



## **BIBLE STUDY**

**Read Daniel 9:1-23**

*Note: In this Bible study, Jerusalem is used to symbolize the Jews, the nation of Israel, and God's people.*

### **EFFECTIVE PRAYER IS COMPELLED**

*Read Daniel 9:1-2*

#### **Compelled by Problems in the World**

- Based on the following verses, describe the Babylonians: Genesis 10:8-10, 11:1-9 and 2 Kings 24:20-25:10. Understanding that Daniel and God's people were held in captivity in Babylon, describe some of the problems they faced.

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- What are some of the problems being faced by Jerusalem today?

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- Why should problems compel us to pray? See Exodus 3:9-10 and 2 Chronicles 7:13-14.

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**Compelled by Promises in the Word**

- On what was Daniel’s prayer based? How does this apply to your own prayer life?

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- List the promises Daniel claimed from Jeremiah 25:12 and 29:10-15.

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- Read Deuteronomy 28. What are some of the promises, commands and warnings that could be applied to Jerusalem?

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- What do you learn from Daniel’s example as an old man in Daniel 9:1-2?

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- When do you pray for Jerusalem?

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- Read Psalm 122. Give phrases that tell us how to pray for Jerusalem, and why we should.

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- What do you think praying for the peace of Jerusalem really means? Read Isaiah 9:6; Luke 2:14, 25-32; Acts 10:34-39; Colossians 3:15; Zechariah 14:1-9; and Micah 4:1-4.

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- Every morning at 7:14 a.m. and every evening at 7:14 p.m., would you take a moment and pray for the peace of Jerusalem?

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## **EFFECTIVE PRAYER IS CONFIDENT**

*Read Daniel 9:3-4*

### **Focused**

- In order “to turn to the Lord,” what do you think Daniel had to turn from? Read Daniel 9:3. Relate this to Matthew 6:6; Luke 5:16, 6:12 and 9:18.

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- From Matthew 6:16-18, what word did Jesus use that indicates fasting is not optional for you and me?

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- What do you learn from Elijah’s example of fasting in 1 Kings 17:1-3, 18:41-45 and James 5:16-18?

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- If fasting is going without anything and everything in order to make the time to get alone with God in prayer, how does this help your focus?

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- When do you fast?

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**Faith-Filled**

- Who did Daniel say he turned to? \_\_\_\_\_
- Who do you turn to for help? \_\_\_\_\_
- How does Hebrews 11:6 say we are to approach God? \_\_\_\_\_

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- What phrases from the following verses reveal Daniel's confidence in God's character? Daniel 9:4, 7, 9, 15. If you can, link each characteristic of God to a past event in Israel's history.

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- How does God's demonstration of power and greatness in the past encourage your faith at present?

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- When you pray, what is the basis for your expectancy that God will hear and answer?

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- What other prerequisite for confidence in prayer does Hebrews 10:19-23 suggest?

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- Explain how you know you meet the New Testament prerequisite.

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**EFFECTIVE PRAYER IS CONTRITE**

*Read Daniel 9:5-15*

- What basic problem of God's people did Daniel address in Daniel 9:5 and 8-11? Give specific phrases.

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- How did this problem affect their relationship with God? Read Daniel 9:6-8.

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- How did this affect their national security? Read Daniel 9:12-14.

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- How did this affect their relationship with other nations? Read Daniel 9:16.

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- Apply each of the above four answers to Jerusalem today.

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- Count the personal pronouns Daniel used in 9:4-16. Are they singular or plural?

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- How is this similar to Ezra's prayer for God's people in Ezra 9:6-15?

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- From Ezra 9:5, 10:1 and Daniel 9:3, give the phrases that reveal the attitude of the one praying.

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- What does this teach you and me about how to pray for Jerusalem?

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**EFFECTIVE PRAYER IS CLEAR**

*Read Daniel 9:16-19*

- List the phrases that specify exactly what Daniel is asking God to do in Daniel 9:16-19.

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- What fundamental reason does Daniel give God for answering his prayer in Daniel 9:19?

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- Read the following verses and explain how the glory of God’s name is entwined with Jerusalem: 2 Samuel 5:5-12; Psalm 135:21; Isaiah 31:5; 1 Kings 11:36, 14:21; and Revelation 21:1-3, 10-11.

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- Write out your specific requests for Jerusalem, based on the above references and Daniel’s prayer.

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**EFFECTIVE PRAYER IS CONFIRMED**

*Read Daniel 9:20-23*

- How long did it take Daniel to receive confirmation that his prayer had been heard? Read Daniel 9:20-21.

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- Do you think Daniel would have received insight into the condition of God’s people had he not prayed? Read Daniel 9:20-22.

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- When was Daniel’s prayer answered? Read Daniel 9:23.

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- When did Daniel actually receive the specific answer to his specific requests? Read Ezra 1:1-5.

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- Do you think God's people would have been delivered from their enemies and restored to God's place of blessing if Daniel had not prayed for them? See James 4:2 and Jeremiah 10:21.

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