Daniel Chapter 9 Part 1

Daniel's Prayer for His People

Dan 9:1
In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the seed of the Medes, which was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans;

Dan 9:2
In the first year of his reign I Daniel understood by books the number of the years, whereof the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah the prophet, that he would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

Meaning: **He has studied the books of Jeremiah the prophet.**
Although the book of Jeremiah was completed only a generation before the events described in Dan. 9
Daniel already recognized it as authoritative scripture.

Jeremiah predicted that the desolation of Jerusalem would endure for 70 years

Reference Verse:
Jeremiah 25:11-13
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/JER.25.11-13

11 And this whole land shall be a desolation *and* an astonishment, and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.
12 Then it will come to pass, when seventy years are completed, *that* I will punish the king of Babylon and that nation, the land of the Chaldeans, for their iniquity,' says the LORD; 'and I will make it a perpetual desolation.

13 So I will bring on that land all My words which I have pronounced against it, all that is written in this book, which Jeremiah has prophesied concerning all the nations.

Reference Verse:
Jeremiah 29:10
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/JER.29.10

For thus says the LORD: After seventy years are completed at Babylon, I will visit you and perform My good word toward you, and cause you to return to this place.

So Daniel calculated that since the first captives had been taken to Babylon in 605 B.C., the seventy years were nearly complete.

Dan 9:3
And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes:

Meaning: **Daniel being a Revelator, whom was spoken to by GOD.**
Still he was also always reading and studying and praying.

He was constantly reading, learning, studying and Praying, actually we should take his study life as an example for our own.

* As we may know the Bible having read it once, twice, or even more times, we should still find time to read and study our Bibles. We will find that every time we study and or discuss our Bibles that secrets will be revealed each and every time, as we are told in

Reference Verse:
Proverbs 25:2
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/PRO.25.2

"*It is* the glory of God to conceal a thing: but the honour of kings *is* to search out a matter."

GOD Initiates conversations through His word. So to pray is to have a conversation with GOD. Thats precisely why we need to study our Bibles.

By not reading the word we diminish our Prayer lives.

His preparation for prayer was the set his face, put on sackcloth.
Sackcloth being a hairy garment usually made of camel hair and would be worn inside out, so the course hair would constantly rub against your skin and having ashes poured or rubbed all over you as they did with anointing oil. Then they would also fast. Why was he doing all of this? He did this to show his was very serious about his prayer.

Fasting is a very important weapon in our arsenal against the devil and his demons. How-so?
It takes a lot of blood in the digestive tracks to begin the digestive process, so when you fast that blood is now free to move to the brain. So it actually makes you become a dealer thinker, as long as it's not over done to the point of starvation. So actually fasting is good for you physically and mentally, it's a way of denying our flesh and concentrating on our spiritual self.

3 References to fasting:

Seeking God's Direction

Reference Verse:

Exodus 34:28

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/EXO.34.28

So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And He wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments

Fasting for Humility

Reference Verse:

Ezra 8:21-23

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/EZR.8.21-23

21Then I proclaimed a fast there at the river of Ahava, that we might humble ourselves before our God, to seek from Him the right way for us and our little ones and all our possessions.
22 For I was ashamed to request of the king an escort of soldiers and horsemen to help us against the enemy on the road, because we had spoken to the king, saying, "The hand of our God *is* upon all those for good who seek Him, but His power and His wrath *are* against all those who forsake Him."
23 So we fasted and entreated our God for this, and He answered our prayer.

Fasting for Freedom

Reference Verse:

Isaiah 58:6

https://my.bible.com/bible/114/ISA.58.6

"*Is* this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke?

If you can say no to your stomach with fasting it helps you to fight off other temptations that come your way.

Dan 9:4
And I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession, and said, "O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments.

