Daniel, A Man of Prayer

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DANIEL, A MAN OF PRAYER Daniel 9

Daniel is a <u>prophet</u> and a <u>businessman</u> who talked to God

The result of him talking to God is one of the richest prophecies in the entire Bible

It has been called the backbone of biblical prophecy

Daniel chapter 9 gives both <u>prophecy</u> and <u>prayer</u>; it shows us how to talk to God

I. Prayer should be prominent In the year of Darius the Mede; 538 BC The king was Cyrus Darius used Daniel to rule over part of the kingdom Daniel chapter 6 and 9 were the same timeframe Daniel was one of three governors of the Babylonian territory

Daniel was busy, important, and old; he still found time to pray—a lengthy prayer "Too Busy to Pray" Bill Hybels Chapter 6 is the parallel to this chapter Daniel always prayed It was a preoccupation Daniel was a businessman

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind" (Luke 10:27)

You can be all in no matter what you do When you pray, it's an exercise of <u>dependence</u> and <u>humility</u>

Average computer user spends <u>49</u> minutes per day managing emails The average Christian spends <u>3-4</u> minutes a day in prayer

II. Prayer should be prompted

Daniel's prayer is prompted by his reading of the <u>Word</u>

God speaks to him and he prays to God, it's a <u>conversation</u>

George Müller's book on prayer, Answers to Prayer

He said that prayer was even more important than <u>service</u> to the Lord

Prayer is most effective after the inner man has been <u>nourished</u> by the Word of God The will of God is never <u>contrary</u> to Scripture His prayers were prompted by the Word of God to his heart

Daniel was reading the book of Jeremiah when he was prompted to pray this prayer 70 years were prophesied It was now year 67 of the 70 Time's almost up! Then he prays about it

Jeremiah 25 and 29 speak about the 70 years His prayer was driven by what he read Let what you say to God be prompted by what God says in his word

Book Drawing Near by Kenneth Boa; The prayer that God <u>accepts</u> is the prayer that God directs Every day, George Whitefield read his Bible on

his knees

III. Prayer should be passionate Daniel was engaged physically and <u>emotionally</u> Jesus said, "Ask and it will be given to you, seek and you will find, knock and the door will be opened"

Matthew 7:7-8

Three true statements about prayer III. Prayer should be passionate The Bible speaks of people <u>raising</u> their hands to pray Paul wrote to Timothy that he wanted men in church to lift up holy hands

1 Timothy 2:8

Raising the hands conveys welcome

POINTS TO PONDER

Live intentionally; set spiritual <u>goals</u>
Read your Bible <u>carefully</u>

3. Pray <u>relationally</u>; you are talking to a person