

Sermon Series: Daniel: Christ Among the Exiles

Sermon Text: Daniel 10:1-22 Strengthened for the Truth

Because God's Word is weighty Christ strengthens us for the Truth.

1) God's Word has Divine gravitas.

- a) It arrives in a time of conflict (10:13)
- b) It announces a great conflict (10:1; cf. 12:1a)
- c) It announces ultimate destinies (10:14; cf. 12:1b-2); Daniel's fast was during Passover (2-3); earlier deliverance type of ultimate deliverance
- d) It reveals the Truth of God's history of redemption (10:1, 21; cf. Eph. 1:8-10)
- e) **Application:**
 - i) The Bible is not a self-help manual.
 - ii) The Bible is not *merely* a history book.
 - iii) The Bible is not *merely* an ethics book.
 - iv) The Bible is the revelation of the Triune God displayed through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

2) Christ alone can mediate God's Truth to His people (10:4-6, 11).

- a) The Messenger is the Preincarnate Christ:
 - i) Daniel's address to him as "Lord" (10:17, 19)
 - ii) Allusions to Angel of the Lord (Josh. 5:14; Judg. 6:11-23)
 - iii) Daniel does not have such a dramatic response to angels elsewhere in this book
 - iv) "One in the likeness of the children of man" (10:16) echoes the language of the "one like a son of man" (7:13)
 - v) Christ is sent from the Father (10:11; cf. John 5:19-23)
 - vi) John's description of the glorified Christ in Revelation 1 borrows its language from Daniel 10 and 7 (Rev. 1:12-16)
- b) The Preincarnate Christ is the Word who came to His people through the prophets (John 1:9-13)
- c) Christ is uniquely suited to mediate God's Truth to His people:
 - i) Priestly Garments (10:4-6a)—"linen, sash, beryl"
 - ii) Heavenly Visage (10:6)—"lightning"
 - iii) Discerning Eyes (10:6)—"eyes like flaming torches"
 - iv) Impervious Strength (10:6)—"burnished bronze" (allusion to furnace?)
 - v) Powerful Voice (10:6)—"words like the sound of a multitude"
 - vi) The Incarnation of the Word (John 1:14)
- d) Why did Christ come to Daniel? (10:20)
 - i) To answer to Daniel's prayer (10:12)
 - ii) To reveal God's future for His people (10:14)
 - iii) To prepare Daniel and the exiles for the oppression of the Greeks (10:20)
- e) **Application:**
 - i) There is no knowledge of God apart from Christ Jesus (John 1:18; 14:6; 1 John 2:22-23; 4:15)
 - ii) The knowledge of God in Christ is eternal life (1 John 5:9-12)

3) Christ strengthens His people for the Truth (10:8-21; 3X—8-14, 15-17, 18-21).

- a) Touched him and set him on his hands and knees to receive the Truth (8-14)
- b) Touched his lips to enable him to inquire about the Truth (15-17)
- c) Touched him to strengthen him to courageously handle the Truth (18-21)
- d) Assured Daniel of God's love (10:11, 19; cf. 9:23)
- e) **Application:**
 - i) Strength for understanding the Truth (Eph. 1:17-21; 3:18-19)
 - ii) Strength for proclaiming the Truth (Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8; Ezek. 3:8-9)
 - iii) For what are you hungering and thirsting (10:2-3, 12)?
 - iv) Daniel is a shadow of the incarnate Christ (Matthew 4:1-11).

Doxology: Now to Him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen. (Rom. 16:25-27)