

SPIRITUAL WARFARE: INEVITABLE TO THE END OF TIME

(PART ONE)

A Study of Daniel 10 • "Spiritual Warfare in the Heavenly Places"

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All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets.

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A. OVERVIEW OF DANIEL 10

Jesus Christ is Preeminent in All Biblical Prophecy
Prayer is Imperative in All Spiritual Warfare
Spiritual Warfare is Inevitable to the End of Time

B. PRAYER IS SPIRITUAL WARFARE

"Warfare Praying"

Daniel 10:1–3, NLT -¹ In the third year of the reign of King Cyrus of Persia, Daniel (also known as Belteshazzar) had another vision. He understood that the vision concerned events certain to happen in the future—times of war and great hardship. ² When this vision came to me, I, Daniel, had been in mourning for three whole weeks. ³ All that time I had eaten no rich food. No meat or wine crossed my lips, and I used no fragrant lotions until those three weeks had passed.

1. "Warfare Praying" starts with a Burden.

- A. Daniel is so burdened that he begins to fast and pray.
- B. Daniel 10:1 "He understood that the vision concerned events certain to happen in the future—times of war and great hardship."
- C. The Jews have started going back to Jerusalem / Israel.
- D. History tells us some of the Jews had grown accustomed to the Persian lifestyle and decided to stay. (Esther describes the Jews in Persia after they were given the right to return to their homeland.)
- E. Daniel is so burdened (in part) because his people, the Jews, had fallen in love with the wrong world.
- F. Daniel is also burdened at the impending judgement of God.

2. "Warfare Praying" doesn't stop until the prayer is answered.

Daniel 10:12, NLT - ¹² Then he said, "Don't be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your continual request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer.

- A. Daniel prayed for 21 days—wrestling, agonizing, weeping, waiting.
- B. "Give me understanding," he cried.
- C. The deciding factor was his perseverance and his determination to keep on praying until the answer came.

3. "Warfare Praying" will be resisted to the end. (It is a battle!)

Daniel 10:13, TLB - ¹³ But for twenty-one <u>days the mighty Evil Spirit</u> who overrules the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the top officers of the heavenly army, came to help me, so that I was able to break through these spirit rulers of Persia.

As we move into the 21st century, the Holy Spirit is calling the church to a spiritual warfare with territorial spirits, evil spirits—demons, principalities, powers, world rulers of this present darkness, spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places—which attached themselves to specific territory or regimes or institutions.

— Dr. John Piper

