

APPLICATION

5 Keys to Thriving while Living in Babylon

1

_____ to the True King

We have *purposed* to follow God over all

2

Deep Ties to _____

We need each other's fellowship and encouragement!

DANIEL CHALLENGE #1 – Heartfelt Community _____

Make a commitment to *at least* a monthly meal with fellow believers from church. (*Who will you invite? When?*)

3

Courageous Testimony: _____ but _____

We honor the earthly king – but we *obey* God

4

Reliance on _____: Daily and Urgent

Our *power* comes from God – not human might

DANIEL CHALLENGE #2 – Heartfelt Community _____

Make a commitment to pray *FOR* others and *WITH* others.

→ *When will your prayer time be?*

Make it a Personal Goal to be Good at _____!

Revelation 3:19-20 – “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.”

5

Gardening with an Eye on the _____

Make Babylon *better*, while we wait for the *Eternal* Kingdom



THE BOOK OF DANIEL

How to Thrive while Living in Babylon

Part 15: “The Serious Search for God”

TODAY'S TEXT: Daniel 9:1-23

9:1 – New Empire. New King. Still in _____

9:2 – The 70-year Prophecy of _____

- ✪ The prophesied end of the desolations is drawing _____
Jeremiah 25:25 – “And this whole land shall be a desolation, and an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years.”
Jeremiah 29:10-13 – “For thus saith the LORD, That after seventy years be accomplished at Babylon I will visit you, and perform my good word toward you, in causing you to return to this place... And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. And I will be found of you, saith the LORD: and I will turn away your captivity, and I will gather you from all the nations, and from all the places whither I have driven you, saith the LORD; and I will bring you again into the place whence I caused you to be carried away captive.”
- ✪ It's now been _____ years since Daniel was taken captive! (605 – 538 BC)

The _____ Accuracy of Jeremiah's '70 Years' Prophecy!

- Years of _____ Domination
 - Babylon's final conquest of Assyria in 609 BC
 - Persia defeats Babylon in 539 BC
 - = _____ years!
- Years of _____ for God's people
 - First captives carried away in 605 BC
 - Captives return in 538 through 536 BC
 - (Counting inclusively / All years of captivity)
 - = _____ years!
- Years of the _____ Destruction
 - 1st Temple destroyed in 586 BC
 - 2nd Temple completed in 516 BC
 - = _____ years!

9:3-19 – The _____ Search for God

*“And ye shall seek me, and find me,
when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”*

Jeremiah 29:13

☛ If God seems *far away*, guess who _____?

1) Deep _____ and Grief over Sin [verse 3]

“Supplications” = *taḥnûn* = earnest prayer, humble request, pleading

“Sackcloth and Ashes” = a sign of brokenness, mourning, grief
(see: **Genesis 37:34**, **2 Samuel 3:31**, **Esther 4:1**, **Jonah 3:5-7**)

2) A Respectful _____ of God [verse 4]

“Confession” = *yāḏâ* = thrown down, to acknowledge, profess

“Great” = *gāḏôl* = greatness, high, mighty, noble

“Dreadful” = *yārē’* = to fear, be afraid, hold in awe, reverence, respect
Proverbs 1:7 – “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge:
but fools despise wisdom and instruction.”

Luke 12:5 – “But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him,
which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto
you, Fear him.” [and then the reminder of God’s care for the sparrows!]

Hebrews 12:28-29 – “... Let us have grace, whereby we may serve
God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a
consuming fire.”

3) An _____ Accounting of Sin [verses 5-6]

→ Admits intentional sin, iniquity, wickedness, and _____!

→ Admits they abandoned _____ way for their _____ way

→ Admits they ignored the _____ of all the prophets

4) Recognition of the _____ [verses 7-8]

→ ‘Confusion of Faces’ _____ to us who have sinned against God
= *bšeṭ pānîm* = profound humiliation see: **Psalms 44:14-15**

→ _____ the people suffer (*multiple generations + near and far off!*)

5) Personal Responsibility and _____ [verses 9-13]

→ It’s **Not** _____ fault... it’s _____ fault
He is merciful and forgiving... and we rebelled anyway!

→ It’s not just _____ Fault... it’s also _____ fault
Daniel always uses “we” and “our” – never “them and “their”!

→ It was _____ what was **right** and what was **wrong**
God’s prophets set the truth clearly before us!

→ We were clearly _____ of the **consequences** of our actions
The clear oath in the law of Moses:
Leviticus 26:14-17 – “But if ye will not hearken unto me, and
will not do all these commandments... ye shall be slain before
your enemies: they that hate you shall reign over you.”

6) Full _____ with God [verse 14]

→ True Repentance is when we agree with God against ourselves!
Agreement that God is right and that we are wrong.
God was right and fair to judge us.
The door is locked on our side!

‘Repent’ = *metanoō* = change mind, reconsider, think differently
Revelation 3:19 – “As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be
zealous therefore, and repent. Behold, I stand at the door, and knock”

☛ The way back to God:

Honestly and humbly admit that **WE** pushed God out!
Respectfully recognize the consequences are both fair and our fault...
Take responsibility and accept accountability...

Then _____ your mind: Agree with God and open the door!

7) A Request Based on _____ Character [verses 15-19]

→ Mercy doesn’t come from _____ personal goodness!
We don’t receive God’s grace ‘in-spite of our failures’ ...
God’s Grace is FOR our failures!

9:20-23 – The _____ of God

→ A _____ response (*while he was still praying!*)

→ The _____ of God’s abiding love (*greatly beloved!*)

→ Profound _____: a vision for the future (*the restoration is coming!*)