The covent refers to the Abrahamic covenant in which Yahweh promised to preserve the Jewish people and provide them with a land

Reference Verse:
Gen 12:1-7
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/GEN.12.1-7

1 Now the LORD had said to Abram: "Get out of your country,
From your family And from your father's house, To a land that I will show you.
2 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing.
3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."
4 So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him, and Lot went with him. And Abram *was* seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran.
5 Then Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people whom they had acquired in Haran, and they departed to go to the land of Canaan. So they came to the land of Canaan.
6 Abram passed through the land to the place of Shechem, as far as the terebinth tree of Moreh. And the Canaanites *were* then in the land.
7 Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your descendants I will give this land." And there he built an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

Reference Verse:
Gen 15:18-21
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/GEN.15.18-21

18 On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying: "To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates—
19 the Kenites, the Kenezzites, the Kadmonites,
20 the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim,
21 the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites."

Rule #1 When it comes to prayer: Know and recognize who we're praying too.

We are praying to the One and only living God of all the world and universe. Keeping that in mind our problems no matter how big they seem to us are only specks to our Father, seeing that he holds everything in his hands how can we overwhelm Him?

We need to remember the things He has done for and with us in the past, We need to remember the hard times we thought we would never make it through, He has always been there helping us even when we haven't asked because he is a wonderful and faithful Father.

We must remember sometimes Prays my not be answered:

Let us look at Joseph for an example
This was a vision not a prayer but it shows us Gods timing is everything

Reference Verse:
Genesis 37:5-11
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/GEN.37.5-11

5 Now Joseph had a dream, and he told *it* to his brothers; and they hated him even more.
6 So he said to them, "Please hear this dream which I have dreamed:
7 There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Then behold, my sheaf arose and also stood upright; and indeed your sheaves stood all around and bowed down to my sheaf."
8 And his brothers said to him, "Shall you indeed reign over us? Or shall you indeed have dominion over us?" So they hated him even more for his dreams and for his words.
9 Then he dreamed still another dream and told it to his brothers, and said, "Look, I have dreamed another dream. And this time, the sun, the moon, and the eleven stars bowed down to me."
10 So he told *it* to his father and his brothers; and his father rebuked him and said to him, "What *is* this dream that you have dreamed? Shall your mother and I and your brothers indeed come to bow down to the earth before you?"
11 And his brothers envied him, but his father kept the matter *in mind.*
Then Joseph was sold into slavery by his brothers (Not a Leader)

Then Joseph was thrown into prison (Not a Leader)

Then Joseph as a governor of the land (Then his vision came true)

Reference Verse:
Genesis 41:37-40
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/GEN.41.37-40

37 So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants.
38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find *such a one* as this, a man in whom *is* the Spirit of God?"
39 Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "Inasmuch as God has shown you all this, *there is* no one as discerning and wise as you.
40 You shall be over my house, and all my people shall be ruled according to your word; only in regard to the throne will I be greater than you."

We need to understand God's timing, if God would have made Joseph a leader and fulfilling his dream at any other time he wouldn't have been ready for it.

God knows when to do and what to do. We need to trust his timing so when we pray and they don't get answered right away, that means to me it's not Gods timing.

Dan 9:5-19
5 we have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments.

We notice here Daniel admits **We Have Sinned.** Daniel saying **We Have Sinned** is including himself in the body that has sinned, he could have very well said they have sinned and found fault in them but he chose to be included. We see no sin of Daniel in scripture, not to say he didn't sin but comparatively he lead a pretty impeccable life.

Let's use a toe example:
you drop a hammer on your foot and hurt your toe, you may want to call a tow truck.

But seriously your body as a whole wants to help and make the pain go away, you mid starts thinking how to ease the pain your hand starts to rub or message it to ease the pain … That is what Daniel did he became part of that body sin and claimed we have sinned.

Now wouldn't that be awesome as a body of christ we would do the same? When someone is hurting we try to help or comfort them, while so to-often we place blame, ridicule, laugh and instead of trying to alleviate the pain we make it worse. We need to come together as a body of christ.

