

Building a Prayer-Driven Church

Daniel 9:1-19

Introduction:

- Martin Luther "Babylonian Captivity of the Church"

Five Characteristics of Daniel's Prayer

I. _____ (vv.1-2)

A. Jeremiah 29:12-14

B. Matthew 24:11-13

II. _____ (v.3)

A. Fasting

B. Sackcloth

C. Ashes

III. _____ (v.4)

IV. _____ (vv.5-13)

A. _____ (v.5)

B. _____ (vv.6-8)

C. _____ (vv.9-11)

D. _____ (vv.12-13)

V. _____ (vv.17-19)

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In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans--² in the first year of his reign I, Daniel, observed in the books the number of the years which was *revealed* as the word of the LORD to Jeremiah the prophet for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem, *namely*, seventy years.³ So I gave my attention to the Lord God to seek *Him* by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.⁴ And I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed and said, "Alas, O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments,⁵ we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly, and rebelled, even turning aside from Thy commandments and ordinances.⁶ "Moreover, we have not listened to Thy servants the prophets, who spoke in Thy name to our kings, our princes, our fathers, and all the people of the land.⁷ "Righteousness belongs to Thee, O Lord, but to us open shame, as it is this day-- to the men of Judah, the inhabitants of Jerusalem, and all Israel, those who are nearby and those who are far away in all the countries to which Thou hast driven them, because of their unfaithful deeds which they have committed against Thee.⁸ "Open shame belongs to us, O Lord, to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, because we have sinned against Thee.⁹ "To the Lord our God belong compassion and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against Him;¹⁰ nor have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in His teachings which He set before us through His servants the prophets.¹¹ "Indeed all Israel has transgressed Thy law and turned aside, not obeying Thy voice; so the curse has been poured out on us, along with the oath which is written in the law of Moses the servant of God, for we have sinned against Him.¹² "Thus He has confirmed His words which He had spoken against us and against our rulers who ruled us, to bring on us great calamity; for under the whole heaven there has not been done *anything* like what was done to Jerusalem.¹³ "As it is written in the law of Moses, all this calamity has come on us; yet we have not sought the favor of the LORD our God by turning from our iniquity and giving attention to Thy truth.¹⁴ "Therefore, the LORD has kept the calamity in store and brought it on us; for the LORD our God is righteous with respect to all His deeds which He has done, but we have not obeyed His voice.¹⁵ "And now, O Lord our God, who hast brought Thy people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand and hast made a name for Thyself, as it is this day-- we have sinned, we have been wicked.¹⁶ "O Lord, in accordance with all Thy righteous acts, let now Thine anger and Thy wrath turn away from Thy city Jerusalem, Thy holy mountain; for because of our sins and the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Thy people *have become* a reproach to all those around us.¹⁷ "So now, our God, listen to the prayer of Thy servant and to his supplications, and for Thy sake, O Lord, let Thy face shine on Thy desolate sanctuary.¹⁸ "O my God, incline Thine ear and hear! Open Thine eyes and see our desolations and the city which is called by Thy name; for we are not presenting our supplications before Thee on account of any merits of our own, but on account of Thy great compassion.¹⁹ "O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and take action! For Thine own sake, O my God, do not delay, because Thy city and Thy people are called by Thy name." (Dan 9:1-19 NAS)

Bible Study Questions:

1. According to v.2 (also see Jeremiah 29:10-11), Daniel was aware of "70" years of God's deportation plan for Israel, which was a few years away from 539 BC (the first year of Darius). Knowing God's time table, what did Daniel do according to v.3? What does this tell us about Daniel's prayer?
2. What are the characteristics of Daniel's prayer?
 - a. V1-2: _____
 - b. V3: _____
 - c. V4, 7a: _____
 - d. V5-13: _____
 - e. V17-19: _____
3. Daniel designated the most portion of his prayer in confessing his sins and the Israel's sin. What does this fact tell you about prayer?
4. What resolutions have you made in regards to your prayer life?