

THE KIND OF PRAYER GOD ANSWERS

Unshakable – Part 9 of 9

Daniel 9:1-23

August 12, 2018

HOW TO PRAY IN A CRISIS:

1. Let God speak to me before I speak to Him.

These things happened during the first year that Darius...was king. ...During his first year as king, I was studying the Scriptures and noticed the LORD's message to Jeremiah that 70 years would pass before Jerusalem would be rebuilt. – Daniel 9:1-2 ERV

This is what the LORD says: “You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again. For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope. In those days when you pray, I will listen.” – Jeremiah 29:10-12 NLT

Two key factors for positive outcomes: God's timing & my praying

2. Focus my attention on God.

Then I turned my face to the Lord God, SEEKING him by prayer.... – Dan. 9:3a ESV

So I gave my attention to the Lord God to SEEK him.... – Dan. 9:3a NASB

3. Express my desires with emotion and devotion.

And I prayed earnestly to the Lord God, pleading with him, fasting, wearing sackcloth, and sitting in ashes. – Dan. 9:3 GNT

I poured out my heart, baring my soul to God.... – Dan. 9:4 MSG

“In those coming days,” says the LORD, “the people of Israel will return home together with the people of Judah. They will come weeping and seeking the LORD their God. They will ask the way to Jerusalem and will start back home again.” – Jer. 50:4-5 NLT

4. Thank God for His love and His promises.

I prayed to the LORD my God and confessed: “O Lord, you are a great and awesome God! You always fulfill your covenant and keep your promises of unfailing love to those who love you and obey your commands.” – Dan. 9:4 NLT

5. Humbly confess my sins and ask for forgiveness.

“We have sinned, we have been evil, we have done wrong. We have rejected what you commanded us to do and have turned away from what you showed us was right. We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name.” – Dan. 9:5-6 GNT

***"We paid no attention to you when you told us how to live, the clear teachings that came through your servants the prophets.... We kept at our sinning, never giving you a second thought, oblivious to your clear warnings, and so you had no choice but to let the disaster loose on us in full force."** – Dan. 9:10, 13-14 MSG*

***"All the people in the neighboring countries look down on Jerusalem and on your people because of our sins and the evil our ancestors did.... Listen to us, O God; look at us and see the trouble we are in.... We are praying to you because you are merciful, not because we have done right."** – Dan. 9:16 &18 GNT*

GOD'S RESPONSE TO DANIEL:

***I continued to pray, confessing my sins and the sins of my people Israel.... While I was praying, the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the first vision, came to me about the time of the evening sacrifice. He was exhausted. He informed me, "Daniel, this time I have come to give you insight. As soon as you began to make your request, a reply was sent. I have come to give you the reply because you are highly respected."** – Dan. 9:20-23 GW*

GOD'S PROMISE TO HIS PEOPLE:

***"...if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land."** – 2 Chron. 7:14 NIV*