Daniel 11:1

This remarkable chapter has been greatly challenged for its **PROPHETIC DECLARATIONS** that had not occurred before Daniel wrote it, but were fulfilled before Christ came. Daniel wrote chapters 10 and 11 and 12 in 539 bc and **THEIR FULFILLMENT** will be in the second century bc.

Verse 1 is a remarkable verse in **what it teaches us about**

ANGELS. I don't know if you have ever thought about **ANGELS** fighting <u>One Another</u> but they also helped <u>One Another</u>.

Daniel 11:1

¹ "In the first year of Darius the Mede, (539 BC) I arose to be an

Encouragement and a Protection for him.

/ arose (Hebrew is to rise up to battle;) /
 stood up to fight (what the angel Gabriel
 is saying to Daniel is that in the first
 year of Darius the Mede, I stood up to
 fight. And who was he fighting?
 Chapter 10 told us- the demonic prince
 over Persia)

| arose (also seems to imply he made a

VOLITIONAL DECISION TO STAND UP AND FIGHT) I arose-took my stand to fight;

(NOW I WANT YOU TO NOTE CAREFULLY THE NEXT

TWO WORDS) to be an Encouragement and Protection for him.

THIS REFERS BACK TO MICHAEL (GABRIEL WAS AN <u>ENCOURAGEMENT PROTECTION</u> FOR MICHAEL)

Look back at Daniel 6:22

My God sent His angel and shut the lions mouths and they have not harmed me (which ANGEL? MICHAEL -PRINCE OF YOUR PEOPLE... GOD SENT MICHAEL AS GUARD OVER ISRAEL) Daniel 12:1

Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people (THE JEWS.. ISRAEL)

As a result of Michael saving Daniel from the lions mouths Darius was converted to the God of Israel...you will meet Darius in Eternity-Future and then Darius sent forth an edict to his entire empire a track on his conversion. So it is easy to understand how Gabriel and Michael fought against the demons to protect Persia; and Persia became positive to Israel. All through the history of Israel you can see the angels protecting Israel. When Israel went against God, this protection was temporality withdrawn. When the demonic forces move into Egypt, Assyria, Babylon and now Media-Persia, they are opposed by angels guarding Israel.

As you study history you can see these Angelic beings protecting Israel. And while many nations in the Middle East have openly declared in the United Nations meetings that Israel has no future<u>, we know from the</u> <u>Word of God</u> that these people will go down in history and that Israel has a great future and one of the reasons for this future is the fact of guardian Angels guarding Israel.

However, what is important for us is these two things

Angels are to Encourage and Protect One Another;

Angels fight with One Another;

Saved angels against unsaved: +R (perfect Righteousness) Angels against unRighteousness.

Angels Encourage and Protect One Another.

And very important: <u>Angels are fighting over human beings</u>; they are fighting over creatures, created inferior to themselves!

Daniel 11:1

¹...to be an Encouragement and a Protection for him.

Encourage Hiphil perfect of the Hebrew word meaning to be strong, to strengthen, to be courageous – **Gabriel was caused to Encourage Michael**!

Can you believe this? Angels Encourage **One Another**

Angels are to Encourage One Another, but you know what?

So are we!

Angels Protect One Another:

In the Hebrew basically means a refuge, a fortress, a shelter. To show you the difficulty we have here in "verse 1" look down at "verse 7" where the same Hebrew word is translated **fortress**,

⁷ ... and enter the fortress of the king.

But here it is translated **Protection**

KJ **strengthened** (but nowhere else translated to strengthen)

NET to provide protection for him

NIV protect

See if we can get an idea of what Gabriel did for Michael; Remember that Michael is in the middle of hand to hand combat against demonic angels-princes of Persia- and Gabriel comes into the battle in a most determined position-that of Protecting Michael, it looks like Michael is being severely pressured by these demons and Gabriel steps in so as to protect Michael.

This would be different had the text read that Gabriel came and fought the princes of Persia. In this case he is concentrating on the enemy, while our word emphasizes that Gabriel is concentrating on Michael, on Protecting one of his own.

We are going to come to a summary of this for believers in the Church Age... but <u>the point not to be missed here is</u> that sometimes you have to fight in the Spiritual Warfare for yourself, but **there will be times when you have to come to the aid of a fellow believer, and Protect them.** To Protect another is an action of considerable importance in a battle. Angels, believers may defend One Another...; but **to Protect** gives an idea of being a in *better* position.

Galatians 6:1

... you who are spiritual (NOT IN SIN, BUT IN THE HOLY SPIRIT AND, THEREFORE, STRONGER.)

Michael has been fighting for some time... and now comes Gabriel, healthy, and he immediately realizes that Michael needs protection.

And something else this Hebrew word tells us:

Gabriel protects Michael from what may happen if Michael fails.

Unfortunately, too few Christians "care" about another believer failing, in fact they are quick to judge, even quicker to stomp on them, While the Word of God encourages us to actually protect One Another. To care so much that you are quick to come to Encourage another believer and Protect them from failure.

Galatians 6:1...

