

Thriving in Babylon

The Book of Daniel

January 28 & 29, 2017
Valley Church

Jeremy White, Lead Pastor
Week 16 – Unseen Powers

Introduction:

Competing world views: *supernaturalistic* or *anti-supernaturalistic*?

The Purposes of the Vision in Daniel 10:1-21

1. To _____ Daniel the _____ (vs. 10-14)

“Now I have come to explain to you what will happen to your people in the future (literally “the final days”); for the vision concerns a time yet to come.”

2. To _____ Daniel's _____ (vs. 15-19)

“Again, the one who touched who looked like a man touched me and gave me strength. ‘Do not be afraid, you who are highly esteemed...Peace! Be strong now; be strong.’”

Notes:

[illegible]

SMALL GROUP Q'S

Personal Life:

1. Often many Christians approach spiritual warfare from one of two extremes: either they give too much credit to Satan, assuming he is somehow the opposite equivalent of God, or they do not give him enough credit, failing to see that although he is a defeated foe, he remains a master deceiver. Have you ever fallen into either of these extremes? Share about your experience...

Ponderings:

2. Daniel 10 gives us a powerful glimpse of the reality of angelic warfare between angels and demons in the unseen realms around us. Why do you think God would broker some of His work to be done through angels rather than simply intervening directly as He could if He chose?
3. What is your background with regard to angels? What have you been taught by previous religious or spiritual leaders or friends?
4. Read Hebrews 1:14 as a group. Have you ever experienced what you thought to be the intervention of an angelic presence in your life? How does it make you feel to know that according to the Bible, God uses angels to serve us?
5. Read Hebrews 13:2 as a group. While the beginning of Hebrews mentions angels serving us, the end of Hebrews indicates that we also may have opportunities to serve them. Have you heard of the expression "angels unaware?" What are your thoughts on this topic?
6. Angels are also a subject about which many Christians can find themselves falling into extremes: either angels are practically worshiped, or we live in near total ignorance of their presence in our lives. Would you agree that these imbalances exist in the church today?

Promptings:

7. With regard to spiritual warfare, in what specific way(s) has God fitted you for victory over forces of spiritual darkness? Where does that assurance of victory come from? How can you consciously walk in that victory this week?