

Context

- 1] Dan 1:1 Daniel exiled by Nebuchadnezzar besieged Jerus. c **605 BC**
 2] Dan 1:21 'Pensioned off' in 1st year of Cyrus (aged c 85) c **538BC**
 3] Dan 10:1 3rd year of Cyrus c**536 BC**

KV *Since the first day that you set up your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard and I have come in response to them. (12)*

MP *As we seek Him, God involves us in the spiritual battle*

The situation (1-4)

- 1] 3rd year of Cyrus

Nb 2 yrs after retired in mid eighties! 3 = number of divine revelation

You retire from machinery but are never retired from God's work!

- 2] Daniel seeking God for three weeks

Nb 3 divine revelation, 7 = God's perfect number

- 3] Fasting from fine food

Cf remaining pure (Dan 1:8)

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness (Matt 5:6)

- 4] The date 24th day of 1st month. 7 days after Passover (10-17)

Nb 3 x 7 days around Passover

*Passover / death and resurrection of Jesus is God's **central** act in history*

The man (5,6)

- 1] Bank of the river Tigris

Cf Ulai Canal (8:15) a divine encounter?

- 2] a divine appearance cf Jesus (Rev 1:12-15)

Cf 4th in the fiery furnace (3:25,28)

Nb Priestly (Rev 16:4) divine- lightning (Ex 19; 16; 20:18; Ez1:13f; Ps 18:12)

The encounter (7-9)

- 1] Vision for Daniel

Nb others unable to see (Acts 9:7)

- 2] The response

Nb No strength....face deadly pale....helpless.....deep sleep....face to the ground

Le Silent before living God

The message (10 -19)

1] Commissioned - Stand up – I have been sent to you (10, 11)

Nb touched him (Matt 8:1-3)

My glory and the lifter of my head (Ps 3:3)

While we were yet sinners Christ died for us (Rom5:6-8)

Fear not (John 14:1)

Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart (Col 3:18)

Peace will guard over your heart and mind (Phil 4:4-7)

2] Prayer partnership –

a) I've come in response to your prayers (12)

nb Expect the Lord to be attentive (Neh 1:6,11)

Prayer for God to heal land (2 Chron7:12-15)

b) Resisted for 21 days by prince of Persia (13)

cf Daniel 3 weeks in prayer (4))

nb prayer effects the heavenly realms in ways unknown/unseen

God restricts himself with human participation

b) Explain what happens in a time to come (14)

3] Equipped

a) helpless, hopeless. Speechless (15)

b) Speech given – lips touched (16)

nb don't worry about what you will say (Luke 12:11)

c) Strengthened (17-19)

cf I can do all things through Christ (Phil 4:13)

The purpose (20-11:1)

1] Before the Persian and Greek kingdoms (20)

2] I will tell you – the book of truth

Cf God is in control (Ps 139:16)

Legions of angels are in support (2 Kings 6:17; Matt 26:53)

3] No-one supports except Michael (Jude9; Rev 12:7)

4] 1st year of Darius (Cyrus) (Ezra 1:1)

Nb prayer support for the return?
