

Glorious Gospel Publication



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Contents:

Love Promoted Progress	
Jack Davis	1
The Last Days	
Anita Clark	5
“Jesus Christ, the same...” (Conclusion)	
Bonnie Richards	9
Beloved, Let Us Love... (Conclusion)	
Doug Delhay	14
The Book Of Daniel - Chapter 10	
E. J. Davis	19
Announcements	25

LOVE PROMOTED PROGRESS



“Be ye therefore *followers* of God, as dear children; And **walk in love**, as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweetsmelling savour.” Eph. 5:1-2.

What a marvelous course was Jesus’ race, let it be ours also. It is evident that our Father enjoys the fragrance of our beloved Lord being moved on His way, motivated by love divine. We will be forever thankful that we have the opportunity to adhere to the Gospel of God’s glory, and grace. See 2 Cor. 4:4 and 1 Tim. 1:11. He is able to use all creation to express it in symbol and type. There is no excuse for human ignorance. I am so glad that our God was not limited to the language of humanity to get his lofty glorious purposes across unto us.

What A Victorious Race He Ran

“The heavens declare the glory of God: and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, their words to the end of the world. In them he hath set a tabernacle for the sun. Which is as the bridegroom coming out of His chamber, and rejoiceth as a strong man to run a race. His going forth is from the end of heaven, and his circuit unto the ends of it; AND THERE IS NOTHING HID FROM THE HEAT THEREOF.” Psalm 19:1-6. Songs of Solomon 8:6 expresses the bridegroom’s love as a most vehement flame. What Jesus did and does for love powerfully constrains receptive hearts. God’s Word impresses

upon our hearts where Jesus' course took him. The bridegroom which has come out of his chamber to run his race is also the "Sun (Son) of righteousness who would arise with healing in his wings." in Mal. 4:2. Many Old Testament scriptures speak to us in prophecies, types, and shadows, wonderfully foretelling what Jesus would do on His course of love. They describe how He would complete His course, finish His circuit. Thank God for the four Gospels that told in great detail how our dear Lord fulfilled His course of love.

The epistles teach more of the blessed benefits that we are to enter into, challenging us to enter into that which Jesus has won for us on His course of love. Even appropriate and enjoy on our God-given race course of love. With Paul's call to the Christian race comes also the espousal of grace unto the prospective bridegroom. As such Jesus is to be the prize of the high calling. Phil. 3:14.

Peter Teaches Precious Aspects Of Jesus Course 1 Peter 3:18-19

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit: by which also he went and preached to the spirits in prison." What a glorious liberating message He certainly must have given! It is finished.

Paul Touches On Some More Important Details Ephesians 4:7-10

"But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, when he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men. (Now that he ascended, what is it that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? He that

descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things.)”

What About Our Race?

Since we have been espoused by grace to be joined unto the Lord, Paul urges us ... “Would to God ye could bear with me a little in my folly: and indeed bear with me. For I am jealous over you with a Godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.” 2 Cor. 11:1-3. We are also challenged to run our race! 1 Cor. 9:23-24. “And this I do for the gospel’s sake, that I may be a partaker thereof with you. Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run that ye may obtain.” You have heard of cross-country winning teams. In the Age of Grace we may be part of the “across the age” team. Our winning race is of faith that it might be by grace. Jesus Christ as Bridegroom will be the PRIZE of the high calling.

Song of Solomon 2:13 & 1:4

The beloved Son of God has spoken to us “Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.” We, being attracted unto Him with spiritual attraction can continue to say, “draw me, and we will **run after thee**,” having been divinely drawn we can say, we will be glad and **rejoice in thee**. We will **remember thy love** more than wine. We might think of all the most thrilling, exciting times, yet His endearing times tops them all. It’s sad to say that not all are equally attracted to our Beloved as fully as we are, but the offer is there to receptive, responsive hearts.

Hebrews 12:1-3

“Wherefore seeing we are also compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin

which does so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race which is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not resisted unto blood, striving against sin.”

Thank God for such a great cloud or crowd of witness that left behind such marvelous testimony of God’s faithfulness on their race. They were winners in their day and age, and their testimonies are encouragement for us on our race. Their races teach us so much about running our’s. They are good examples. We are blessed to know the way Paul ran his course and finished his race. He was certainly a good pacesetter. See 2 Tim. 4:7&8.

