> I ate no choice food; no meat or wine touched my lips; and I used no lotions at all until the three weeks were over.
> *— Daniel 10:3*

Book: Old Testament / Daniel
Topics: fasting, food, wine

Interpretation:
The Book of Daniel is part of the Old Testament and is considered one of the most important texts in Jewish and Christian literature. In this context, verse 10:3 is particularly significant, as it reflects the prophet *Daniel's* attitude toward a difficult situation and fasting.

This verse is part of the story of Daniel's heavenly visitation, during which he receives a series of divine messages. Daniel's fast lasts three weeks, during which he abstains from delicacies, meat, wine, and even incense. It is a common practice in Jewish culture, abstaining from certain pleasures in order to achieve a deeper connection with God.

Why did Daniel fast for three weeks?

According to the biblical narrative, Daniel spent approximately three years in exile in Babylon. In chapter 10 of the Book of Daniel, the prophet prays to God, asking Him to grant him greater wisdom and understanding of His plans for his people. Although God answers immediately, Daniel decides to fast for three weeks to fulfill God's will and prepare for His messages.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Many will be purified, made spotless and refined, but the wicked will continue to be wicked. None of the wicked will understand, but those who are wise will understand.

> — *Daniel 12:10*

Book: Old Testament / Daniel
Topics: purification, sin, understanding, wisdom, end times

Interpretation:
The Book of Daniel describes the prophet's visions of the end times and the coming judgments. This verse speaks of the purification and regeneration of many, while the wicked continue their sinful ways. Although this thought may be confusing, we can learn much from it and apply it to our daily lives.

Purification and regeneration

Daniel 12:10 speaks of the purification and regeneration of many, suggesting that a time will come when many will abandon their wicked ways and draw closer to God. This can be interpreted not only as physical purification but also as spiritual—that is, the removal of everything that distances us from God and drawing closer to Him. Purification implies the elimination of all harmful habits, thoughts, and actions.

Purification and regeneration can be seen as the process of sanctification, in which *the Holy Spirit* works in us, making us more like *Christ*. This doesn't happen overnight, but is an ongoing process that must be developed day by day. As we progress along the path of faith, it's important to reflect on our actions and take steps to correct anything that distances us from God.

The wicked will continue to sin

This same verse speaks of the wicked who will continue in their sinful path. While it may be tempting to judge others and blame those who don't follow God's word, it's important to remember that we are all sinners and in need of God's grace. We can learn to pray for those who don't yet know the truth and set a good example for them through our actions.

Understanding only for some

This verse also says that only the wise will understand. This can be understood in two ways: on the one hand, those who are committed to their faith and sincerely seek to understand *God's Word* will be able to do so. On the other hand, it can also indicate that only those who have been granted divine understanding will be able to comprehend God's plan.

This can serve as a reminder for all of us not to rely on our own wisdom and understanding, but to strive for constant dialogue with God through prayer and meditation on His Word. We must be open to receiving divine discernment, which can only come from God's wisdom.

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> He reveals deep and hidden things; he knows what lies in darkness, and light dwells with him.
>
> *— Daniel 2:22*

Book: Old Testament / Daniel
Topics: Almighty, evil, God, Light, sin

Interpretation:
The Bible verse *Daniel 2:22* speaks of God's ability to reveal the deep and hidden in our lives. God is directly connected to everything around us, including our deepest emotions and feelings. *He is our Creator*, so He is able to reveal to us what troubles us, even when it seems hidden in the deepest mystery.

Divine wisdom

Divine wisdom is infinitely rich and always generous, helping us make wise and just decisions. His divine revelation manifests itself in various aspects of our lives, inspiring us to move forward. In this sense, we must always trust God; He is our primary guide.

Reflection and application in everyday life

Often we find ourselves in situations where we cannot understand what is happening. These are times of uncertainty and anguish. It may seem as if everything is in darkness, as if there is no solution. However, our faith in God tells us that we are not alone. He is always near, like a light that illuminates our lives and dispels the darkness.

Many cultures say that even if a door is closed, God always opens a window. This means that even if we don't see a solution, there is always a way out, a new opportunity to recover and move forward. God shows us the light, guiding us to the truth, to what brings us peace and happiness.

God has shown us His ability to reveal what is hidden in our lives. When we are in darkness, He is our light, our guide, and our protector. He is always with us, in every moment of our lives; all we need to do is trust Him.

