

“Daniel: Being a Person of Prayer”
Being a Stand-Up Person in a Bow-Down World • pt. 12

Daniel 6, 9

INTRODUCTION

“We can never fully understand the relationship between God and man. I don’t understand completely how God wrote the Bible using men as instruments, how God became a man and remained God at the same time, how I can be saved by my own choice and be chosen before the foundation of the world by God’s sovereign will, or how God can sovereignly work while allowing my prayers to play a part. But it’s neither necessary nor possible for us to understand those things.” – John MacArthur

“Whenever God determines to do a great work, He first sets His people to pray.” – Charles Spurgeon

the response of Daniel to the call of God...

1. Daniel sought to align himself with God’s work.

- prayer preceded the decree to return to Jerusalem
- prayer preceded the revelation concerning Messiah

“Unfortunately, we often pray first for things (that might take us from God), for friends (that might compete for His friendship), or for an ordering of events (that might accomplish our plans, but not His). Instead, we must learn to begin our prayers with thoughts of God’s honor and the advancement of His purpose in history.”

– James Montgomery Boice

“The end of prayer is not so much tangible answers as a deepening life of dependency...The call to prayer is a call primarily to love, submission, and obedience...the avenue of sweet, intimate, and intense fellowship of the soul with the infinite Creator.”

– John Hanna

2. Daniel aligned his life to God’s regardless of the cost.

• habits of life provide firm footing when you step in the holes of life

• Is prayer for you a _____ or a _____ ?

“Prayer does not enable us to do a greater work for God. Prayer is a greater work for God.” – Thomas Chalmers

“From the day of Pentecost, there has been not one great spiritual awakening in any land which has not begun in a union of prayer, though only among two or three. And no such outward, upward movement has continued after such prayer meetings have declined. It is in exact proportion to the maintenance of such joint and believing supplication and intercession that the Word of the Lord in any land or locality has had free course and been glorified.”

– A. T. Pierson