But we are especially inspired, even drawn on by giving due consideration of how Jesus wonderfully fulfilled his course, lest we get wearied and faint in our minds. AMEN, HALLELUJAH!!! GLORY TO GOD.

J. D.



**Run for the prize, brother,
Run for the Prize,
‘Heed not the tempter’s voice,
Whatever the guise;
Speed up your going, brother,
Sluggishness despise;
Leave the worldly church behind,
And run for the Prize.**

—M. M. B.

THE LAST DAYS

Anita Clark



“And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.” Revelation 13:1.

Also read Daniel 7:7, where a terrible beast is described, which represents the Roman Empire. When Christ lived here on the earth, Romans were the rulers of the known world. After the Caesar it seemed that the Roman Empire ceased, but it didn't entirely go away. Now, we are living in the last days, and the Roman Empire is in revival. This beast out of the sea (Gentile nations) will be the Antichrist coming forth from the nations of the European Union.

At first there will be seven nations involved, then the number will grow to ten. When the Antichrist really takes the reins of world government he will pluck up three of the horns (Horns always speak of power), and then it is reduced to seven again. We read of this in Daniel 7:8 & 11-12, and also Revelation 17:8-17. We wonder how all this will fit with what we are seeing in the world today i.e. the G-7 are a group of seven world leaders from the richest industrialized countries. Russia joined in 1994, which makes eight heads of state, which meet to discuss world economics, environmental concerns and world trade to name just a few of their concerns. Two other nations may join in the near future and that will bring the number to ten, those being China and India. Could this be the “ten horns” which Daniel and Revelations speaks of? As the song says, “We will understand it better by and by.” All these things point to the nearness of Christ's coming just before the tribulation.

Persecution of Christians Around the World- Many foreign governments continually persecute Christians. These are some of the cases reported in Christian News Today : China arrested and tortured a Christian Lawyer recently. This report is one in many of persecutions and imprisonments of Christians which has been going on for years. Despite their record, U.S.A gave China “Most Favored Nation” status during the Clinton administration, and continues today. Officials there are grappling with spread of Christianity in China. Two Christians were arrested in Turkey accused of murder (a trumped up charge). Egypt will very soon have a special I-D card to identify all Christians, and recently, a Pakistani Christian was charged with “Blasphemy” for a Text Message. Muslim Pilgrims in Bangladesh beat a Bible student, and Saudi Authorities arrested a Christian convert recently. Does this bring you to tears? We certainly need to pray for Christians who are suffering reproach for Christ. God has not allowed us in the U.S.A. to go through that kind of suffering, but we have no guarantee that it will not happen. Would we be faithful and stand? During the tribulation Christians will be beheaded for Christ. We will be in heaven then. Praise God!

God will work out His eternal purpose in the earth. Israel will have to go through the tribulation of seven years which is coming upon the earth in the near Future.

However Israel will continue to exist, and will be the head nation, as Deuteronomy 28:13 says, “And the Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD...”.

ECONOMIC SITUATION – One of the signs of the end time is the world chaos over the economic situation. All the economists of foreign governments are seeking the answers to this huge global crisis. The whole world is now experiencing an unprecedented sudden shaking in global economy and

finances. An article from the Midnight Call magazine states “Shock wave after shock wave hits us as we hear and read what the news media has to say about the economy, financial chaos, bankruptcies, factory closings, bailouts, etc., etc. It seems as if there is no end to bad and depressing news.” The Bible tells of a man who will have all the answers. He, being empowered by Satan, will be very wise, and will lead the nations by his persuasive words. People will worship him, for he will seem to be the savior of the world, a man with all the answers.

THERE’S ANOTHER WORLD OUT THERE – Science editor, Steve Conner for The Independent says, “A habitable planet could be located in the next four years.” They are looking for “...the discovery of a Earthlike planet made of rock rather than hot gas or frozen ice.” Two satellite studies by the European Space Agency and the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) lead Astronomers to confidently predict that the discovery of one of these planets may happen in about three or four Years.

