

“The Perfect Prayer for a Sinful Nation” Daniel 9:1-23

Confession of sins of the nation (4-15)

- ◆ When Daniel prays this prayer: It's 538 BC, Daniel = 80 yrs. old, and clearly right around the time of his lion's den episode (ch. 6).
- ◆ Why Daniel prays this prayer: He's been reading in Jeremiah (written some 70 years ago). See Jer. 25:5-12, 29:10,11.
- ◆ Daniel is again pictured as a prayer warrior (2:17,18, 6:10,11).
- ◆ Note repetition of the nation's sins (more specificity in prophets)

Intercession for God's wrath to turn aside (16-19)

- ◆ Question: Why such great earnest prayer if the captivity and the restoration time was prophesied? It's a “done deal”!
- ◆ Solomon's prayer “template” in I Kgs. 8:46ff. is used by Daniel.
- ◆ Note emphasis: Your people, Your sake, Your city, Your name.

Interruption with an unexpected angelic answer (20-23)

- ◆ During Daniel's prayer God sends more information about the Jews' future, but it will be about a far off future (not Daniel's prayer concern at all) that is marked by even more “desolations” (compare 9:2b and 26b, 27b)

*What about us praying for our nation? Check out I Tim. 2:1-4.
Do you and I do more confessing or . . . ?*

