



Elgin Evangelical Free Church - January 21, 2024

Hope! He Hears the Repentant
Daniel 9:1-23

SEEKING FIRST = REPENTANT PRAYER

-Daniel 9 contains the 70 Weeks Prophecy which details the History of Israel to the end.

-It comes as an answer to the prayer that precedes it.

I. Humble Yourself—9:1-3

..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. Daniel 9:2

A. Get beneath the Word

B. Get beneath the Weight

II. Confess Sin—9:4-14

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, we have sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly and rebelled, even turning aside from Your commandments and ordinances." Daniel 9:4-5

A. Begin with Adoration

B. Proceed with Confession

III. Regard God—9:15-19

Alas, O Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and lovingkindness for those who love Him and keep His commandments . . . 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. Daniel 9:4,19

A. Know God's Character

B. Appeal to God's Reputation

Life Group Study Questions
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1. Why is it so significant that Daniel's prayer of repentance precedes God's revelation of the future?
2. This repentant prayer is motivated by the promises of God revealed in Scripture. How much of your own prayer life is motivated this way? Why do you think this is the case?
3. You cannot get close to God without being revealed as a sinner. His promises and faithfulness reveal our unfaithfulness and inconsistency. Do you run away from this moment, or do you find yourself repenting and running toward God?
4. Repentant pray should always begin with a growing knowledge of what God is like. What does Daniel know about God that motivates his praying (Vs. 4)?
5. Daniel builds an air-tight case against Israel and their failure to obey God. We often try to present our offenses and guilt to God in the kindest most general terms. Daniel doesn't do this. Why should we avoid this temptation?
6. Daniel realizes that sin should disqualify us from God's promises. He repents and refuses to ask God for anything based on Israel's performance. Instead, he appeals to God's character and reputation. Why should this be the pattern of our life?
7. What does Daniel learn from Gabriel about how God answers those who pray with a repentant heart?
8. Your heart is only ready to walk well with God's revelation when you have sought him in repentant prayer. Take time and pray for one another.