These scientists hope to find a planet is just like the earth so that if need be we could escape to it if planet Earth becomes inhabitable. Also, such a find would make their theory of how the earth came into existence to be more plausible. They deny the truth of Creation by God as the Scripture says. Even if they found another planet, how are they going to get to it? There is talk at the present to find a way to travel to Mars. We know how to travel to a place beyond space. Praise the Lord! The Bible tells us we are bound for Heaven to be with the Lord forever. How blessed we are to have that revelation!

Titus 2:12-14 gives us hope, “Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly and righteously, and godly in this present world; Looking for that blessed hope and the great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ; Who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto Himself a peculiar people zealous of good

works.” If you are not one of the “redeemed” ones - those who believe in Jesus as their personal Saviour, consider the condition of the world today. Come to Jesus and live! If you are a child of God who isn’t fellowshiping with the Lord, “it is high time to awake out of sleep.” Christ’s coming is very near. He loves you with an everlasting love, and wants you to be in that company which make up the bride of the Lord Jesus Christ. Be aware that time is short and things and times could change drastically in a “twinkle of an eye.”



ROCK OF AGES

**I do not stand
On shifting sand
And fear the storm that rages;
But safe and sure
I stand secure
Upon the Rock of Ages.**

**Oh Rock divine,
Oh, peace sublime —
'Tis written on the pages.
'Twas cleft for me
That I may be
Safe in the Rock of Ages.**

—Vicky Moots



“Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today and forever.”

Enhanced Vision 2008

Part 6

Bonnie Richards

In Jerusalem, at the site of the Knesset (Israel’s parliament) building, we saw a large Menorah which depicts twenty-nine historical scenes: among them Moses with outstretched arms to God during the time the Jews were in battle, young David with the head of Goliath, and the Holocaust during WW2 which preceded the nation Israel being established.

In Jerusalem, at an evening meeting of the tour group a young Jewish woman sang beautiful songs about her love and thankfulness to Yeshua, the Messiah. After singing, she told the group what she had heard at the Knesset that afternoon. She was obviously disturbed as she related that the consensus of the Knesset was that Israel’s future as a nation looks bleak and in grave jeopardy because of the enemies of Israel round about.

The hostile people all around them, after thousands of years, still want the Jews annihilated. Satan uses these foes as pawns to thwart God’s purpose to bless the world through Abraham’s son, Jesus Christ. We know there is a future for Israel, but also a terrible near-future, before as a nation they will see THE great light and be brought to their knees in recognition of Jesus, the Messiah, the Redeemer, the Deliverer, Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Zech. 12:10b, 11 says: “They shall look on me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one grieves for a firstborn son.” In that day the weeping in Jerusalem will be great...”. Isa. 25:9: “And it shall be said in that day, Lo, this is

our God; we have waited for him, and he will save us: this is the Lord, we have waited for him, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

On the plane going to Israel, I was seated next to a Jewish boy from New York. He was headed to Israel once again, as a volunteer for the summer months to help rebuild damaged or destroyed homes in the area that experiences rockets being fired into their town almost daily. For a teen he was very congenial and respectful. After a time he took out his skull cap, prayer shawl, his phylacteries, a prayer book and spent several minutes with his ritual. When he was unstrapping the phylacteries from his arm and head, I asked him to tell me what his religion meant to him. He was eager to talk about it. I asked what they expect the Messiah to do when he comes. He answered that the Jews are expecting him to come to resurrect the dead, to set up a Kingdom from Jerusalem where there will be peace and justice, with no wars. As we talked it was good to hear him speak of the very things that we as Christians have as our hope in the Jewish Redeemer. When I expressed the commonality with **what we as Christians expect from the Redeemer, Messiah, Jesus**, he extended his hands with thumbs pointing in opposite directions to show that he and I were far apart as to this person Jesus. But there is coming a day... when Jesus will sit on a throne in Jerusalem, recognized and beloved by the nation of Jews born again. The prayers of multitudes over millenniums of time who have been “pray (ing)) for the peace of Jerusalem” finally will be answered! And Ephesians 1:10 will be accomplished “In the fullness of time He (will) gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth—in Him.”

