

Confidence Amid Complexity

Daniel 9; Coast Community Church; Pastor Earl Miles; 7-10-2022

The Christian Life

The Christian life is one of confidence amid complexity. It's about simple faith in God as revealed in Jesus in the midst of things that are far from simple.

God is the Supreme Good who created us to be holy and happy.

Man is an idol worshiper who looks for help and happiness in the creation rather than the Creator.

Jesus is the double cure who lived the life we could never live and died the death we deserve to die.

Faith is trust in the promises of God for pardon, perfection, provision, pleasures forever and perfect love through Jesus alone.

Love is the obedience of faith that gladly submits to God's sufficient Word and God's sovereign will for the good of others and the glory of God.

Daniel 9

Daniel 9 is considered one of the most challenging passages in the Old Testament. It is a prophecy that is intended to encourage the people of God.

Seventy Years of Exile Ending (1-2)

Confession of Sin Justifying the Exile (3-14)

Pleading the Promises for Rescue from Exile (15-19)

Visitation of an Angel in Answer to Prayer (20-23)

Seventy Weeks of Years until the Ultimate Rescue (24-27)

1. **Complexity of the 'Why' Question (16):** To ask '*What did I do to deserve this?*' can be terribly simplistic and unsatisfying! To ask '*For whose sin am I suffering?*' can be a complex question!

Born Blind – John 9:1-3

Famine in the Land – 2 Samuel 21:1

Job and Friends - Job 15:20 (Eliphaz); Job 19:6 (Job)

Sheep to Be Slaughtered – Psalm 44:17-26

Secret Things – Deuteronomy 29:29

2. **Complexity of the Promise Keeper (11):** God is keeping His promises both to bless and to curse!

Blessing or Curse? – Deuteronomy 11:26-28

The Promise of the Curse – Deuteronomy 28:1-6, 15-18, 63

The Promise of Justice – Romans 12:17-21

3. ***Complexity of Christ's Coming (24-27)***: The coming of the Messiah is often pictured as one coming but actually plays out as two comings with one purpose: the establishment of the kingdom of heaven on earth!

Three major views:

- Pre-1st Coming of Christ View
- 1st Coming of Christ Only View
- 1st and 2nd Coming of Christ View

There are reasons to believe that although this prophecy in Daniel was fulfilled in Christ's 1st coming, it may also allude to an ultimate fulfillment in Christ's 2nd coming.

Prophecy of Joel – Joel 2:28-32

Confusion of John the Baptist – Matthew 11:2-6

Paul's Hard to Understand Teaching – 2 Peter 3:11-18

4. ***Confidence in God's Character (18)***: We pray because of the worthiness of God, not because of our worthiness!

Reading the Bible and Prayer (1-2)

Humble Prayer, Depending on God's Character (3-16)

Pleading the Promises (17-19)

The Answered Prayer of Wisdom to Trust and Love (20-23)

The Answered Prayer of Hope in the Messiah (24-27)

Forgive for Your Name's Sake – Psalm 79:9; 1 John 2:12

Faithful and Righteous to Forgive – 1 John 1:9

The Hand of the Lord – 2 Samuel 24:10-14

5. ***Confidence in God's Timing (24)***: God's work is a marathon, not a 100-yard dash, that calls for endurance over the long haul!

Waiting on the Lord – Psalm 27:13-14

The Waiting of Abraham's Faith – Romans 4:16-25

Conclusion

What will you do about your *guilt*? Rest in Jesus!

What (or who) are you looking to for your *good*? Hope in God!

What is your *goal*? Pursue love!

What will be your *guide*? Bible!

What (or who) will be your *God*? It all depends on how you answer the questions above.