

## Discovering Wisdom

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DANIEL 9:1-23

### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



In Daniel chapter 9, Daniel starts the chapter by talking about his study of the book of Jeremiah. Daniel is a prophet himself but he still sees the value in studying from the prophets that came before him. In his study he finds new and important insight that impacts his relationship with God. The study of Scripture is for that very purpose. We don't study it to simply gain knowledge; we study Scripture so that we can be transformed to be more like Jesus and have a deeper relationship with Him.



## 🕒 EXAMINE His Word (Observation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the passage.

### Read Daniel 9:1-23 (NASB)

In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans—<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> So I gave my attention to the Lord God to seek Him by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes.<sup>4</sup> 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,<sup>5</sup> we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances.<sup>6</sup> Moreover, we have not listened to Your servants the prophets, who spoke in Your name to our kings, our princes, our fathers and all the people of the land.

<sup>7</sup> “Righteousness belongs to You, 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 You have driven them, because of their unfaithful deeds which they have committed against You.<sup>8</sup> Open shame belongs to us, O Lord, to our kings, our princes and our fathers, because we have sinned against You.<sup>9</sup> To the Lord our God belong compassion and forgiveness, for we have rebelled against Him;<sup>10</sup> 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.<sup>11</sup> Indeed all Israel has transgressed Your law and turned aside, not obeying Your 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.<sup>12</sup> 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.<sup>13</sup> 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 Your truth.

<sup>14</sup> 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.

<sup>15</sup> “And now, O Lord our God, who have brought Your people out of the land of Egypt with a mighty hand and have made a name for Yourself, as it is this day—we have sinned, we have been wicked.

<sup>16</sup> O Lord, in accordance with all Your righteous acts, let now Your anger and Your wrath turn away from Your city Jerusalem, Your holy mountain; for because of our sins and the iniquities of our fathers, Jerusalem and Your people have become a reproach to all those around us.<sup>17</sup> So now, our God, listen to the prayer of Your servant and to his supplications, and for Your sake, O Lord, let Your face shine on Your desolate sanctuary.<sup>18</sup> O my God, incline Your ear and hear! Open Your eyes and see our desolations and the city which is called by Your name; for we are not presenting our supplications before You on account of any merits of our own, but on account of Your great compassion.<sup>19</sup> O Lord, hear! O Lord, forgive! O Lord, listen and take action! For Your own sake, O my God, do not delay, because Your city and Your people are called by Your name.”

<sup>20</sup> Now while I was speaking and praying, and confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel, and presenting my supplication before the Lord my God in behalf of the holy mountain of my God,

<sup>21</sup> while I was still speaking in prayer, then the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously, came to me in my extreme weariness about the time of the evening offering.<sup>22</sup> He gave me instruction and talked with me and said, “O Daniel, I have now come forth to give you insight with understanding.<sup>23</sup> At the beginning of your supplications the command was issued, and I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed; so give heed to the message and gain understanding of the vision.

1. Who is involved in the text? Author, audience, main characters.
2. Where and when is this taking place? Geography and timeline.
3. What actions are carried out or commanded? Look for the verbs.
4. Is there anything repeated?
5. What is emphasized?
6. Is there anything in this passage that is related to other areas of Scripture?
7. Are there things to be noted that are alike or unlike such as similes and metaphors?

## **② EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)**

What does God MEAN?

1. Where does Daniel gain understanding from according to verse 2?
2. According to verse 3, what does Daniel do as a result of his new understanding?
3. What does Daniel emphasize in his prayer?
4. Why does Daniel confess when it is not his own sin?
5. What does Daniel hope to gain through confession?

## **③ EMBRACE His Word (Application)**

**Why does this MATTER to me?**

6. In verse 2, Daniel is studying the Scripture that he has. Why do we need to study the Scriptures?

7. Daniel spends a good amount of time in confession during his prayer. Why do we need to confess our sins?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. The end of verse 18 tells us why Daniel prays to God and what gives him confidence in that prayer. What gives us confidences in our prayers and even in our confession?

**Summarize your thoughts on the passage:**

Write about what God wants you to **KNOW**, to **FEEL**, and to **DO**...

**SERMON NOTES**