In Jerusalem we visited a museum which houses the “Treasures of the Temple.” These are articles that have been prepared for use in the coming Temple. We were not allowed to take pictures in any of the rooms, but among the items we saw was

a Table of Showbread, altar of incense, altar implements, tongs, basins and cups, brazen laver, incense holders, a Menorah, musical string instruments, shofars, trumpets, priestly garments, High Priest garments, breastplate and ephod. There were two rooms with many more items than I can remember. When questioned about the breastplate's stones, the guide said only that they were unable to be sure about the colors and the placement of the stones for each tribe. Someone asked about the Ark of the Covenant, and we were told that is not one of the items they expect to replicate. They anticipate it to be found "somewhere" with God's help. Paintings on the wall of the Ark of God showed differing perceptions of how the Cherubim were touching over the Mercy Seat. Hmmm. In addition, their effort to produce the perfect red heifer has not been successful. Only one white hair can disqualify the animal whose ashes are needed for purifying purposes.

To visit the Temple Mount is not permitted by the Muslims if they know you are Christian or Jewish. No Christian or Jewish prayers permitted there. It will profane their sacred site. A brother who lives in Arizona told me that it is believed by some that the Mosque of Omar sits in a different location on the Mount than where the Temple of Solomon stood, indicating that a Temple *could* be built for the Jews worship there also. interesting thought, if so! It seems to me that God would not be pleased to *share* that piece of real estate with any other god.

After visiting the Israel museum and the Dead Sea Scrolls, we walked a short distance to view a *scale model* of Jerusalem showing Herod's Temple and its environs. It was a beautiful and instructive model explaining many aspects of what we have read about when Jesus walked in the area. Within the wall of the Temple Mount, the situation of the Temple itself was only vaguely familiar to me due to the pictures created by artists who used their imaginations from their limited understanding. The moneychangers did not use the temple

steps in a disorderly fashion, but had a long, large attractive building with what appeared to be market stalls. This was located to the south of the Temple, across a large paved area.

Quoting from a handout given to us when we visited the excavation site in the Herodian Quarter: “The Wohl Museum of Archeology is the largest and most important site from Second Temple times that can still be seen today in Jerusalem’s Jewish Quarter. The compound consists of six houses, built on a hillside overlooking the Temple Mount. The exhibit concentrates on three of those houses: the Western House, the Middle House and the House of Measurements. In the Herodian Period these were home to some of the wealthiest aristocrats in Jerusalem, apparently from the priestly classes. The inhabitants designed their homes meticulously in the Greco-Roman style that was popular in those times.

“The archeological remains are mainly from the cellars of these houses which were evidently two stories in height. Indeed their content provides a vivid indication of the inhabitants’ wealth. There are numerous storage rooms as well as reservoirs, ritual baths, ovens and such decorative adornments as colorful mosaics, elaborate stucco work and even frescoes. Many luxury items were found there by archeologists who concluded that the residents enjoyed a very high standard of living using only the finest goods, including terra cotta tableware, imported amphorae for wine and delicate flasks. There are also innumerable stone utensils which were especially popular amongst the priestly caste for reasons of ritual purity.

“The largest and most impressive of these homes in the House of Measurements which has a floor space of 600m²” (square? Or 1,965 sq. ft.?) “Its rooms are all richly decorated and there is a large balcony overlooking the Temple Mount.” The rooms were very large.

“The Herodian Quarter was discovered by archeologists when the Jewish Quarter was rebuilt following the Six Day War.” The Museum was constructed in the 1980’s.

This site was well below ground level, very impressive with its obvious signs of wealth; but gave me a clearer understanding of some of what the priestly order of the Jews felt was threatened by Jesus drawing crowds to Himself. Seems very much like politics of today!

to be continued



**We’ve proclaimed for years “Jesus is coming back,”
And such belief brings much spiritual attack,
“What we believe” is so foolish they say,
For ALL the Church will be caught away.
Don’t you know that “the majority rules?”
(So, once again, we are reckoned to be fools.)**

**BUT GOD, who is rich, and full of GRACE,
Continues to strengthen those in the Race,
So that they, who strive, may obtain,
Sacrificing this life for eternal gain.
For our Hope remains until we see
Jesus Christ, our Bridegroom (soon) to be !!**

—David Beck

Beloved, let us love . . .

