



**THE PRAYER OF DANIEL
Daniel 9:1-19**

Summary: Daniel's prayer begins with a full confession of national sin along with recognition of the justice of God's punishment of His people.

- In verse 11 he admits that Israel was warned of impending doom in the Law of Moses if she proved unfaithful to the covenant, and that God had performed His word exactly as He had prescribed in His oath to them.
- In verse 16 the prophet begs the Lord to turn away His anger from the city of Jerusalem.
- The heart of the prayer is found in verse 17: "*Now therefore, O our God, hearken unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord's sake.*"

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Adoration (verse 4).

- *I prayed unto the Lord my God.* cf. Daniel 6:10
- Daniel's prayer begins with **confession**.
- *O Lord, the great and dreadful God.* (cf. Hebrews 12:28; Deuteronomy 10:17; Joshua 2:8ff; Judges 13:6; Psalms 47:2; Joel 2:11)
- *He keeps the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments.* Deuteronomy 7:9, 21; cf. Exodus 20:6. Nehemiah 1:5

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Confession (verses 5-14).

- "*We have sinned.*" to "miss the mark." cf. Judges 20:16
- "*We have committed iniquity.*" "to bend or twist, perverted."
 - Righteous living and godliness in the OT equals walking "*the straight and narrow road*" while a "*crooked and perverse generation*" has a tendency to "*turn out of the way*" and "*make their paths crooked*" (cf. Deuteronomy 32:5; Psalms 125:5; Proverbs 2:15; 8:8; 21:8; Isaiah 59:8; Lamentations 3:9; cf. Matthew 7:13-14).

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Confession (verses 5-14).

- "*We have done wickedly.*" "to be wicked," "evil," "wrong" or "criminal" in one's behavior.
 - It is indicative of desires that lead one away from goodness and righteousness. cf. Titus 2:11-12
- "*We have rebelled.*"
 - The concept of "rebellion" against God as Lord and King is a particularly foolish. cf. Romans 1:20-22
 - It implies a conscious decision to reject the will of one's Maker and ultimate Sovereign. cf. 1 Samuel 15:22-23.
 - They behaved as stubborn children who would refuse their father's wishes and so deserve the most severe form of punishment. Deuteronomy 21:18ff; cf. Matthew 21:28-29

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Confession (verses 5-14).

- "*We have turned aside from thy precepts and from thine ordinances*"
 - Israel had "*rebelled*" or "*turned aside*" and refused to obey; they had not given heed to His commandments and ordinances given through Moses and confirmed by the prophets. cf. Period of the Judges and the Kings.

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Confession (verses 5-14).

- *“Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, that spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.” Daniel 9:6*
(cf. Jeremiah 26:5; 29:19; 35:15; 44:21).
– Enough responsibility to go around. cf. Jeremiah 44:20-22; cf. Zephaniah 3:1-7; Nehemiah 9:30-33

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Repetition of their sins (verses 7-14).

- Daniel 9:7-13, 18 *“Righteousness”* belongs to God, *“Confusion”* or *“open shame”* belongs to these rebellious people. (cf. Jeremiah 7:19; 51:51; Ezra 9:7)
- *Because of their trespass that they have trespassed against thee.*
- *Because we have sinned against thee.*
- *Because we have rebelled against him.*
- *Because we obeyed not the voice of Jehovah our God, to walk in his laws.*

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Repetition of their sins (verses 7-14).

- Daniel 9:13-14, *“As it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come upon us; yet we have not made our prayer before the Lord our God, that we might turn from our iniquities and understand Your truth.” NKJV*

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Petition (verses 15-19).

Daniel 9:16, *“O Lord, (I beseech thee KJV) according to all thy righteousness, let thine anger and thy wrath, I pray thee, be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain.”*

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Petition (verses 15-19).

- Daniel 9:17, *“Now therefore, O our God, hearken unto the prayer of thy servant, and to his supplications, and cause thy face to shine upon thy sanctuary that is desolate, for the Lord’s sake.”*

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Petition (verses 15-19).

- Daniel 9:18, *“O my God, incline thine ear, and hear; open thine eyes, and behold our desolations, and the city which is called by thy name: for we do not present our supplications before thee for our righteousness, but for thy great mercies’ sake.”*

THE PRAYER OF DANIEL Daniel 9:1-19

Petition (verses 15-19).

- Daniel 9:20, *“O Lord, hear; O Lord, forgive; O Lord, hearken and do; defer not, for thine own sake, O my God, because thy city and thy people are called by thy name.”*

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Conclusion:

- Daniel prayed in sincerity and according to truth. He always seeks the glory of God.
- Daniel’s prayer was centered upon God.
- “Sinclair Ferguson observed, ‘Our age has come to believe that real familiarity with God is best expressed in a casual approach or in language that expresses how easily and informally we have entered his presence. Even the most cursory reading of this chapter should awaken us from such deception.’” (Daniel H. King, Sr., *Daniel*, Truth Commentaries, Page 601)