

The Book of Daniel
"Prologue for Prophecy"
Daniel 10:1-21

Introduction

1. The Scripture cannot be broken - this includes the prophetic Scriptures!

2. The final three chapters of this blessed book include a prologue, a prophecy, and an epilogue for the entire writing.

3. Included in the prologue for prophecy are the following three items:

1. Its OCCASION. v. 1.

The occasion really touches three matters:

a. Historical

It all happened in the 3rd year of Cyrus
(cf. 1:21).

b. Prophetical

The matter concerned "great warfare" which is really the import of the phrase "the time appointed was long."

c. Personal

All that Daniel received was "true" (certain), and understandable! Prophecy is something dependable! Praise God. The reason for this is: it is revealed and what comes from God is irrevocably and everlastingly true.

2. Its PREPARATION. vv. 2-4.

Herein we are concerned with the personal involvement of the prophet. Mark these thoughts:

a. His sorrow.

What concern he had for the people of God. How his soul was moved that the purpose of God might be realized in them!

b. His separation.

Daniel always had abstemious habits (cf. 1:8, 12.) What a disciplined life!

c. His situation.

The place where God spoke to him was in a distant land and one which had foreign gods and

worship. Even here, he had not denied the God Whom we adore - our faithful, unchangeable Friend!

3. Its VISION.

The vision which Daniel received in this scene leading up to the prophetic utterances of the next chapter involves something:

a. Concerning Christ.

Although this is a debated text, there seems to be more than an accidental connection between these verses and Rev. 1:12-17. The details given seem to set this One apart as the very Son of God Himself. Oh, let everyone note this description of the Risen Lord. We linger at the manger or on Nazareth streets. Holy Spirit - give us a vision of Christ in His fullness!

b. Concerning angels.

It is remarkable to see the great interest of angelic beings in matters pertaining to prophecy. Three touches from angels are recorded, all probably being done by the one attendant to our Lord: v.10 touch to hear; vv.16, 17 touch to speak; vv.18,19 touch to understand. Glory to God.

c. Concerning himself.

The vision brought Daniel to his knees. Note his total lowliness in the face of God's revelation: vv.8-11; 15-17. When Daniel was weak, the Lord strengthened him. (v.19).

CONCLUSION: When God has something to say to one of His servants, He will get hold of him at the right time, in the right attitude, and with a specific word from Himself. Would to God each of our hearts were adjusted to His wave length at all times. Are you in a position to hear His voice now?

NOTES