Conclusion

Doug Delhay

1 John 4:7

“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.”

‘The acts. The acts. How mighty are the acts.’ No matter how or to what extent the gracious love of God eventually affects our lives in this world, it continually challenges us to act upon its revelation.

In the love of God manifest in Christ, we are witnesses to the single most immense undertaking of all time and eternity. The universe is insignificant by comparison. The love of God in Jesus Christ is the cornerstone of all that has been before and all that will come after. This immense love that is presently beyond our human capability to comprehend will be ours to relish for eternity as we dwell in His presence, but while we are in the flesh we can but “see through a glass darkly” (1st Corinthians 13:12). Yet even with our limited ability to comprehend, the Lord draws our hearts into orbit around His love in an ever more perfect path as we but follow the Spirit’s leading through the events of our lives. His self-sacrificing, obedient love sets the pattern, fully demonstrating the glorious benefits of doing the Father’s will. Love is the way of God.

“Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God;” Like all things that exist, love first came into mankind’s realm via the working of God. Man did not discover it, create it, invent it, or harvest it from the earth. It was revealed to him through the relationship God formed with him. All that Adam beheld was

good and the God that created all things was good. Though we might wonder at the perception Adam had of himself being the first and only of his kind while having complete knowledge that he himself had just been created by the One in whose presence he lived, we, too, can experience great wonder as we examine our own persons and purposes as we stand before the One who redeemed us by His own blood. Adam lived in a paradise; we dwell where all things work together for our good (Romans 8:28). Adam enjoyed a pristine earth without knowledge of death or disease; we live a redeemed life knowing we have been delivered from the power of sin and death. Adam was blessed with everything needful for his life: we treasure a life where we have been *“blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ: According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.”* (Eph 1:3-6).

Love proceeded from God then even as it does now, and as it will throughout eternity **“for love is of God”**. Indeed, 1 John 4:8 tells us that *“God is love.”* The mysterious substance of love is a spiritual material that issues forth from the Eternal that we can touch and handle while yet in this world. We are able to apply it to our circumstances and watch it transform darkness to light. We can embrace it and experience its power to bring His peace into our troubled hearts. No force, state of being, principality (earthly or heavenly), past or future event can separate us from the love of God in Christ (Romans 8:37-39). Love is the basis of every worthwhile undertaking and is the defining element of the worthiness of every undertaking (1st Corinthians 13:1-3). No spiritual work profits us unless it is done in love because love is the work. With love, we can work

miracles at will and those works will remain for they are the works of God, glorifying the Son of God.

The workings of love can be likened unto a mill that is driven by a flowing stream. The water that flows into the wheel moves the wheel, and energy becomes available to perform all manner of work. A person could turn the wheel by hand with great effort and work could be accomplished, but it would defeat the entire purpose of the mill. There is a boundless stream of love that flows from the presence of God that must first flow into us that it might move us to accomplish the works of God.

No human act can communicate the love of God unless it is empowered by the love of God. We cannot duplicate it though we give our bodies to be burned, bestow all of our goods upon the poor, remove mountains by faith, or proclaim great spiritual mysteries. Without love, we have missed the point. Without love, we have missed the opportunity. Without love, we have erred.

Those that are born of God are uniquely qualified to administer His love to this life's circumstances because Christ dwells in us, our bodies are the temple of the Holy Spirit, and we are the **"beloved"** of the Father. Love is the way of God and his children are like him in nature. The human vessels or bearers of His love are born of God and know Him. As our text states, **"and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God."** and they have been *"endued with power from on high"* (Luke 24:49), that being the enabling of the Holy Spirit. The children of God are redeemed, ever-living, spiritually oriented creatures which make up the body of Christ on earth and through whom the Eternal Almighty now has chosen to manifest His love which is the very fabric of the universe. The power and nature of love enables it to transcend time and space, travel

farther, faster and longer than light, and transform the limitations of the human body and mind.

