LESSON 9: PRAYER AND PROVIDENCE

When we face periods of transition and trial in this life, we often turn to the Bible for answers and hope — Dan 9:1-2; see Jer 25:11-12; 29:10.

THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO PERSONAL AND NATIONAL SIN IS PRAYER, SPECIFICALLY CONFESSION AND SUPPLICATION, TO GOD — DAN 9:3-19; SEE JAS 5:13-16.

 DANIEL RECOGNIZED GOD'S RIGHTEOUS
 JUDGMENT OF HIS PEOPLE, RECOGNIZING THAT
GOD HAD BEEN FAITHFUL TO HIS PROMISES — SEE
DEUT 28; LEV 26.

THE APPROPRIATE RESPONSE TO PERSONAL AND NATIONAL SIN IS PRAYER, SPECIFICALLY CONFESSION AND SUPPLICATION, TO GOD — DAN 9:3-19; SEE JAS 5:13-16.

• YET, WHEN DANIEL "UNDERSTOOD" THE PROPHECY OF JEREMIAH CONCERNING THE TIME OF THE EXILE, HE ASKED GOD TO FORGIVE HIM AND THE PEOPLE — SEE JER 25:11-12; 29:10.

When we pray for wisdom and salvation, God always answers positively, and he may employ angels to minister to us – Dan 9:20-23; see Ps 34:15; Jas 1:5; 2 Tim 2:7; Heb 1:14.

IF WE REALLY WANT TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S PLAN, HE WILL SHOW US HIS WILL, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT IT WILL ALWAYS BE EASY TO UNDERSTAND — DAN 9:24-27; SEE 2 PET 3:16.

• SINCE GABRIEL REFERS TO THE PROPHECY AS A VISION, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT THE SEVENTY WEEKS SHOULD BE INTERPRETED AS A SPECIFIC TIME PERIOD — SEE DAN 9:23.

IF WE REALLY WANT TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S PLAN, HE WILL SHOW US HIS WILL, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT IT WILL ALWAYS BE EASY TO UNDERSTAND — DAN 9:24-27; SEE 2 PET 3:16.

• THE PERIOD OF SEVENTY "WEEKS" BEGAN WHEN CYRUS PERMITTED THE JEWS TO RETURN TO JERUSALEM AND ENDED WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM — DAN 9:25-26; SEE MATT 24:15.

IF WE REALLY WANT TO UNDERSTAND GOD'S PLAN, HE WILL SHOW US HIS WILL, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT IT WILL ALWAYS BE EASY TO UNDERSTAND — DAN 9:24-27; SEE 2 PET 3:16.

 THERE IS A SENSE IN WHICH THE SPIRITUAL EXILE OF THE PEOPLE CONTINUED UNTIL THE TIME OF THE MESSIAH, WHEN HE BORE THE CURSE AND SAVED THEM – DAN 9:24; SEE GAL 3:10-14.

THE ETERNAL PURPOSE OF GOD HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED BY JESUS CHRIST, AND IF WE DEVOTE OURSELVES TO HIM, HE WILL SAVE US FROM OUR SINS — SEE EPH 3:10-11.