INTRODUCTION:

Chapter 10:1-9 1Another vision is given to Daniel, shortly before his death (10:1). This vision took place during “The third year of Cyrus king of Persia.” It seems that Daniel was now around eighty years of age and had retired from public service. Prior to this vision, Cyrus allowed the Jews to return to Jerusalem, but Daniel stayed in Babylon. He may have been too old to make the long, hazardous journey or his government duties could have caused him to stay behind.

Daniel had been fasting and praying for three weeks concerning his people’s destiny (10:2-3). At the end of this three week period when he was standing by the Hiddekel (Tigris) River an angel from heaven appeared unto him (10:4-6). Evidently his companions who were with him did not see the angel, but feeling a supernatural presence was near, they became frightened and fled away (10:7).

When the vision ended, Daniel was alone and felt weak (10:8). The glorious messenger he had seen in the vision then spoke to Daniel. "I heard the voice of his words", (10:9), must refer back to the figure in 10:5-6. It is evident that Daniel was broken and crushed on behalf of his people.

LESSON:  I. AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE DANIEL 10:10-15

10:10 And, behold, an hand touched me, which set me upon my knees and upon the palms of my hands.

In this vision Daniel had fallen to the ground in a deep sleep on his face, and the messenger spoke to him (10:9), and a hand touched Daniel which lifted him still trembling to his knees and the palms of his hands.

10:11 And he said unto me, O Daniel, a man greatly beloved, understand the words that I speak unto thee, and stand upright: for unto thee am I now sent. And when he had spoken this word unto me, I stood trembling. And the messenger begins to speak, telling Daniel that he’s a man greatly loved. So he is to listen carefully to the words this messenger is about to speak to him. Daniel is to stand upright for he’s is looking now at the one being sent unto him by God. After the messenger speaks Daniel stood still trembling.

10:12 Then said he unto me, Fear not, Daniel: for from the first day that thou didst set thine heart to understand, and to chasten thyself before thy God, thy words were heard, and I am come for thy words. The messenger had been sent to Daniel three weeks earlier on the first day Daniel began to pray, mourn, and fast. However, this is the appointed time that he was able to come for Daniel’s words. The messenger knew there was fear upon seeing the messenger, so he spoke “fear not” to calm his fears. Daniel was a praying man and his words were heard by God upon first praying, but the messenger had now had a chance to come because of Daniel’s words prayed.

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1 http://www.family-times.net/commentary/daniels-terrifying-vision-of-a-man/
http://www.pitwm.net/pitwm-sunday-school.html
10:13 But the prince of the kingdom of Persia withstood me one and twenty days: but, lo, Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me; and I remained there with the kings of Persia. The reason for the messenger's appearance now was because Michael one of the chief princes (the Archangel) came to help him battle the kings of Persia who had detained him from getting to Daniel. The enemy didn't want the messenger to give the Word of God to Daniel; he didn't want his prayers answered. There is a spiritual warfare going on of which we on earth know very little of, and a small glimpse is afforded us in this chapter.

10:14 Now I am come to make thee understand what shall befall thy people in the latter days: for yet the vision is for many days. The vision is regarding days yet to come. It is about his people, Israel in the latter days.

10:15 And when he had spoken such words unto me, I set my face toward the ground, and I became dumb. After hearing such profound words, Daniel was overwhelmed and faced the ground, unable to speak a word.

II. AN UNLIKELY INTERACTION  DANIEL 10:16-19

10:16 And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength. Daniel was so overwhelmed by the vision that he was unable to speak, but the one who looked like a man (like the sons of men) touched his lips allowing him to open his mouth and speak again, but he retained no physical strength. “By the vision my sorrows” meant the dream had given him great pain, as pains of labor would come upon a woman.

10:17 For how can the servant of this my lord talk with this my lord? for as for me, straightway there remained no strength in me, neither is there breath left in me. It's like saying how can Daniel, a servant of God speak with a majestic God in the condition he's in—no strength and no breath left. How can he even know what to say in this position?

10:18 Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,—A second time, one who looks like a man came and touched Daniel again, and then he felt his strength return—he was reawaken and refreshed.

10:19 And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me. As the one who looked like a man continued to touch Daniel's lips, he was told not to be afraid, but be strong (saying be strong twice). Then Daniel was strengthened, and now was able to receive what was being said to him because he was strengthened.

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10:20 Then said he, Knowest thou wherefore I come unto thee? and now will I return to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia shall come. The messenger asked Daniel if he knew why the messenger had come to him. But now, he has to return to fight with the
10:21 But I will shew thee that which is noted in the scripture of truth: and [there is] none that holdeth with me in these things, but Michael your prince. The messenger came to tell the truth of what was written in the Scripture, and in all this, there is none who contends by his side against these except Michael, the Archangel who looks after Israel.

SUMMARY:

A hand touched Daniel which lifted him still trembling to his knees and the palms of his hands. The messenger begins to speak, telling Daniel that he's a man greatly loved, listen carefully to the words spoken, and stand upright, for the messenger is sent by God to him. Afterwards, Daniel stood still trembling. Don't fear says the messenger because from the first day God heard his prayer; since he became humble and had a heart to understand, chastening himself before God. Now, the messenger had a chance to come because of the words Daniel prayed, but there was interference from the prince of Persia. But Michael, the Archangel was the one who help him battle the prince of Persia who had detained him from getting to Daniel. The enemy didn't want the messenger to give the Word of God to Daniel; he didn't want his prayers answered. Now, the messenger comes to explain the dream about the future. After hearing such profound words, Daniel was overwhelmed and faced the ground, unable to speak a word (10:10-15).

The one who looked like a man (like the sons of men) touched Daniel's lips, allowing him to open his mouth and speak again, but he retained no physical strength. He began to say that the dream had given him great pain, as pains of labor would come upon a woman. The pain was so great upon him that he remained without strength, and could hardly breathe. A second time, the one who looks like a man, came and touched Daniel again, and then he felt his strength return. Daniel was told not to be afraid, but be strong, and then Daniel was strengthened, and now was able to receive what was being said to him, because he was strengthened. The messenger asked Daniel if he knew why he, the messenger had come to him. And now, he has to return to fight with the prince of Persia, and then the prince of Greece will come to fight. There is still warfare going on. He came to tell the truth of what was written in the Scripture. The only one to help was Michael the Archangel who looks after Israel (10:16-19).

The messenger asked Daniel if he knew why the messenger had come to him. But now, he has to return to fight with the prince of Persia, and when he's done, the prince of Greece will come. There is still warfare going on. The messenger came to tell the truth of what was written in the Scripture, and in all this, there is none who contends by his side against these except Michael, the Archangel who looks after Israel (10:20-21).