There is no circumstance into which his love cannot be interjected and then witnessed by those with whom it comes into contact. It pierces the hardest heart, the darkest mind, the strongest will and manifests its eternalness. God's love can go anywhere or everywhere bringing with it the hope of all that pure love can do. It is manifest in countless gracious ways millions of times a second contrary to any law or principality that might want to snuff it out. Yet, we (**the beloved**) are gently invited to be both partakers and applicators of this love with a willingness of mind and yieldedness of heart full well knowing that we could reject the invitations and insist on doing otherwise with our few-but-precious minutes, hours, days and years in this life. For though our God is truly mighty over all things, He seeks those who will worship Him in spirit and truth with a desire to please Him above all else in their lives. Such was the testimony that Enoch left us, as is recorded in Hebrews 11:5-6.

In Mark 12:28-34, a dialogue takes place in which a scribe asked Jesus, *"Which is the first commandment of all?"* Jesus' well known answer was, *"thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these."* The scribe *"discreetly"* answered Jesus, *"Well, Master, thou hast said the truth: for there is one God; and there is none other but he: And to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the soul, and with all the strength, and to love his neighbour as himself, is more than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."* Jesus, recognizing and understanding the integrity of the man's reply, said unto him, *"Thou art not far from the kingdom of God."* To understand the

doctrine of the love of God written in the law had brought the man to the threshold of the kingdom of God. To believe in the love of God in Christ brings one into the kingdom and household of God. To be constrained by and consciously yielded to the love of God in Christ to no longer live unto ourselves but unto God is to walk in the true newness of life for which we were created.

Such opportunity is unmatched in its immensity in all time and eternity, and it is presented to us here and now. The love of God will take us places we never dreamed we could go, and enable us to draw others after His love as well. 1st Peter 1:22 reads, *“Seeing ye have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently:”*. How then shall we then respond?

“Beloved, let us love . . .”

Behold My Beloved

**Behold I see the Bridegroom
He's coming soon for me.
He's coming for His people
Who have eyes enough to see
How precious is His person
The One with wounded hands
He loved us long before we knew
That in His strength we'd stand
So look for His appearing
And live for Him above
Just watch and wait for Jesus
He's coming for His love.**

—Loretta Roewert

The Book of Daniel

Chapter 10



V. 1 - Daniel's last and greatest vision is found in chapters 10, 11 & 12. There are 3 sections, separated mostly by the chapters. The first section is chapter 10 to 11:1 and is mainly introduction. This vision was given to Daniel in the third year of Cyrus, king of Persia. That is three years after the vision recorded in chapter 9, for it was in the first year of Darius the Mede. Cyrus and Darius ruled jointly in the kingdom of the Medes and Persians. This last vision gives further revelation of end time events and is a continuation of what has already been revealed. The R.V. reads, "and the thing was true, **even a great warfare,**" because that is the original Hebrew test. This is the subject of the vision, the thing revealed unto Daniel, even a great warfare, a war between opposing forces above which affects the nations.

To Daniel was the secret made known. He knows it is not to be in his day, but a marvelous prophecy of the future. Since Daniel's day, much of what is prophesied in chapter 11 has become history. Some think that history proves the prophecy correct, but vice verse: Prophecy is a "light in a dark place," which is only enhanced by its fulfillment (see II Pet. 1:19 -21). The second section (11:2-35) gives us necessary background for the important part of the vision - **the end-time events**. It was yet future to Daniel, but is history to us now. The third section is Ch. 11:36 - 12:13, clearly the last days, informing us again in different words and ways, the same things symbolized in the earlier visions of Daniel.

V. 2-3 - This literally means three full weeks for these are not prophetic weeks. Daniel was fasting and seeking the Lord (21) days. This was no small thing for a man nearly 100 years old. Daniel was so burdened because of what he realized concerning the visions given him, that the Gentiles were going to have dominion for years and years. Just think, Daniel began to have revelations and understanding of dreams in the reign of Nebuchadnezzar. After going through the whole 70 years of Babylonian captivity and three years after that to the third year of Cyrus the Persian, Daniel is an old man now. It was very difficult for him, even though Cyrus had given commandment that the Jews could return to the land, so few went back and those who did, had much difficulty. The book of Ezra tells how the neighboring people withstood those returnees. Then also the small dimensions of the temple they undertook to rebuild, was a disappointment to Daniel. It would not be in the glory that it once was in Solomon's time. Daniel was so burdened, it was like mourning, he didn't even feel like washing his face. He didn't have the strength, he was weakened by the burden. Yet he would not be denied in seeking the Lord.

