



THE BOOK OF
DANIEL
UNSHAKABLE
LIVING IN THE LAST DAYS
BY DR. JOE K. TAYLOR

THE GREAT PRAYER OF DANIEL

A Study of Daniel 9 "The Great Prayer of Daniel" • Part Four (vv. 20-23)

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@southreno.com.

The Church is looking for better methods; God is looking for better men. What the Church needs today is NOT more machinery or better machinery, NOT new organizations or more and novel methods, but men whom the Holy Spirit can use—men of prayer, men mighty in prayer."

- E.M. Bounds, Power through Prayer

A. STUDY SECTION

1. Daniel Appeals.

Daniel 9:20, NASB -²⁰ *Now while I was speaking and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God in behalf of the holy mountain of my God....*

For the past 16 verses (vv. 4-19), Daniel prayed a prayer of deep repentance and heartfelt confession:

"He contrasts God's righteousness against man's sinfulness..." "humble...grieved..."
"Sackcloth and ashes..." "Saturated in scripture..." "Sincere before the Lord..."
"He passionately spotlights God's greatness..." "He confessed the enormity of sin..."

What was Israel's Sin?

- A. They Disobeyed God's Word (v. 5a)
- B. They Departed from God's Word (v. 5b)
- C. They Disregarded God's Word (v. 6)

2. Gabriel Appears.

Daniel 9:21-22, NASB -²¹ *while I was still speaking in prayer, then the man [lit., servant (who may have appeared "man-like")] Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously, came to me in my extreme weariness [This phrase has given Hebrew translators some trouble. "in swift flight" (NIV); "cause to fly swiftly, touched me" (KJV); I honestly don't know how to interpret this specific phrase other than to say, 'Something happened!'] about the time of the evening offering [Remember, the evening offering had not been made for over 60 years. Why would Daniel make reference to something that wasn't happening? Maybe, it's because Daniel's worldview was from God's point-of-view and not man's]. ²² *He gave me instruction and talked with me and said, "O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you insight with understanding.**

3. God Answers.

Daniel 9:23, NASB -²³ *"At the beginning of your supplications the command was issued, and I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed [lit., favored, meaning loved or cherished. Why was Daniel singled out to receive this message? He was loved by God. NOTE: The apostle John is referred to five times in the Scripture as "the disciple whom Jesus loved" (John 13:23; 19:26; 20:2; 21:7; 21:20); so give heed to the message and gain understanding of the vision.*

Daniel 9:23, NLT -²³ *...Listen carefully so that you can understand the meaning of your vision.*

Daniel has asked: Restore Israel to Her kingdom.

God will answer: I want to usher in My Kingdom.

B. LIFE APPLICATION SECTION

What do we learn from the great prayer of Daniel?

1. Nothing is more important than humble, sincere, passionate prayer.
2. Our prayers must contrast God's righteousness with Man's sinfulness.
3. God answers prayer. (cf., Dan. 9:24-27)
4. Prophecy, when heard and understood, should change how we live.

2 Peter 3:11-15, NLT -¹¹ *Since everything around us is going to be destroyed like this, what holy and godly lives you should live, ¹² looking forward to the day of God and hurrying it along. On that day, he will set the heavens on fire, and the elements will melt away in the flames. ¹³ But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness. ¹⁴ And so, dear friends, while you are waiting for these things to happen, make every effort to be found living peaceful lives that are pure and blameless in his sight. ¹⁵ And remember, our Lord's patience gives people time to be saved.*