



Shining in Babylon  
Daniel 10  
Study Guide

1. Read Daniel 10:1-4. Notice that Daniel was mourning, probably because of failed post-exile expectations. He fasted, with a limited diet because of the great conflict he felt. Describe a time when you were mourning because of a conflict, or pressure you felt in this fallen world. Have you ever experienced closeness with God through fasting?
2. Read Daniel 10:5-9. I believe Daniel met the pre-incarnate Christ. (*Notice a similar description in Revelation 1:12-16*). How has Christ ministered to you, and also been overwhelming to you? Discuss.
3. Read Daniel 10:10-12. Notice how an angel ministered to Daniel and came because of his words (v. 12). Share a time when you felt ministered to after a time of mourning.
4. Read Daniel 10:13. Notice that there are territorial demons, and that Satan has an organized system to suppress the truth and frustrate God's people. How do you balance not being afraid of demonic powers, but also not being naïve to their schemes? Discuss.
5. Read Daniel 10:13-14. An angel came to help Daniel understand context and vision about the future. Share a time when God sent you understanding, and context of a situation and it lifted your spirit.
6. Read Daniel 10:15-21. Share how God offers vision and strength to His people. In v. 20 the angel asks whether Daniel knows why he came. The answer comes in Chapters

11-12. Read Daniel 11:35 and 12:10 and discuss why you think there is still conflict today. For encouragement you can also read Revelation 12:7-9 to see how Michael the archangel will destroy Satan and his demons.

### Application

Know that your mourning matters to God. He sees you and sends out angels to give you strength and insight. Press into prayer in times of mourning. Journal, speak with others and speak with God about how you feel. Trust that God is fighting on your behalf and using the great conflict to refine and purify you. Pray as a group for God's refining work in us.

## Message Outline

### Daniel 10

#### Big Idea: Mourning Matters

#### I. There is a Great Conflict (1)

In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a word was revealed to Daniel, who was named Belteshazzar. And the word was true, and it was a great conflict. And he understood the word and had understanding of the vision.

#### I. There is a Great Conflict (2-4)

<sup>2</sup>In those days I, Daniel, was mourning for three weeks. <sup>3</sup>I ate no delicacies, no meat or wine entered my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, for the full three weeks. <sup>4</sup>On the twenty-fourth day of the first month, as I was standing on the bank of the great river (that is, the Tigris).

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Ezra 4:4- "Then the people of the land discouraged the people of Judah and made them afraid to build and bribed counselors against them..."

#### II. There is a Great Savior (5-9)

<sup>5</sup>I lifted up my eyes and looked, and behold, a man clothed in linen, with a belt of fine gold from Uphaz around his waist. <sup>6</sup>His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like flaming torches, his arms and legs like the gleam of burnished bronze, and the sound of his words like the sound of a multitude. <sup>7</sup>And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision, but a great trembling fell upon them, and they fled to hide themselves.

## II. There is a Great Savior (5-9)

<sup>8</sup> So I was left alone and saw this great vision, and no strength was left in me. My radiant appearance was fearfully changed, and I retained no strength. <sup>9</sup> Then I heard the sound of his words, and as I heard the sound of his words, I fell on my face in deep sleep with my face to the ground.

## III. There are Ministering Angels (10-12)

<sup>10</sup> And behold, a hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees. <sup>11</sup> And he said to me, "O Daniel, man greatly loved, understand the words that I speak to you, and stand upright, for now I have been sent to you." And when he had spoken this word to me, I stood up trembling. <sup>12</sup> Then he said to me, "Fear not, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand and humbled yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words.

## IV. There are Demonic Forces (13-14)

<sup>13</sup> The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia, <sup>14</sup> and came to make you understand what is to happen to your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come."

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Ephesians 6:12

"For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places."

## V. Angelic Forces Respond to Prayer (13-14)

<sup>13</sup> The prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me twenty-one days, but Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, for I was left there with the kings of Persia, <sup>14</sup> and came to make you understand what is to happen to your people in the latter days. For the vision is for days yet to come."

>add on click<

2 Chron. 7:14

"...if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

## VI. God Offers Strength (15-21)

<sup>15</sup> When he had spoken to me according to these words, I turned my face toward the ground and was mute. <sup>16</sup> And behold, one in the likeness of the children of man touched my lips. Then I opened my mouth and spoke. I said to him who stood before me, "O my lord, by reason of the vision pains have come upon me, and I retain no strength. <sup>17</sup> How can my lord's servant talk with my lord? For now no strength remains in me, and no breath is left in me."

## VI. God Offers Strength (15-21)

<sup>18</sup> Again one having the appearance of a man touched me and strengthened me. <sup>19</sup> And he said, "O man greatly loved, fear not, peace be with you; be strong and of good courage." And as he spoke to me, I was strengthened and said, "Let my lord speak, for you have strengthened me." <sup>20</sup> Then he said, "Do you know why I have come to you? But now I will return to fight against the prince of Persia; and when I go out, behold, the prince of Greece will come. <sup>21</sup> But I will tell you what is inscribed in the book of truth: there is none who contends by my side against these except Michael, your prince.

## VII. God offers Vision (Ch. 11-12)

### A. We Win!

#### Revelation 12:7-9

<sup>7</sup> Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, <sup>8</sup> but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. <sup>9</sup> And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world.

## VII. God offers Vision (Ch. 11-12)

### B. There is Purpose within the Conflict

#### Daniel 11:35

"...and some of the wise shall stumble, so that they may be refined, purified, and made white, until the time of the end, for it still awaits the appointed time."

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#### Daniel 12:10

"Many shall purify themselves and make themselves white and be refined, but the wicked shall act wickedly. And none of the wicked shall understand, but those who are wise shall understand."

Big Idea: Mourning Matters