¹ Brethren, even if anyone is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; each one looking to yourself, so that you too will not be tempted.

(Because it is public knowledge I will use this as an illustration.... a man followed Jimmy Swaggart to catch him in sin, so he could bring Swaggart down while bolstering himself, instead of going to Swaggart and try to **Protect** him and **Encourage** him to get control of a sin pattern).

Many Christians are unlike angels, they prefer to shoot each other

than to **Encourage** and **Protect**.

Something else about Galatians 6:1

When you seek to protect or restore someone, you must be in a strong position yourself. (note again Galatians 6:1 *you who are spiritual restore*...it requires a strong believe; a spiritual believer; to Protect or Restore another believer)

'TO DEFEND' someone concentrates on the evil, on the enemy, even on the conflict itself, while

'TO PROTECT' concentrates on the other person.

To illustrate, let us look at two different prayers: **"Father help me in this battle, in this tribulation"**

<vs>

"Father protect me from the evil one"

In the Lord's Prayer in John 17:15 where Jesus Christ in addressing God the Father / do not ask thee to take them out of the world, but to keep them from the evil one" where He could have said <u>"protect them from the evil</u> <u>one"</u>. Daniel 11:1

I took my stand to be an Encouragement and a Protection for him.

We, (*believers on earth in the Church age*) are to **Encourage** One Another in the Spiritual Warfare that we are in.

Most believers prefer to

judge **One Another**

malign *One Another*

criticize One Another

be jealous of **One Another**

bite *One Another*

devour **One Another**

But the Word of God (God) exhorts us to ENCOURAGE One Another.

Acts 14:21-22 ²¹ After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, ²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

1 Thessalonians 3:2-8

² and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you as to your faith,

³ so that no one would be disturbed by these afflictions; for you yourselves know that we have been destined for this.

⁴ For indeed when we were with you, we kept telling you in advance that we were going to suffer affliction; and so it came to pass, as you know. ⁵ For this reason, when I could endure it no longer, I also sent to find out about your faith, for fear that the tempter might have tempted you, and our labor would be in vain.

⁶ But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us good news of your faith and love, and that you always think kindly of us, longing to see us just as we also long to see you,

⁷ for this reason, brethren, in all our distress and affliction we were comforted about you through your faith;

⁸ for now we really live, if you stand firm in the Lord.

You must always remember we are in a Spiritual Warfare! Invisible? ... yes,

But, nonetheless, a Warfare!

Every believer in your life, in your family, in the Local Church, your friends, and those that perhaps you may not like, but they are fellow believers **"fellow partakers"** (Revelation 1:9) in an Invisible Spiritual Warfare!

⁹ I, John, your brother and fellow partaker in the tribulation and kingdom and perseverance which are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

And while many cannot see this warfare those of you who know about this warfare are to **ENCOURAGE AND PROTECT ONE ANOTHER.**

TO ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER

¹ Thessalonians 1:3-4 ³ constantly bearing in mind your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ in the presence of our God and Father,

⁴ knowing, brethren beloved by God, His choice of you; 1 Corinthians 4:17-18

¹⁷ For this reason I have sent to you Timothy, who is my beloved and faithful child in the Lord, and he will remind you of my ways which are in Christ, just as I teach everywhere in every church.

¹⁸ Now some have become arrogant, as though I were not coming to you.

Hebrews 10:32-39 ³² But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings,

³³ partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated.

³⁴ For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one.

³⁵ Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward.

³⁶ For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.

³⁷ FOR YET IN A VERY LITTLE WHILE, HE WHO IS COMING WILL COME, AND WILL NOT DELAY.

³⁸ BUT MY RIGHTEOUS ONE SHALL LIVE BY FAITH; AND IF HE SHRINKS BACK, MY SOUL HAS NO PLEASURE IN HIM.

³⁹ But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

THE QUESTION ARISES:

HOW?

How do we Encourage and Protect One Another?

Galatians 6:2 ² Bear one another's burdens, and thereby fulfill the law of Christ.

We encourage *One Another* by sharing the powerful **Word of God** with them. When they are in a tribulation—we come along their side to Protect them.

Warning:

Not All Believers Can Be Encouraged or Protected

They simply <u>do not want</u> to be Encouraged, they enjoy their misery, <u>they wallow in their self-pity</u>. And all you can do is to move on and stay in prayer for them and be ready to come to their side when they are ready.

Daniel 11:1 and in the first year of Darius the Mede, I, (GABRIEL) took my stand (A DELIBERATE VOLITIONAL STAND IN COMBAT) to be an Encouragement and Protection for him (MICHAEL.) Michael is fighting against the Princes—(demons over Persia) to keep Daniel from receiving from God, this final vision.
Michael is the great prince who stands guard over all Israel throughout all history

Daniel 12:1

¹ "Now at that time Michael, the great prince who stands guard over the sons of your people, will arise. And there will be a time of distress such as never occurred since there was a nation until that time; and at that time your people, everyone who is found written in the book, will be rescued.

We'll continue next week with HISTORICAL INFORMATION.