God  
Help You!  
Daniel 10:12-14**

# When We Think About the World and Life Itself, We Tend to Think Tangibly (what we can see and feel)

- **We get a Job promotion, we see that, and we are then happy**
- **We lose jobs, we get down on ourselves, fear creeps in**
- **Babies are born in our lives and we rejoice**
- **Our friends get married and we rejoice**

**BUT**

- **When people we love get sick, experience loss, or when we experience loss, we grieve**
- **COVID 19 has caused an insurmountable amount of grief**
- **We also know that bad things do happen to good people or we can cause our own sadness because we reap what we sow**

# Some of the Real Issues of Life Don't Take Place on the Physical, Tangible Level That We Experience

- The scriptures are very plain about a spiritual battle being waged around us every day, Eph 6:12
- Remember 2 Chronicles 16:9 from last Sunday

***“For the eyes of the Lord range throughout the earth to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him...” God works behind the scenes on our behalf.***

- Look at Hebrews 1:14

***“Are not all angels ministering spirits sent to serve those who will inherit salvation?”***

**What About This Unseen World of Angels and How Are They Helping God Help Us Today?**

- **Angels were present when God created the world; and they shouted for joy, Job 38:4-7**
- **They were present at the birth of Christ, Luke 2:8-14**
- **They were present during Christ's temptation in the wilderness, Matthew 4:1-11**
- **They were present during the night of Gethsemane, to encourage Christ when he prayed in agony, Luke 22:43**
- **They were near the tomb of the resurrection, Luke 24:1-7, and present at the ascension, Acts 1:10-11**
- **They will accompany Jesus on His return, Matthew 13:39, Matthew 24:31**
- **Angels are very active in God's universe; and the story for today sheds light on how they constantly help God help us in the world that we don't see, as we head in that direction**

## **Background Information**

- **The children of Israel, God's children, had turned from Him**
- **Because of their continuous immorality, God had allowed them to be captured by the Babylonian people**
- **This is a lesson that we all need to learn: Individually we can turn our backs on God until He will stop protecting us and defending us**
- **Remember in Job 1:10-11 when Satan told God that you've got a "hedge of around Job and everything that he has."**
- **Satan surmised that, "If you remove that hedge and let me at him, he will curse you to your face!"**

# Daniel, the Prophet of God, Grieved for the Sins of the People

- Like a mother or father grieves when the authorities have you (because of a grown child's hard headedness)
- In Daniel chapter 9, he talks about God and lavishes praise on how good God is and how bad his people have been, verses 4-5
- In Daniel 9:6-11, Daniel says that they had refused to listen to His instructions
- In verse 12, Daniel says that as a result of Israel's disobedience to God, they have suffered their greatest disaster in history: .. *“Under the whole heaven nothing has ever been done like what has been done to Jerusalem.”*

- **Chapter 10 opens with Daniel saying that he had mourned for 3 weeks (verse 2)**
- **Verses 2 and 12 suggest that Daniel was praying continually for 3 weeks**
- **Apparently Daniel was praying with some degree of intensity (he didn't eat or drink much, verse 3)**
- **Have you ever prayed in agony? (Not a flowery prayer to entertain God or a church audience, or profound, theological offering)**
- **A REAL PRAYER IS OPENING YOUR HEART TO THE SPIRIT OF GOD (not just praying with sympathy or detachment but empathy: sick mother, sick child, sick home environment, sick job environment, *"let this cup pass from me"*)**

- Daniel says in chapter 10 and verses 5-7, that on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of the first month, while at a river standing with some other men, he saw a man that was really a heavenly being
- No one else that was with him saw what he saw; they heard him and ran away, verse 7 (reminds me of Paul on the Damascus road in Acts 9)

## **Listen to What He Tells Daniel**

- Verse 11, he says Daniel you are a man greatly beloved (you're precious in God's sight, don't be afraid)
- Verse 13, Daniel, from the time you started praying 3 weeks ago, 21 days ago, about this matter, on day one, I was sent to respond to you
- Continuing verse 13 he says, but I was blocked (held up)
- The angel Prince of Persia kept me tied up, and I got some help from Michael, one of the chief princes; and I'm just now getting to you.



# What an Amazing Matter-of-Fact Statement!

- To me, this exchange between Daniel and this heavenly being lifts the veil off of the unseen world
- This exchange says that there is a battle in the unseen world going on for our very souls
- The demon kings in charge of the Persian Empire caused a big fight and kept this angel from getting to Daniel; though he heard his request 3 weeks ago
- This means that sometimes even though we may not SEE the results of our prayers, God is continuing to work on our behalf
- Persistent prayer is an absolute requirement to allow God to help us fight our battles, 1 Thessalonians 5:17
- Patience is an absolute requirement on our part, James 1:2-4

# **What if Daniel Had Changed His Behavior By the Time the Angel Had Gotten There?**

- **What if he/we had stopped worshipping?**
- **What if he had started cohabitating with a female by the time the angel arrived with his blessing?**
- **What if he/we had started cheating on our taxes or accepting stimulus money that he/we shouldn't have, rather than trusting in God as to when his/our financial blessing was to arrive?**
- **What if after praying for a mate, the angel had finally arrived with a mate for us to marry; but we couldn't wait, and settled for the immoral person that we already had?**

# Two Fundamental Keys to This Lesson

***Being Patient Is A Fundamental Principle  
In Serving God (James 1:2-3)***

***Being Righteous Is Just as Important  
As Being Patient (Isaiah 59:1-2)***

So In Life, Look With “The Spiritual Eye”  
For What You Can’t Naturally See!

**“Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.**

**For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.**

**So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.”**

**2 Corinthians 4:17-18**

# The Plan of Salvation

**Hear the Gospel**

**Acts 15:7**

**Believe the Gospel**

**Acts 15:7**

**Repent of Sins**

**Acts 17:30**

**Confess Christ**

**Acts 8:37**

**Be Baptized**

**Acts 8:38**