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> I thank and praise you, God of my ancestors: You have given me wisdom and power, you have made known to me what we asked of you, you have made known to us the dream of the king.
>
> *— Daniel 2:23*

Book: Old Testament / Daniel
Topics: praise, Prayer, wisdom, worship

Interpretation:
The Book *of Daniel* is found in the "Scriptures" section of the Old Testament. Chapter two describes a dream that the Babylonian king *Nebuchadnezzar* had, leaving him troubled. However, he could not remember either the dream itself or its interpretation. The king summoned all the wise men and soothsayers in his kingdom to decipher the meaning of the dream, but none could. Daniel, a Jew exiled to Babylon, volunteered to unravel the mystery.

Daniel thanks God

Verse 23 is part of the prayer Daniel offered to God after the Lord revealed the meaning of the dream to the king. In this prayer, Daniel thanks God for His wisdom and power, as well as for allowing him to learn about the king's affairs. This verse shows us Daniel's gratitude and humility before God for all He has done for him.

The importance of wisdom and strength

Wisdom and strength are two qualities often mentioned together in the Bible. Wisdom refers to understanding and knowledge gained through experience and reflection, while strength refers to the ability to take bold and righteous actions and make decisions. Both qualities are essential for success in life and pleasing God.

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> Now I, Nebuchadnezzar, praise and exalt and glorify the King of heaven, because everything he does is right and all his ways are just. And those who walk in pride he is able to humble.
>
> — *Daniel 4:37*

Book: Old Testament / Daniel
Topics: humility, pride, righteousness, worship

Interpretation:
The Book of Daniel tells the story of a faithful man in the midst of a hostile environment. *Daniel* is taken captive to Babylon along with his friends *Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego*. There they must face a society that does not recognize the Lord as God. In chapter four, *King Nebuchadnezzar* has a disturbing dream, and he asks Daniel to interpret it.

In the dream, Nebuchadnezzar saw a giant tree that grew and spread across the land, providing shade for many people and a source of food for all species. However, an angel cuts down the tree, leaving it bare of leaves and branches, and the animals flee. The angel then turns his attention to the king, who transforms himself into an animal and lives among the animals for a time.

Daniel interprets the dream, saying that the tree symbolizes Nebuchadnezzar himself, who exalted himself, forgetting that everything he has is because of God. Furthermore, he declares that God will temporarily take away his kingdom so that he can learn to live humbly.

After a while, the prophecy is fulfilled and the king falls into madness and lives like an animal. But eventually, Nebuchadnezzar acknowledges the God of Daniel's people as the King of heaven and praises him in *verse 37*, which we are analyzing.

Everything He does is right and all His ways are just

Nebuchadnezzar praises the *King of heaven* because he finally realizes that all His works are true and just. This statement shows that even though the king rebelled against the God of Israel, he recognizes that there is a supreme personality who controls everything that happens in the world.

Moreover, this statement acknowledges the sovereignty of God and places everything under His control. Even though circumstances may sometimes seem negative and unfair, we can trust that God is in control and that His works are true and His ways are just.

Humility is the Key

This verse also teaches us the importance of living humbly. Nebuchadnezzar was a powerful king who was proud of his accomplishments, but eventually he realized his mistake and humbled himself before God.

Humility is a very important virtue in the Christian life. It helps us realize our dependence and our need for God. Living a humble life does not mean that we have no goals or that we do not strive to be better. It means recognizing that everything we have and who we are is due to God, and that His will must always be our guide.

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> We have sinned and done wrong. We have been wicked and have rebelled; we have turned away from your commands and laws.
>
> *— Daniel 9:5*

Book: Old Testament / Daniel
Topics: confession, law, sin

Interpretation:
Daniel 9:5 may seem like a simple confession of sin. But it is actually an important statement about the nature of man and his relationship with God.

Sin as a betrayal of God

In this verse, *Daniel* begins by implying that man has sinned, committed iniquity, acted wickedly, rebelled, and departed from God's commandments. It is important to note the use of the plural "have" in all of these statements. This implies that Daniel is not alone in his confession. He speaks on behalf of the people of Israel as a whole and, by extension, of all humanity.

Sin is seen here as a betrayal of God. Deviation from God's ways is alienation from the very source of life and truth. Sin is not only a betrayal of God, but also a betrayal of ourselves. By departing from God, we lose our purpose and our identity.

The importance of confessing sins

While acknowledging our mistakes and confessing our sins can be difficult, it is an essential part of our relationship with God. Confessing our sins helps us recognize our need for God and seek His forgiveness and grace. Only when we are able to acknowledge our sin can we receive forgiveness and healing.

Confessing our sins also helps us recognize our need for others. By confessing our sins, we realize that we cannot do everything ourselves. We need the help and support of others, especially those who share our faith and can help us grow spiritually.

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