

18. What is the sin mentioned in *1 Samuel 12:23*? Why is this a sin?

**Reflection Questions:** Do I make the time to spend with God in His Word and in prayer? How does the reading of God's Word shape my prayers? Am I as committed to prayer as Daniel? How can I make sure I pray more this year than last year? How can I improve my prayer habits?

How can we pray for one another this week?

#### Quotes to Ponder

*These verses show Daniel as a diligent student of Scripture who built his prayer life on the Word of God.*

Gleason Archer

*It is grand praying when our mouth is full of God's Word, for there is no word that can prevail with Him like His own.*

*Prayer is like the homing pigeon. It begins in the heart of God. It is sent out and it lands in the heart of God's people who then send it back to the heart of God.*

*Do not, I pray for you, get into the habit of neglecting the assembling of yourselves together for prayer. How often have I said, "All our strength lies in prayer!"*

Charles Spurgeon

*Nothing, therefore, can be better for us, than to ask for what He has promised.*

John Calvin

*What an individual is in secret on his knees before God, that he is. No more, no less.*

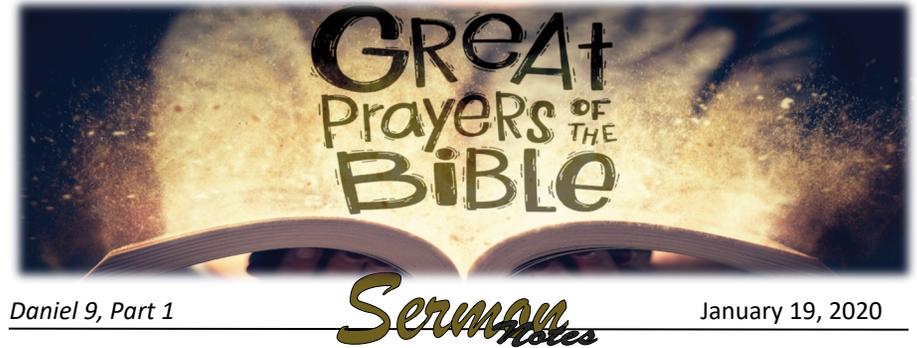
John Owen

*Prayer is an expression of what we know of God and ourselves.*

Sinclair Ferguson

*Prayer finds its foundation in the purposes of God. Prayer is when you align your heart to God's purposes.*

John MacArthur



1. What in the text/sermon impacted you most? Encouraged you? Convinced you? Challenged you? Confused you?
2. What prompted Daniel's prayer in *Daniel 9:4-19*?
3. Read *Jeremiah 25:11-12* and *Jeremiah 29:10-14*. What did Daniel learn from reading Jeremiah?
4. What does *Deuteronomy 30:1-4* tell us?
5. How long has Daniel been in captivity at this point?
6. What does Daniel immediately do after reading in Jeremiah? Why?
7. What do we learn of Daniel's attitude in *Daniel 9:2-4*?
8. What is the significance of Daniel's *fasting, sackcloth and ashes* (*Daniel 9:3*)?
9. What does the majority of Daniel's prayer consist of? Why?
10. Read *Daniel 6*. What was the plot against Daniel?

How did Daniel respond to his enemies' plan to destroy him?

What do you think Daniel included in his prayers (*Daniel 6:10*)?

How was Daniel vindicated? How did God receive glory?

11. What strikes you about Daniel's habit of prayer? Why was he so committed to prayer?
12. How can the reading of God's Word improve and broaden our prayer life?
13. How can we pray according to God's will?
14. How does Daniel begin his prayer (*Daniel 9:4*)?
15. What is the evidence in our lives proving that we believe in the power of prayer?
16. If God is sovereign, why should we pray? If God has everything planned out ahead of time and knows already what He will do tomorrow, what is the point of our praying? Since the outcome has already been determined by God, why waste our time and breath praying?
17. What does Jesus say in *Revelation 22:20*?

What does John immediately pray? Why?