V. 4 - This is the Tigris river. Daniel here is a type of the faithful remnant of Israel in the end time. This is how they will react when Israel makes that covenant with the nations at the beginning of those seven years of tribulation. They will understand what is coming to pass when Israel signs a pact with the world empire. They will read their Scriptures, especially Daniel's prophecy. They will know these things as we know them now. They will be fasting and praying, calling on the Lord to deliver them. The 2 witnesses are a fulfillment of Daniel in their dedication unto the Lord. Two is the number of witness, they may be 2 people or represent a group of people.

Vs. 5-6 - This certain man is none other then the Lord Jesus Christ. John also saw Him in vision, Rev. 1:13-16. John was taken in spirit unto the day of the Lord and saw Christ in this way, so we know by this that Daniel was seeing Christ in His glory and how He will be revealed. This is how the remnant will see Christ when He comes back in glory. This appearance of Christ is as Judge, not only here, but also in Revelation (see also Acts 17:31). In Revelation Christ is seen as judge of the church during this age and also of the nations. Daniel sees Him as judge of the nation Israel, because Daniel was shown only those things concerning His people - V. 14.

V. 7 - The others didn't see Christ, only the brightness and they trembled and were afraid and fled. The remnant of Israel in the end time will see Christ, not in vision, but with their physical eyes. Others will not and they will quake and tremble. Two people can be in the presence of the power of God and one person will be delighted with the power of the Holy Spirit and the other person will be just scared to death. Why? What makes the difference? **Faith.**

Vs. 8-9 - If this happened to Daniel who was so dedicated and wholly given unto the Lord, how would others feel if they came face to face with the Lord? John also felt this way Rev. 1:17. John fell as a dead man, face up. Daniel fell down, not backwards, but on his face toward the ground.

V. 10 - Not a very dignified position to be in, but God doesn't care, He hates pride. (If we have pride, He is going to humble us one way or the other.) The next verse shows that Daniel was not proud and that he stood in divine favor.

V. 11 - Daniel is told he is greatly beloved (heaven's darling is how this reads in the early German translation). Just think of it, Daniel is told this by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself

(Daniel's creator and Lord). Daniel got on his feet by stages, from his face to his knees and then standing up.

V. 12 - Don't be afraid of me Daniel, **“fear not.”** From the first day Daniel prayed, the Lord heard him and yet Daniel had to wait 21 days for the Lord to come and tell him this secret. God appreciates the faith that will not be turned aside. Daniel sought the Lord for 21 days and no doubt he wondered why the Lord didn't answer. Now, we are going to find out why.

V. 13 - We now are brought into a truth that many people do not understand. The strength and power of the wicked forces that are in the heavens, is terrific. Most people think that the devil is in hell. No, he is not in hell. He will be chained there for a thousand years when the Lord comes and puts him down there. But he is loose today. He is the god of this world, the prince and power of the air. The spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience (II Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:2; Eph. 6:11,12). The principalities and powers and the wicked forces are organized. The devil has organized forces. And as we see here he has a captain over every nation. He had someone that was over that nation. Now this prince of Persia couldn't refer to Cyrus because he gave commandment for the Jews to return to their land. He was for the Jews and showed favor to them. It couldn't be Cyrus for he couldn't withstand the Lord. It had to be a spiritual power. It is none other than Satan and his wicked forces. Remember how Satan came before God in the time of Job and saying, just let me get to Job, you think he is so wonderful. I can make him curse you - Job. 1:6-12. There was a conflict and the Lord allowed Satan attack Job. Also when the devil wanted to provoke Israel, he caused David to number the children of Israel - I Chron. 21:1. The devil made him do it. Also the devil spoke through Peter to try to get Jesus to feel sorrow for himself and not go to the cross - Mt. 16:21-23.

