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Gabri'el's Intervention
9: 20-23

Gabri'el's Intervention DIG: Where had Dani'el seen Gabri'el before? How did he appear to Dani'el? Why had the angel come to him a second time? What did Dani'el need to be corrected about? What was impressive about Dani'el praying about the time of the evening sacrifice? Why was Gabri'el exhausted?

REFLECT: How would you rate your prayer life? If the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak, what can you do to improve it? What prayer do you need answered immediately? What do you need insight? Have you ever tried to do a puzzle with missing pieces? That's what Dani'el was attempting to do.

Gabri'el came to correct Dani'el's misunderstanding regarding the establishment of God's Kingdom.

Dani'el's prayer (**to see link click Cx – Dani'el's Prayer**) was answered in a remarkable fashion. Very often, we pray and wonder whether anyone was listening, or whether our prayer simply bounced off the ceiling. In this case, though, **ADONAI** sent an angel to address **Dani'el's** concerns while he was still praying! We shall look in detail at the answer **Dani'el** received below. However, in general terms, we can say that **Dani'el's prayer** received both an immediate and an ultimate answer. **God's** immediate answer was to raise up **Cyrus**, the Persian king (see **Ag – Cyrus and Darius**), who issued the decree allowing **the Jews** to return to their home. But that was only a partial fulfillment of **YHVH's** plans. The problem of **Isra'el's** rebellious heart that caused the exile in the first place would not be dealt with by merely bringing them back to the Land. That would require a greater demonstration of **God's** greatness and grace, which would only be accomplished by the coming of **Yeshua**.[295]



Since **Dani'el** did not recognize **his** misunderstanding of the chronology of prophetic events, **he** didn't realize that **he** needed to be enlightened further. But **God** did. So **Gabri'el** was sent to give **Dani'el** the proper prophetic understanding. **Dani'el** was in the middle of confessing **his** sins and the sins of **his people Isra'el**, thinking that this confession would prevail in the Messianic Kingdom. **Dani'el** would have kept on praying had **he** not been interrupted. **While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Isra'el and making my request to ADONAI my God for his holy hill, Jerusalem – while I was still in prayer, Gabriel, the man I had seen in the earlier vision. He came to me in swift flight about the time of the evening sacrifice (9:20-21).**[296] The Hebrew term for **in swift flight**, *mu'aph*, comes from the root *yaeph*, meaning *to be weary* or *to be faint.* This term appears twice in **verse 21**, once as a verb (*mu'aph*) and once as a noun (*bi'aph*). So, the most literal rendering would be *weary of weariness.* However, a more understandable reading is *being very tired.* It seems to me that **Gabri'el** had to fight **his** way through satanic opposition to get to **Dani'el** in a big hurry, and **he** was exhausted from the battle.[297]

He had lived in **Babylon** for some seventy years, but **Dani'el** was still using Torah time. **His** body was in **Babylon**, but **his** heart was in **Jerusalem**. Had **the Temple** been standing and the priests still officiating, this would have been **the ninth hour**, when **the lamb** was **offered** as **a burnt offering** (see the commentary on **Leviticus Ai – The Burnt Offering: Accepted by God**). It was one of the **three times** during the day when **Dani'el** set aside time to offer **prayer** to **ADONAI (Dani'el 6:10** and **Psalm 55:17)**. This was also the time when **Ezra** prayed for **YHVH** to forgive the sins of the **Jewish** remnant that had returned to **the Land**

(Ezra 9:5). There is a sense in which **prayer** is seen by **God** as a spiritual sacrifice to **Him (Psalm 141:1-2)**.[298]

Gabri’el is **an angel**, but **he** appeared to **Dani’el** in the form of **a man**. **Dani’el** had met **Gabri’el** before after seeing the vision of **the ram and the goat** (see **Ck – The Ram and the Male Goat**), and **Dani’el** explained its meaning to **him** (see **Cl – Living in the Valley of Darkness**). Now, **the angel** had come to explain to **Dani’el** what **YHVH** had planned for **the Temple**, **Jerusalem**, and **the Jewish people**.

Then **Gabri’el** revealed the purpose of **his** arrival: **He instructed me and said to me, “Dani’el, I have now come to give you insight and understanding” (9:22). Gabri’el** came to correct **the prophet’s** misunderstanding regarding the establishment of the Messianic Kingdom after seventy years of captivity, and to reveal the true timing of the Kingdom to **him**. **As soon as you began to pray, a word went out, which I have come to tell you. Gabri’el** had arrived even before **Dani’el** had finished **praying**! **The angel** had been sent because **Dani’el** was **highly esteemed**, an assurance that **he** was indeed favored by **YHVH**. **Therefore, consider the word** (Hebrew: *davar*, meaning *speech* or *message,* however another translation would be *command* in the sense of *a decree*) **and understand the vision (9:23).** As will be demonstrated shortly (see **Da – The Seventy-Sevens**), that **vision** was actually both **a decree** of **YHVH (9:24a)** and **a message** of that which would transpire during that period of time **(9:24b-27)**.[299]