



21 DAYS OF PRAYER

08

DAY 08

JANUARY 16, 2023

Michael Piett

KEY SCRIPTURES

Daniel 9:2–6

Daniel's Prayer for His people

What difference can I make?

We often ask the question what difference can I make? Let's face it, if the whole country is heading in one direction, what can I possibly do to change that? There is only one of me! Other times, we reason and rightfully so, it is not in my control. There is nothing in my power to change this. It is easier to give up before we start anything that may fail. And what if the issue has been that way for so long that no one would ever expect it to change. Why bother? What difference can I make.

Around 606 B.C., Daniel could have easily fallen into that trap. Daniel was from Jerusalem and it was besieged by the king of Babylon who destroyed it. Some people that were captive were led back to Babylon approximately 2,700 km away to serve in the king's court. Imagine having your homeland ruined and forced to live in a foreign land where not only you were an outsider, but in reality a slave with no future. What difference could he make?

²In the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, understood from the Scriptures, according to the word of the Lord given to Jeremiah the prophet, that the desolation of Jerusalem would last seventy years. ³So I turned to the Lord God and pleaded with him in prayer and petition, in fasting, and in sackcloth and ashes. ⁴I prayed to the Lord my God and confessed: "Lord, the great and awesome God, who keeps his covenant of love with those who love him and keep his commandments, ⁵we have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws. ⁶We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land. (Daniel 9:2-6 NIV)

Daniel chose to seek God and pray on behalf of his country.

