**Daniel’s Desperate Prayer**

Read Daniel 9:1-23 (ESV)

1. Introduction – 70yrs of captivity
2. Daniel was praying on behalf of his nation – his nation that was in captivity – by the Babylonian’s for 67yrs – asking God to set his people free – basis of his prayer in Daniel 9 was the promise he found in God’s word in Jeremiah that after 70yrs –

**10**“For thus says the Lord: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place…

he laid claim to that promise – he prayed for the answer with the answer in mind - his prayer was answered – 3yrs later – God set Israel free –

Prayer is the conversational part of the Most important love relationship in our lives. In prayer we learn to keep company with him in the everyday stuff of life. We develop spiritual friendship with him. Prayer is not only a real relationship with the kindest person in the universe, but Jesus also invites us to partner with him in shifting history through our prayer and intercession, releasing justice, bringing forth awakening and revival in the nations and preparing the planet for his return. God releases his power, his truth and his love in response to the prayers of his people!

When we pray according to God’s will and for his renown his activity always increases. He always responds. As Hudson Taylor said, “When we work we work but when we pray, God works”

Jeremiah 29:11, “For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.”

Hope is future orientated. It is the joyful expectation of something good from God coming our way! It is a vision of God’s good future before us, meaning where you are going is better than where you are and where you are coming from.

you know when you are backing out of a parking lot, you look through the rear view mirror to see what is behind you…but when you are driving forward you look through the windshield… because where you are going is a lot bigger than where you came from… it involves a future and a hope… Our God is much better than we think he is and he is doing much more than we think he is doing! And as we pray he will do even more for HIS GLORY and for OUR GOOD!

Worry is believing that God wont’ get it right…bitterness is believing that God got it wrong…stuck in our past…

**We are too blessed to be stressed, to encouraged to be discouraged, to anointed to be disappointed…we are born again, blood bought, spirit filled, faith-talkin, word walkin, bible believing supernaturally infused men and women of the MOST HIGH GOD!**

Our ultimate hope is discovered in seeing and savoring, prizing and praising, recognizing and relishing the glory of God in the face of Christ. Christ is our HOPE! He is the summation of all the promises of God, the source of all the riches of God, now and forevermore. In Christ we have been given an inheritance of HOPE.

**Fostering a culture of Hope is critical to effective and sustainable intercession**!

As Paul declares to us in 1 Cor 13:13,

“Now these three remain, faith, hope and love but the greatest of these is love.”

The greatest of these three is love, however I believe hope comes first. Hebrews tells us that faith is the substance of things hoped for. And of course we know that faith needs to work itself out in love (Gal. 5:6).

So we could look at this way: our hope is in hearing the music of the future, our faith is dancing to that music NOW! And our love is brining others into the dance with you! The song being sung is the beauty, majesty, and supremacy of Jesus Christ.

**Like Daniel we want to plead the Promises of God’s Word**

When our prayers are shaped by the Word, we are building on solid ground. We are responding to who God is and what he is doing. When we are claiming his promises, and obeying his commands, there is no better way to pray!

As we pray the Word, we are pleading the good promises of God! Promises predict the answers by foretelling what to expect! They are the molds into which we pour our prayers. Promises like these, “call unto me and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things which you do not know” (Jer. 33:3). Promises like, “whatever things you ask for in prayer, believing, you will receive” (Matt. 21:22). Promises like, “if you ask me anything in my name I will do it” (John 14:14). This next year 2025, lets’ pray BIG Prayers of HOPE in the glorious promise of God’s Word that the knowledge of the glory of the Lord will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea (Hab. 2:14).

When we pray God’s word we pray from the answer … with the answer in mind! When we plead God’s promises we are praying from the answer to the answer! In intercession we are asking him what he asks us to ask him! As we ask according to his will and for his renown, his activity always increases, releasing his power, his love, and his truth on the earth!

Book – Pray the Word

1. Daniel prayed 3x a day (Daniel 6:10)

* Prepared Place
* Prepared Time
* Prepared Position
* Prepared Attitude

1. Desperate Prayer –

“Then I turned my face to the Lord God, seeking him by prayer and pleas for mercy with fasting and sackcloth and ashes” (Daniel 9:3) Also **Matthew 9:37, Acts 4:31**

1. Exalting Prayer

“O Lord the Great and Awesome God, who keeps covenant and steadfast love with those who love him and keep his commandments” (Daniel 9:4)

Hallowed be Your Name – Names of the Lord –

1. Confessing Prayer

“We have sinned and done wrong and acted wickedly and rebelled, turning aside from your commandments and rules. We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land. To you, O Lord belongs righteousness but to us open shame … we have rebelled against him and have not obeyed the voice of the Lord our God by walking in his ways” (Daniel 9:7-10)

In light of God’s Holiness and our sinfulness – lets’ humble ourselves – we have nothing – God dwells high and holy, God opposes proud but gives grace to the humble -

1. Pleading Prayer – Crying out for Mercy for His ‘**Name**’ Sake

“Now therefore, O our God, listen to the prayer of your servant and to his pleas for mercy, and for your own sake, O Lord, make your face to shine upon your sanctuary, which is desolate. **18**O my God, incline your ear and hear. Open your eyes and see our desolations, and the city that is called by your name. For we do not present our pleas before you because of our righteousness, but because of your great mercy. **19**O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive. O Lord, pay attention and act. Delay not, for your own sake, O my God, because your city and your people are called by your name”(Daniel 9:17-19).

Don’t give us what we deserve –

His Name that is at stake – vindicate your name -

“And the Lord will strike Egypt, striking and healing, and they will return to the Lord, and he will listen to their **pleas for mercy and heal them**. 23 In that day there will be a highway from Egypt to Assyria, and Assyria will come into Egypt, and Egypt into Assyria, and the Egyptians will worship with the Assyrians” (Isaiah 19:22-23).

“And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and **pleas for mercy**, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn” (Zechariah 12:10).

**VIDEO**

Global Day of Prayer for the Muslim World, March 27th - 110cities.com

Global Day of Prayer for the Jewish world and Israel – June 8th

Conclusion

Set a schedule so that you know when you are going to pray

Make a prayer list so that you know what you are going to pray

Have a right view of God so that you want to pray

Daniel 9:20–23 (ESV), “While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my plea before the Lord my God for the holy hill of my God, 21 while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision at the first, came to me in swift flight at the time of the evening sacrifice. 22 He made me understand, speaking with me and saying, “O Daniel, I have now come out to give you insight and understanding. 23 At the beginning of your pleas for mercy a word went out, and I have come to tell it to you, **for you are greatly loved**. Therefore consider the word and understand the vision.