Daniel continues:

6 Neither have we heeded Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings and our princes, to our fathers and all the people of the land.
7 O Lord, righteousness *belongs* to You, but to us shame of face, as *it is* this day—to the men of Judah, to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, those near and those far off in all the countries to which You have driven them, because of the unfaithfulness which they have committed against You.
8 "O Lord, to us *belongs* shame of face, to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, because we have sinned against You.
9 To the Lord our God *belong* mercy and forgiveness, though we have rebelled against Him.
10 We have not obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His laws, which He set before us by His servants the prophets.

11 Yes, all Israel has transgressed Your law, and has departed so as not to obey Your voice; therefore the curse and the oath written in **the Law of Moses** the servant of God have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against Him.
Daniel realized that it was Israel's disobedience that resulted in exile, as the law of Moses had warned.

Reference Verse:
Lev 26:27-33
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/LEV.26.27-33

27 'And after all this, if you do not obey Me, but walk contrary to Me,
28 then I also will walk contrary to you in fury; and I, even I, will chastise you seven times for your sins.
29 You shall eat the flesh of your sons, and you shall eat the flesh of your daughters.
30 I will destroy your high places, cut down your incense altars, and cast your carcasses on the lifeless forms of your idols; and My soul shall abhor you.
31 I will lay your cities waste and bring your sanctuaries to desolation, and I will not smell the fragrance of your sweet aromas.
32 I will bring the land to desolation, and your enemies who dwell in it shall be astonished at it.
33 I will scatter you among the nations and draw out a sword after you; your land shall be desolate and your cities waste.

Reference Verse:
Deut 29:23-28
https://my.bible.com/bible/114/DEU.29.23-28

23 'The whole land *is* brimstone, salt, and burning; it is not sown, nor does it bear, nor does any grass grow there, like the overthrow of Sodom and Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, which the LORD overthrew in His anger and His wrath.'
24 All nations would say, 'Why has the LORD done so to this land? What does the heat of this great anger mean?'

25 Then *people* would say: 'Because they have forsaken the covenant of the LORD God of their fathers, which He made with them when He brought them out of the land of Egypt;
26 for they went and served other gods and worshiped them, gods that they did not know and that He had not given to them.
27 Then the anger of the LORD was aroused against this land, to bring on it every curse that is written in this book.
28 And the LORD uprooted them from their land in anger, in wrath, and in great indignation, and cast them into another land, as *it is* this day.'

Daniel continues:

12 And He has confirmed His words, which He spoke against us and against our judges who judged us, by bringing upon us a great disaster; for under the whole heaven such has never been done as what has been done to Jerusalem.
13 "As *it is* written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the LORD our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth.
14 Therefore the LORD has kept the disaster in mind, and brought it upon us; for the LORD our God *is* righteous in all the works which He does, though we have not obeyed His voice.
15 And now, O Lord our God, who brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand, and made Yourself a name, as *it is* this day—we have sinned, we have done wickedly!
16 "O Lord, according to all Your righteousness, I pray, let Your anger and Your fury be turned away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; because for our sins, and for the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people *are* a reproach to all *those* around us.
17 Now therefore, our God, hear the prayer of Your servant, and his supplications, and for the Lord's sake cause Your face to shine on Your sanctuary, which is desolate.

18 O my God, incline Your ear and hear; open Your eyes and see our desolations, and the city which is called by Your name; for we do not present our supplications before You because of our righteous deeds, but because of Your great mercies.

Despite god's justice in sending Israel's into exile, Daniel appealed to God not on the basis of Israel's **righteous deeds** but on God's **great mercies**. God's forgiveness was an act of grace.

19 O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and act! Do not delay for Your own sake, my God, for Your City and Your people are called by Your name."

* Prayer should not be to move the hand of God but it should be to hold the hand of God.
We also need to remember that prayer things, not so much as prayer changes you.
True prayer places us in harmony with the heart of GodIts not because of our righteousness but because of His mercy and loving kindness.

We can't let Satan quench our spirit of prayer, and thats what he try's to do as we pray.
By telling us you don't deserve that, you can't do that and so on.
He is the great deceiver and through faith and prayer he can and will be defeated.