

Daniel 10

Read Daniel 10:1-9: This is an interesting chapter, because it really does not have another prophecy message. It is more of a revelation to Daniel on how prayer works. There has been a series of messages that have gone from God to Daniel. What is that mechanism? Is it from God directly? Is it by using angels to speak to us? This chapter takes us through the angel's side of a particular message. We should note that when we read the word 'angel' in the bible, that it only means messenger. There are times when it is literally just a messenger.

There are a number of things that go into a message being successfully transmitted from God to man. Daniel's personal consecration and preparations to hear God more clearly are part of the equation. He is very sad about the knowledge of the future which he has seen. God protects us from too much knowledge. Daniel is fasting. He is kind of wiped out from these heavy downloads. He also is preparing himself to turn the page; and receive the next message. He spent three weeks in a state of self-denial and fasting. He would spend time praying by the river. Most prophets had a heavy weight, or burden of seeing what the future is bringing. I think that I would get more out of church if I spent some time to sit still in prayer and meditating on the word and preparing myself to hear from God (instead of just showing up).

The next component of this message from an angel. It is easy to confuse God and angels. You might think that this intimidating angel was God; if you did not read the whole chapter. This angel had eyes like a flame of fire, a face like bright lightning, and a body like a beryl crystal. That would be blinding to even look towards. The picture below is of a beryl stone.



He wore a white robe, with a gold belt. His arms and feet were like molten bronze.



The words of the man were like thunder. The prophets often experienced something like thunder and lightning in their visions and dreams of heaven. The cherubim are like lightning. They are extremely bright...and they keep moving back and forth so quickly.

And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. (Revelation 4:5)

As for the likeness of the living creatures, their appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth among the living creatures. The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning. (Ezekiel 1:13)

The seraphim are like thunder; with their majestic booming voices.

Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!" And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. (Isaiah 6:2-4)

Seeing these magnificent creatures is a sensory overload on Daniel. It is too much to handle. God typically protects us from the spiritual realm flashing all around us. We have a hard enough time with the 6:00 news.

Read Daniel 10: 10-20: Daniel met an angel. The angel had been sent to Daniel to give him a message. The angel was dispatched from the first day of Daniel's fast. This messenger angel was held back by the demon Prince of Persia for 21 days. All we know about is that we need to

keep praying. We may not know why. Michael, the archangel helped this angel get past the Prince of Persia.

Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!" (Jude 1:9)

Angels are very powerful. One angel might be able to destroy all of us.

And it came to pass on a certain night that the angel of the LORD went out, and killed in the camp of the Assyrians one hundred and eighty-five thousand; and when people arose early in the morning, there were the corpses—all dead. (2 Kings 19:35)

We tend to focus on our battles and our prayers. There is an unseen big part of the equation. God frequently uses angels to answer our prayers.

But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? (Hebrews 1:13-14)

Here we see angels fighting for weeks. Why does God allow that? Perhaps the angels are working out their own future rewards and being tested in their own way. One man's prayer triggers some major angel generals to do battle. Perhaps we are surrounded by armies of angels and demons doing battle over us.

Therefore he sent horses and chariots and a great army there, and they came by night and surrounded the city. And when the servant of the man of God arose early and went out, there was an army, surrounding the city with horses and chariots. And his servant said to him, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" So he answered, "Do not fear, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. (2 Kings 6:14-17)

Angels and demons are organized like armies. We are told of princes, powers, rulers and names.

For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. (Ephesians 6:12)

For He said to him, "Come out of the man, unclean spirit!" Then He asked him, "What is your name?" And he answered, saying, "My name is Legion; for we are many." (Mark 5:8-9)

The good news is that the angel who came to Daniel had enough power to pick Daniel up off of the ground, restore his consciousness, and settle his mind to receive the information. I was

praying for my Dad's recovery, and thinking about how God can inject us with a new zeal and spark and strength to live. He frequently uses angels to administrate those gifts.