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<sup>1</sup> In the third year of the reign of Cyrus, king of Persia, Daniel (also called Belteshazzar) had another vision. It concerned events certain to happen in the future: times of great tribulation—wars and sorrows, and this time he understood what the vision meant. <sup>2</sup> When this vision came to me [Daniel said later], I had been in mourning for three full weeks. <sup>3</sup> All that time I tasted neither wine nor meat, and, of course, I went without desserts. I neither washed nor shaved nor combed my hair.

**Daniel 10:1-3 (TLB)**

<sup>5</sup> I looked up and saw a man dressed in linen clothing, with a belt of pure gold around his waist. <sup>6</sup> His body looked like a precious gem. His face flashed like lightning, and his eyes flamed like torches. His arms and feet shone like polished bronze, and his voice roared like a vast multitude of people. <sup>7</sup> Only I, Daniel, saw this vision. The men with me saw nothing, but they were suddenly terrified and ran away to hide. <sup>8</sup> So I was left there all alone to see this amazing vision. My strength left me, my face grew deathly pale, and I felt very weak. <sup>9</sup> Then I heard the man speak, and when I heard the sound of his voice, I fainted and lay there with my face to the ground.

**Daniel 10:5-9 (NLT)**

### Three Things to Remember When Standing In Faith

1. God \_\_\_\_\_ About you more than you do.

<sup>10</sup> Just then a hand touched me and lifted me, still trembling, to my hands and knees. <sup>11</sup> And the man said to me, “Daniel, you are very \_\_\_\_\_ to God, so listen carefully

to what I have to say to you. Stand up, for I have been sent to you.” When he said this to me, I stood up, still trembling.

**Daniel 10:10-11 (NLT)**

You are the beloved daughters and sons of God.

Give all your worries and cares to God, for he cares about you. **1 Peter 5:7 (NLT)**

“First of all, you have to keep unmasking the world about you for what it is: manipulative, controlling, power-hungry, and, in the long run, destructive. The world tells you many lies about who you are, and you simply have to be realistic enough to remind yourself of this. Every time you feel hurt, offended, or rejected, you have to dare to say to yourself: ‘These feelings, strong as they may be, are not telling me the truth about myself. The truth, even though I cannot feel it right now, is that I am the chosen child of God, precious in God’s eyes, called the Beloved from all eternity, and held safe in an everlasting belief.’” — Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World*

2. God is doing more than you \_\_\_\_\_

<sup>12</sup> Then he said, “Don’t be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day you began to pray for understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your request has been heard in heaven. I have come in answer to your prayer. <sup>13</sup> But for twenty-one days the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia blocked my way. Then Michael, one of the archangels, came to help me, and I left him there with the spirit prince of the kingdom of Persia. **Daniel 10:12-13 (NLT)**

So, how does Scripture function in the Christian life? It invites us into God’s story, to see ourselves and our own lives as the story of the people of God. My story, our story is God’s story!

3. God's strength is made \_\_\_\_\_ in your  
\_\_\_\_\_.

<sup>17</sup> How can someone like me, your servant, talk to you, my lord? My strength is gone, and I can hardly breathe.” <sup>18</sup>  
Then the one who looked like a man touched me again, and I felt my strength returning.       **Daniel 10:17-18 (NLT)**

<sup>9</sup> And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. <sup>10</sup> Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then I am strong.       **2 Corinthians 12:9-10 (KJV)**

God is my strength and power: and he makes my way perfect.       **2 Samuel 22:33 (NKJV)**

He promised Grace wherein He would never leave us or forsake us in our time of need. We are called in weakness and are moved to lean daily, hourly, even second by second, upon God and Savior for strength.

**My next step today is to...**

- Embrace the fact that I am God's son/daughter and I am precious to Him.
- Rely on God's strength, when I feel weak, and not my own. Praying more, complaining less during life's trials because I acknowledge that God works in ways I cannot understand.
- Memorize and/or meditate on 1 Peter 5:7
- Turn my life over to God, asking His forgiveness, and become His Beloved.