

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

April 25, 2021

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading:

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Special Music: *Dana Marcukaitis*

Message: *The 70 Weeks of Daniel* (Daniel 9:24,25)

Announcements:

Pastor Kurth's Cologuard test came back positive, so now he has to schedule a colonoscopy. Please pray that this will be a minimal distraction to his ministry.

Joann's family lost a loved one, and she would appreciate your prayers for her daughter Tammy and the rest of John's family.

Our Facebook page: Our church's Facebook page is now active; and can be found by logging on to Facebook and searching for Faith Bible Church, Steger. See Rachel Stalter if you would like to post things to share with the world!

Our offering box is located just left of the kitchen door.

Pick up today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone
Daniel 9:14-23 *A Necessary Evil*

The "evil" God brought on Israel (v.14) isn't the *sinful* kind. It's *war*, the opposite of *peace* (cf. Isa.45:7). When God's people persisted in sinning against Him, He allowed Baby-lon to make war with them and conquer them. Daniel said God was "righteous" to bring it (v.14) because they'd sinned.

In bringing up their escape from Egyptian bondage (v.15), Daniel was praying, "You got *renown* (i.e., *fame*, [Num. 16:2]) by ripping Israel out of the clutches of the most powerful king on earth (Neh.9:7-10), and it will make Your name great *again* if You free us from *Babylonian* bondage." For 70 years, God looked like He couldn't protect His own people from bondage, so Daniel is making a persuasive plea!

But God didn't rip Israel from Babylon, He just quietly con-vinced her king to let them go. How would *that* make His name great? It takes more power to overcome *human* nature than the forces of nature. When God did it, it got Him a *greater* name than the Red Sea crossing did (Jer.16:14,15).

In verse 14, Daniel admitted God was righteous to allow them to be enslaved when they disobeyed Him. But in verse 16, he asks God to be just as righteous to *release* them according to "*all*" His righteousness, now that they'd served their 70 year sentence. He wasn't being irreverent in holding God to His Word. God *delights* in being held to His Word!

Jerusalem is called God's "holy mountain" (v.16) because a mountain is a type of a kingdom (Isa.65:25), and *God's* king-dom was centered in Jerusalem, a city on a mountain (Mt.5: 14). Israel's sins had made the light of the world a "reproach" (v.16), a *laughingstock* among the nations, as God predicted (IKi.9:6-9; Jer.24:9). Daniel was asking God to turn His anger away to get the Gentiles to *stop*

reproaching them and start looking to them for spiritual light instead.

The “sanctuary” (v.17) was the temple Nebuchadnezzar had destroyed. It had been lying in ruins for 70 years, but Daniel knew the way to get God to fix that was to ask Him to do it “for the Lord’s sake.” They didn’t *deserve* to get their temple back, but *God* deserved to get His home back, of course!

But if they ignored the land’s sabbath 490 years, and God punished them with 70 years in captivity, that was *justice*. But Daniel asked for “mercy” (v.18) because if they got what they deserved they’d *never* have been released (Ezra 9:13).

Football fans know to “defer” (v.19) means to put something off till later. Daniel was asking God *not* to defer releasing them (cf.Ps.102:12).

Daniel was confessing his sins because, even though the captivity was only supposed to last 70 years, getting released was contingent on confessing. This is a type of Tribulation saints who will know the Tribulation is only supposed to last 7 years, but release from Antichrist will depend on *them* confessing, which is why John wrote IJo.1:9 to them—not you!

God responded to Daniel’s prayer by sending Gabriel with an answer (v.20,21)—all because Daniel prayed “in truth” (Ps.145:18). The truth *Daniel* knew was that God would answer him if he confessed his sins. But God won’t answer *you* if you pray for manna (Mt.6:11) because *rightly divided* truth says we have to *work* for our bread in this dispensation.

Gabriel could “fly” (v.21), but that’s no proof he had wings. He had to fly across *outer space* to deliver messages from God (cf.Lu.1:19), *and there’s no air in space*, so wings would be useless. A seraph could fly to Daniel *in heaven* (Isa.6:1-6) because there *is* air in heaven.

An “oblation” (v.21) is just another word for an *offering* (cf. Lev. 3:1). The Jews offered 3 a day, the last in the evening.

Daniel is said to be “greatly beloved” (v.22,23) because he was so sinless even his *enemies* couldn’t find sin in him (6:4). John was the disciple Jesus loved, and God showed *him* the future too in Revelation. God wants His beloved children to know the future, and we are “beloved” *in Christ* (Eph.1:6), so God has given us a complete Bible, including some *specific* information about the future called the Rapture that neither Daniel nor John had.

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

April 25, 2021

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.

Pastor Ricky Kurth

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.

Myrtle Harrison

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger

Faith Bible Church

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