SSP Q4 James Rafferty

LESSON TITLE — THE GIFT OF PROPHECY —

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NO LESSON ONE

James Rafferty 2026 Q4 L2 Daniel, the Faithful Seer

Wednesday

October 7

Daniel, the Faithful Seer

Most Christians know the story of Daniel 1, in which he stood firm to the health principles that he had learned as a child. Daniel was a model of faithfulness *(Dan. 1:8)*. When presented with royal delicacies, he insisted on eating a plant-based diet and drinking only water instead of partaking of the diet offered him from the king's table *(Dan. 1:12-16)*. This was a small test in contrast to what would come later, such

as in Daniel 6, when his faithfulness could have easily meant death for him.

Read Daniel 2:46-48; Daniel 4:18; Daniel 5:13, 14; and Daniel 6:25-27. What do these verses tell us about the kind of witness Daniel was to the pagans around him?

DANIEL 2:48, 49 — EXPLAINS WHY DANIEL WAS NOT ON THE PLAIN OF DURA- HE WAS RULER NEXT TO NEBUCHADNEZZAR.

DANIEL 4:18 — SPIRIT OF GOD IS IN YOU

DANIEL 5:11, 14 - SPIRIT OF GOD IS IN YOU

DANIEL 6:3 — EXCELLENT SPIRIT THAT WAS IN HIM

REMEMBER - THIS IS WHAT THE SECULAR WORLD LEADERS ARE SAYING

THIS IS WHAT A HOLY SPIRIT FILLED PERSON LOOKS LIKE. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS THE FINAL OUTPOURING OF GODS SELFLESS HEART OF LOVE.

IN FACT, SOME PEOPLE TODAY TEACH THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NOT A PERSON.

LUCIFER HAD A SIMILAR IDEA ABOUT THE HUMBLE MEEK SON OF GOD IN HEAVEN. THINKING CHRIST WAS NOT GOD OR THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NOT GOD IS SATAN'S ATTEMPT TO TAKE AWAY THE PERSONALITY OF GOD IN THE PERSONS OF CHRIST AND THE HOLY SPIRIT. THE EVIDENCE HE USES IS THE VERY NATURE OF THE HOLY SPIRITS SELFLESS CHARACTER OF DIVINITY. THE HOLY SPIRIT IS SO SELF-EFFACING IN HIS FINAL MANIFESTATION OF GOD'S GLORIOUS CHARACTER THAT SOME PROFESSED CHRISTIANS BUY INTO SATAN'S DECEPTION THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT IS NOT IN REALITY A PERSON AT ALL, BUT SOME KIND OF SPIRITUAL ESSENCE OF GOD AND CHRIST. YET THOSE WHO KNOW WHAT THE BIBLE TEACHES RECOGNIZE IN THE SPIRIT THEIR CALLING. IT IS TO BE SO EMPTIED OF SELF THAT WE, IN THE WORDS OF JESUS, WE WILL NOT SPEAK OF OURSELVES OR GLORIFY OURSELVES.

"HOWBEIT WHEN HE, THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH, IS COME, HE WILL GUIDE YOU INTO ALL TRUTH: FOR HE SHALL NOT

SPEAK OF HIMSELF; BUT WHATSOEVER HE SHALL HEAR, THAT SHALL HE SPEAK: AND HE WILL SHEW YOU THINGS TO COME. HE SHALL GLORIFY ME: FOR HE SHALL RECEIVE OF MINE, AND SHALL SHEW IT UNTO YOU."
(JOHN 16:13-14 KJV)
JESUS CAME TO SPEAK OF THE FATHER. THE HOLY SPIRIT COMES TO SPEAK OF JESUS.

GOING BACK NOW TO THE PRAYER TIME THAT DANIEL CALLED WITH HIS THREE FRIENDS - PRAYER IS A VITAL COMPONENT OF THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE. IN PRAYER WE PETITION GOD FOR OUR EVERY WANT.
WHERE DID DANIEL GET THIS EXCELLENT OTHER CENTERED SPIRIT FROM?
DANIEL 2:17-24 - READ FROM BIBLE
PRAY AND PRAISE! THAT IS WHAT GODS PEOPLE NEED EVEN MORE THAT STUDY AND SERMONIZING.
AND WHAT WAS THE DIRECT RESULT OF DANIELS PRAYER AND PRAISE TIME WITH GOD.
DANIEL 25-28 - READ FROM BIBLE

BYPASSING HIMSELF AND GIVING GLORY TO GOD - NO ONE CAN REVEAL YOUR DREAM BUT THERE IS A GOD IN HEAVEN!

"WE ARE NOT WILLING ENOUGH TO TROUBLE THE LORD," QUOTING FROM THE SOP, "AND TO ASK HIM FOR THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. AND THE LORD WANTS US TO TROUBLE HIM IN THIS MATTER. HE WANTS US TO PRESS OUR PETITIONS TO THE THRONE. THE MOST VALUABLE EDUCATION THAT CAN BE OBTAINED WILL BE FOUND IN GOING OUT WITH THE MESSAGE OF TRUTH TO THE PLACES THAT ARE IN DARKNESS, JUST AS THE FIRST DISCIPLES WENT OUT IN OBEDIENCE TO THE COMMISSION OF CHRIST. (LLM 408.1).

FOR DANIEL IT WAS CAPTIVE EVANGELISM THAT TOOK HIM TO THE PLACES OF DARKNESS, LITERAL BABYLON, IN OBEDIENCE TO AN OT COMMISSION OF CHRIST (JEREMIAH).

Look at the testimony from these pagans to the power of Daniel's God. However unique these stories, they all reveal a crucial principle: by our lives, by our faithfulness, and by the power of God working in and through us, others can and should learn about the God of heaven, and that He is "a God of gods, and a Lord of kings."

Also, because the recurring theme of Daniel's prophecies is judgment, culminating in Christ's second coming (God's ultimate victory), the meaning of Daniel's name, "God is my judge," is quite appropriate. His writings deserve careful study and attention as they are relevant today. Daniel's prophecies serve as a reminder always to remain vigilant and keep God's commandments, even in the "little" things of life.

Also, as a prophet, Daniel foretold the rise and fall of nations and the consequences of

their disobedience to God. Through his prophetic visions, Daniel revealed God's plan and the ultimate victory of God's kingdom *(Dan. 7:13, 14)*.

Think, for example, about Daniel 2, written half a millennium before Christ. Daniel so accurately depicted the rise and fall of these four great world empires, even coming up to our time (that of the feet and the toes of the statue), clearly referring to nations of modern Europe, which, as the prophecy so clearly teaches, "shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay" *(Dan. 2:43)*. What an amazing prediction about Europe, even to this day, in which, despite intermarriage and all attempts at unity, the continent would remain as separate nations with separate laws, customs, and traditions. When even a few years before the fall of the Soviet

Union, no intelligence agency saw that fall coming, Daniel's prediction gives us powerful reasons to trust God's prophets.

All the kingdoms in Daniel 2 came and went as predicted. What should this tell us about trusting the prophecy, which talks about God's eternal kingdom coming next *(Dan. 2:44)*