

Title: Messenger - Daniel 9 20-27

Read:

²⁰⁻²¹ "While I was pouring out my heart, baring my sins and the sins of my people Israel, praying my life out before my God, interceding for the holy mountain of my God—while I was absorbed in this praying, the humanlike Gabriel, the one I had seen in an earlier vision, approached me, flying in like a bird about the time of evening worship. ²²⁻²³ "He stood before me and said, 'Daniel, I have come to make things plain to you. You had no sooner started your prayer when the answer was given. And now I'm here to deliver the answer to you. You are much loved! So listen carefully to the answer, the plain meaning of what is revealed: ²⁴ "Seventy sevens are set for your people and for your holy city to throttle rebellion, stop sin, wipe out crime, set things right forever, confirm what the prophet saw, and anoint The Holy of Holies. ²⁵⁻²⁶ "Here is what you must understand: From the time the word goes out to rebuild Jerusalem until the coming of the Anointed Leader, there will be seven sevens. The rebuilding will take sixty-two sevens, including building streets and digging a moat. Those will be rough times. After the sixty-two sevens, the Anointed Leader will be killed—the end of him. The city and Sanctuary will be laid in ruins by the army of the newly arriving leader. The end will come in a rush, like a flood. War will rage right up to the end, desolation the order of the day. ²⁷ "Then for one seven, he will forge many and strong alliances, but halfway through the seven he will banish worship and prayers. At the place of worship, a desecrating obscenity will be set up and remain until finally the desecrator himself is decisively destroyed."

Think:

So God has answered Daniels prayers by sending him a messenger in the form of the angel Gabriel. How does God answer your prayers? Who does God send as a messenger to you? Could God use your mate, your parents or even your teachers? Oh that's a scary thought isn't it? Imagine if God used your teacher or college lecturer to send you a message. Would you be listening enough to hear it? If God used that guy who winds you up at school or college, would you take the time with that person to hear Gods voice? I hate to think of the number of time I have missed Gods voice because I have been in a rush or just wanted to ignore someone, how about you? Often when we are in that moment of asking God for help we expect an answer straight away, this very minute. I don't know about you, but I don't often remember that God may choose to answer me later that day, week, month or even year. Another scary thoughts is that God might use us as an answer to someone else prayers. Either way it seems to me that we should be looking for God in all parts of our life, not just when we are praying to him or reading his Bible.

Pray:

Lord I know you are able to use many different things to speak to me. Father please help me see the message when you do speak to me. Amen.

Action:

You can help answer our prayers. We pray that Aftershock helps spread the great news about Jesus. Why not tell someone today about the website [aftershock.org.uk](http://www.aftershock.org.uk). Bye