"THE BOOK OF DANIEL" The Vision Of The Time Of The End - I (10:1-11:1)

INTRODUCTION

In the tenth chapter, we find the beginning of the final vision recorded by Daniel...

a. A vision that pertains to what will affect Daniel's people (i.e., Israel) - **Daniel 10:14;**

b. Describing what will occur "in the latter days, for the vision refers to many days yet to come" - <u>Daniel 10:14;</u>

c. Its words were to be closed and sealed "till the time of the end"- <u>Daniel 12:9;</u> -- For such reasons this vision has been called "The Vision of the Time of the End".

d. But what is meant by the expression "**the time of the end**"? Is it the end of time as we think of it, when Christ returns or does it refer to the end of God's dealings with Israel as His covenant nation?

I. THE APPEARANCE OF A GLORIOUS MAN

A. THE DATE AND SETTING OF THE VISION...

1. It occurred in the third year of Cyrus king of Persia, on the 24th day of the first month (ca. 535 B.C.) - <u>Daniel 10:1,4</u>;

2. Daniel had been in mourning (fasting) for three weeks - Daniel 10:2,3;

3. He was beside the Tigris River - **Daniel 10:4;**

B. THE DESCRIPTION OF THE GLORIOUS MAN...

1. Daniel saw a certain man - Daniel 10:5-6;

2. Only Daniel saw the vision - **Daniel 10:7;**

3. The impact on Daniel - Daniel 10:8-9;

II. THE CONVERSATION WITH THE GLORIOUS MAN

A. THE MAN'S INITIAL WORDS TO DANIEL...

1. A hand touches Daniel, causing him to tremble - **Daniel 10:10;**

2. The man addresses Daniel - Daniel 10:11

3. The man comforts Daniel - **Daniel 10:12**

4. The man explains the reason for the delay - **Daniel 10:13**

a. The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood him twenty-one days (the same time during which Daniel had been in mourning - cf. **Daniel 10:2-3**)

b. But Michael came to help him who had been left alone with the kings of Persia

5. But now the man has come make Daniel understand - <u>Daniel 10:14;</u>a. What will happen to his people (Israel)

b. What will occur **"in the latter days"**, **"many days yet to come"** -- From what follows, the expression **"latter days"** appears to refer to the time leading up to the coming of the Messiah and into the Messianic period (Harkrider) - cf. **Daniel 2:28;** <u>Acts 2:16-17;</u>

B. DANIEL IS STRENGTHENED...

1. Daniel is initially speechless - **Daniel 10:15-17;**

2. Daniel is strengthened - **Daniel 10:18-19;**

C. THE MAN RESUMES HIS WORDS WITH DANIEL...

1. Though he must soon return - **Daniel 10:20;**

2. Yet he will tell Daniel what is noted in the Scripture of Truth - **Daniel 10:21-11:1;**

CONCLUSION

1. At this point (<u>Daniel 11:2</u>), "The Vision Of The Time Of The End" begins in earnest...describing what will happen "in the latter days" and referring to what will occur "many days yet to come".

2. In these introductory remarks of the vision, we find a glimpse of the spiritual warfare that was going on "behind the scenes"...While there is little we truly know about this "spiritual warfare", and to what extent it may be going on today, perhaps our study will encourage us to take more seriously Paul's words: "For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places." "Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." - Ephesians 6:12-13;

What are we doing to take up the armor of God, that we might be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might (cf. **Ephesians 6:10-18**)?