So you see the powers of evil are fierce, and so are the powers of good, we have them around us too. Remember Elisha the prophet when he and his young servant were surrounded by the armies of the enemy and the servant was scared to death. Elisha prayed that the Lord would open this young man eyes. The Lord opened up his eyes and he saw on the hillside around them a mighty multitude of heavenly beings. - II Kings 6:13-18. There are spiritual forces that we cannot see because we have natural eyes. We can know it through the Spirit, but we cannot see them. Yet, who is it that keeps us from an accident or terrible danger? It's not just happenstance, there are good forces (Ps. 91:11-12; 34:7). In Judges 5, we read Deborah's song of praise for the angelic forces that were against Sisera, the enemy of Israel. There are evil forces too that are against us. I Kings 22:19-23, lying spirits, evil influence, in the heavens. In the gospels we read Jesus cast demons out of men. They knew Jesus and His power. We read in I Cor. 15:32 of the beasts of Ephesus, evil spirits dominating men. In Dan. 7:2 we read of the winds of heaven that strove upon the sea and cause earthly turmoil. In Rev. 16:13, we read of the evil spirits stirring up kings to the battle of Armageddon.

The devil knew that the Lord was going to show Daniel this and he didn't want anyone to know what was going to happen. Today the devil knows his time is short, Rev. 12:12. He will redouble his efforts all he can, especially against the people who want to know the truth and who want to reign with Christ. The devil is going to fight them more than anyone else, because if he can defeat them, in that sense he has defeated the Lord. So he withstood and Michael, a warring prince, fought against that evil force. We read of Michael in the book of Revelation (12:7-9) he will rid heaven of these wicked powers. We cannot fight against the devil with flesh and blood. We have no power over him (Eph. 6:12). We have only one spiritual weapon, what is that? The Word, which is the sword of the spirit (V. 17).

Vs. 14-15 - Daniel heard it again that it is **“for many days” “the later days.”** It is too much for Daniel, he looked toward the ground and couldn't speak a word.

Vs. 16-17 - The Lord touched Daniel again. Daniel said, I have no strength, there is no breath left in me.

Vs. 18-19 - Isn't this wonderful, how even the words of God can strengthen us. We have this written Word right here. Many times as we read, it is as though someone speaks it to us. And when you have it in your heart and you are in a time of need, a voice speaks it to your heart and mind, it strengthens you. That is the Lord speaking to you just like He spoke to Daniel, and we are strengthened.

V. 20 - The opposing forces started in the heavenlies and then was reflected on the earth. The prince of Persia and the prince of Grecia do battle together and then on earth they had the battle.

V. 21 - “Michael your prince:” God sent Michael to Daniel and he is a special warring angel for Israel.

11:1 - This is referring back to Michael even in the first year, there was a mighty conflict in the skies, the evil forces were against the setting up of the Medo-Persia Empire. Why? Because that signaled the Jews' release.

E. J. D.

Our strength is shown in the things we stand for.

Our weaknesses are shown in the things we fall for.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The series of articles, “Beloved, let us love . . .”, will soon be reprinted into a **booklet format** and will be made available to both assemblies and individuals. Copies of the previous booklet, “Moderation”, are still available as well. If interested, please contact Doug Delhay at: Living Hope Tabernacle, 6956 Platte Av., Lincoln, NE 68507 or phone: 402-780-6637

livinghopetabernacle@juno.com

Retreat England 2009: April 17-19, Brockley Hall, Saltburn, North Yorkshire, England. Come and enjoy the Word and fellowship. Call 316-943-4190 or e-mail: ggospel5@juno.com if interested in attending this retreat.

Dedication & Fellowship Service: April 25th at Grace Chapel’s new church building (419 S. 3rd, Carbondale, Kansas). All day services begin at 10:00 AM with lunch at noon.

Full Gospel Grace Fellowship Ministers’ convention will be on May 5th and 6th, 2009, at Sapulpa Beams of Light Church, 1831 S. Water St., Sapulpa, OK. For more information please write or call: Brother Harley Hunt, 107 West Bryan, Sapulpa, Ok 74066; or phone: 918-224-3540.

Memorial Day Fellowship Meeting: May 25, Grace Christian Assembly, Kansas City, Missouri. Pastor Greg Gilliam: 816-254-3620

Camp Joy Haven: June 1-5, Camp Pomme de Terre near Pittsburg, Missouri. call: 316-943-41190 or e-mail: ggospel5@juno.com

Oklahoma Youth Camp: June 8-13, War Eagle Resort, NE of Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Call Dean Stafford 918-455-4024