

DANIEL

MESSAGE: NATHAN BAIRD

MUSIC: RITA BAIRD

DATE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

Our Involvement in the Unseen, Cosmic War Daniel 10

Overview

A heavenly messenger comes to give Daniel insight.

Dan. 10:12 Then he said to me, "Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words."

The messenger explains ...

...Daniel's valued standing before God.

Dan. 10:11 And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you."

...God's response to Daniel's posture of humility and compassion.

Dan. 10:12a Then he said to me, "Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard..."

...his purpose in being sent to Daniel.

Dan. 10:12b I have come because of your words...**14** to make you understand what is to happen to your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come."

Understanding Our Place in the War of Heaven & Earth

Dan. 10:20 Then he said...But now I will return to fight against the prince of Persia; and when I go out, behold, the prince of Greece will come. **21** But I will tell you what is inscribed in the book of truth: there is none who contends by my side against these except Michael, your prince.

1. At Babel, God appointed heavenly "deputies" over the nations while he established Israel.
Deut. 32:8 When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. **9** But the LORD's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.
2. These rulers became corrupted and were subsequently judged by God.
Ps. 82:1 God has taken his place in the divine council; in the midst of the gods, he holds judgment: **2** "How long will you judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked?"

3. God promised his Son that he would give the nations to him to rule in justice.
Ps. 2:7 I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you. 8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.

4. At the cross, God triumphed over the rebellious powers.
Col. 2:15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

5. Through trust in Jesus as the victorious king, all can be freed from sin's domain.
Col. 1:13 He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins...

6. Formerly enslaved to the dark powers...
Eph. 2:1 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air...

... we now fight against them as citizen soldiers.

Eph. 6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. 12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood...

... we proclaim freedom from the kingdom of darkness in Christ.

2 Cor. 4:4 In their case the god of this [age] has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

Reflection/Discussion

1. How does understanding that human rulers are not the only influence in the world change how you think about our current moment in history?

2. While we know and serve the same God as Daniel, in what ways are we better off because of the New Covenant (i.e., the inner presence of the Holy Spirit)? (See 1 Cor. 2:12-16; Rom. 5:5, 15:3; Gal. 4:6, 5:8.)

3. Ephesians 6:10-20 describes the armor of God and the purpose for "putting it on". Since the enemy we fight is intent on preventing people from responding to the proclamation of Jesus as King of All (2 Cor. 4:4), how does each piece of armor and purpose relate to making the good news known? What happens if we choose not to "put on the full armor"?

SONGS

"JOYFUL, JOYFUL, WE ADORE THEE" – Henry Van Dyke

"MULTIPLIED" – Bear Rinehart, Bo Rinehart

"GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS" – Thomas Obediah Chisholm, William Marion Runyan

"ADORATION" – Brenton Brown

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 36,533.02

WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,093.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$ 1,283,728.92

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$ 1,335,411.00