

**Context**

- 1] Dan 1:1 Daniel exiled by Nebuchadnezzar besieged Jerus. 605 BC
- 2] ch 7-12 = Visionary section – start Belshazzar - ch 7 c 552 BC;
- 3] ch 9 - Darius the Mede - {Cyrus? (Ezra 1:1)} 537 BC
- 4] Daniel aged mid 80s? – aware of Prophecy of Jeremiah 25 & 29 return of Jews from exile to Jerusalem 70 yrs

**KV** *While I was confessing my sin and the sin of my people...Gabriel ..said to me 'Daniel I have now come to give you insight and understanding' (20-22)*

**MP** *The humble prayers of a contrite heart may be used by God in His wider purposes.*

**Situation (1-3)**

- 1] 1<sup>st</sup> year Darius made ruler

Nb God makes rulers rule (cf Dan 4:25)

- 2] Jeremiah = the Scriptures *Jeremiah 25:8-14; 29:10-14; 2 Chron36:21)*

Nb The Scriptures are the Word of the Lord

- 3] Understood so I turned to serious prayer

*Cf Esther 4:1,3; Jer 6:26; Matt 11:21; cf Is6:5)*

Knowing what God intends moves us to prayer

**Prayer (4-19)**

- 1] We have sinned (4-11)

- a) God is faithful

nb God keeps His promises

- b) We have sinned

*nb Daniel assumed guilt of Jesus at baptism (Matt 3:13)*

Sin is corporate

- c) All Israel has sinned (11)

*nb All Israel has sinned (Romans 3:10,23)*

*The wages of sin is death (Rom 6:23)*

*Nb conviction is the ministry of the HS (John 16:8ff)*

- 2] Therefore (12-14)

- a) The Lord is faithful to His word

*nb Curses and judgements (Leviticus 26:14ff)*

b) God brings disaster upon us  
*nb The Lord will discipline His people (Heb 12:5ff)*

3] Now, O Lord (15-19)

a) turn away for your wrath  
*nb God's righteous response (16, cf 7)*

b) for **your** names sake  
*Prayer is on the .....your sake, .....your desolate sanctuary, .....your desolate city,..... your mercy,..... your name. (17-19)*

### **God's reply (20-27)**

1] God's response (20-23)

a) The attitude of Daniel (20,21)  
*nb prayer - confessing sin and making requests*  
*His focus nb evening sacrifice after 70 years*  
*retain the disciplines of God*

b) The answer of God (22)  
*nb our prime need is for insight and understanding*  
*Insight and understanding into God's purposes is a gift of God*

c) the 'trigger' of God (23)  
*nb prayer is part of activation of God's plan*

2] God's conclusion (24)

1) Seventy sevens = complete number (cf forgiving Matt 18:22)

2) End sin etc = after judgment (Rev 21:1ff)

3] God's meantime (25-27)

a) the anointed one cut off - cf Matt 27:46)

b) a wing – the abomination that causes desolation  
*cf Antiochus Epiphanes. Seleucid King, (167 -164 BC)*

### **Conclusion**

1] Pray on the basis of Scripture humbly and penitentially.

2] Let your prayers be moulded by God – He is in charge!!