Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 402 – Third Year Of Cyrus Through No Strength (Daniel 10:1-8)

1. What happened to Daniel in the third year of Cyrus the Persian king?

"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" (**Daniel 10:1**).

- Cyrus being the king puts us in the timeframe of (**Ezra 1:1-8**).
- Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar (**Daniel 1:7**).
- When we concluded chapter eight, the vision was true and the time for many days (**Daniel 8:26**). This vision, at a later time, picks up from where that ended.
- Think about the language of the thing being true. Was it just a dream? No. Was it a meaningless dream? No. Was he hallucinating because he was without food (vs. 2-3)? No. Consider **Acts 12:1-11** as commentary here.
- Daniel understands this vision (**Daniel 9:21-23**).

2. What did Daniel do for three whole weeks?

Mourned and fasted: *"(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"* (**Daniel 10:2-3**).

- Daniel was mourning in these days (**Lamentations 2:5**, **Ezekiel 2:10**, and **Joel 2:12-13**).
- This is consistent with language of one fasting (**Nehemiah 1:1-11**).
- As a point of note, Daniel allowed his fasting and mourning to be visible. Once Christ came into this world, such things were not meant to be a public display (**Matthew 6:16-18**).

3. What did Daniel see by the river Hiddekel?

"(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; (5) Then I lifted up mine eyes, and looked, and behold a certain man clothed in linen, whose loins were girded with fine gold of Uphaz: (6) His body also was like the beryl, 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" (**Daniel 10:4-6**).

- We first read about this river (Hiddekel) in **Genesis 2:14** as one of the rivers of Eden. It is better known as the Tigris.
- It is possible he was there in a vision and not actually in the flesh (**Daniel 8:2**).
- Visions of a man clothed in linen were not unique to Daniel (**Ezekiel 9:1-11**, **Ezekiel 10:1-7**, and **Revelation 15:6**).
- Uphaz was a place known for it's gold (**Jeremiah 10:9**).

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- His body appeared like a gem called beryl (**Ezekiel 10:8-9**).
- Face appeared like lightning, eyes of fire (**Ezekiel 1:13**).
- Extremities like polished brass (**Ezekiel 1:7**).
- Voice like as of a multitude (**Ezekiel 1:24**, **Revelation 10:1-4**, and **Revelation 19:1-6**).
- While all of that appears like angels, it is also language that could point to a vision of Christ (**Revelation 1:9-20** and **Revelation 2:18**).
- Remember, Jesus was present in the Old Testament (**I Corinthians 10:1-4**).
- For a study on Jesus in the Old Testament, follow this link and consider it: https://www.wordsoftruth.net/jesusintheoldtestament_bay_2016.html

4. What happened to those with Daniel when he saw this vision?

"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" (**Daniel 10:7**).

- We are reminded here that this is a vision. What do we know about visions (**Acts 10:9-35** and **II Corinthians 12:1-4**)?
- The men with Daniel did not see the vision (**Acts 9:1-9**).
- They ran and hid because such an event would cause fear (**Acts 22:9**).
- A voice from above, that causes some attention (**John 12:27-30**).

5. What physical impact did this vision have on Daniel?

"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" (**Daniel 10:8**).

- This great vision left him without any strength. Remember how Belshazzar the king had a physical reaction to the hand writing on the wall (**Daniel 5:1-6**).
- Daniel's appearance, his countenance changed (**Daniel 7:28**).
- What other reaction to this would there be? This would appear to be exactly how reasonable people would respond physically (**Exodus 19:16** and **Habakkuk 3:1-16**).

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