**DANIEL 9 : 1-23 FIRST THINGS FIRST 2/2/2020**

**WARNING!** The study of prophecy can fail to reach its goal in us!

It is not given just to shock us and make us curious. It is not given to make us conclude that our daily walk is somehow less important than the world events. It is **more important** than these world events.

**Ex.** **II Peter 3:10-14 READ**

**INTRO:** We stop in the middle of some of the most detailed description of world events to talk about sin; to talk about glorifying ourselves as if we were in change of our destiny; about acting like God is not even there. As one man confessed, “ I conclude by my useless life, that I am a confessing Christian but a practicing agnostic!”

**TEXT: 9:1-2 Read \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**JEREMIAH 25:11 “This whole land will be a desolation and a horror, and these nations**

**will serve the king of Babylon 70 years.”**

**Ex. JEREMIAH 29: 10-13 READ**

**QUESTION:** Did they seek Him when they returned? NO !

**QUESTION:** Why pray body and soul like Daniel did if sovereignty means we are nothing but puppets? What is prayer going to do about anything then?

**Remember 4:27** ??? – ( Nebuchadnezzar) “ Therefore, O king, may my advice be pleasing to you; break away now from your sins by doing righteousness and from your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor, in case there may be a prolonging of your prosperity.”

**Ex. James 5: 16 b “ ,,, the effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much!”**

**LEWIS: P. 484-485 Sec. 1211**

**DANIEL’S PRAYER** reflects the heart of God and the grief He feels when we try to be happy on our own terms. It is seeing the world through your Father’s eyes! There is no such thing! You can pursue to know God, and as a side benefit find yourself happy. But you pursue happiness and just ask God to give it to you, as if happiness were an object, and you can never have it.

**Daniel knew that changing a person’s circumstances does not change a hardened heart.**

**QUESTION:** So why did he pray so intensely, body and soul?

He knew that most of the people were not ready. Because of his prayers some were ready, however, and the people as a whole preserved for a time because of a **remnant** who were held up themselves by the prayers of those who held out in a lonely outpost years before. Now that is deep.

**QUESTION:** Can you do that? Can you be intense in prayer who you see nothing happening? Would you do that?

**Abraham inspired Moses; Moses inspired Jeremiah; Jeremiah inspired Daniel: Danile was Ezra and Nehemiah’s inspiring example.**

***Intensity in prayer!* Nehemiah 1: 2-6 and Ezra 9: 3-9**

**LEWIS: sec 1214 “ Quotable Lewis”**

**DO ALL TEXT: STOP AND COMMENT AS YOU GO \*\*\***

**DANIEL 9 : 1-19**