

Daniel 9:1-2 (NASB) Notes

⇒ In Daniel's day, the hope of the Jews was returning to their homeland. What is the hope of Christians today?

- We must pay attention to biblical prophecy because it is the light of certainty in a world of darkness and uncertainty. Cf., **2Pe.1:19-21**

⇒ A word that we have not yet seen in the book of Daniel appears 8 times in the first 20 verses ... what is the word? ... what is significant about this word?

- **LORD** (Jehovah) – used 8x in this chapter (only this chapter in Daniel) – **vv. 2, 4, 8, 10, 13, 14(2), 20**. This is God's covenant name (**Ex.6:2-8**). Daniel is praying on behalf of God's covenant people.

¹ In the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of Median descent, who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans –

⇒ Right after the fall of Babylon to the Medes & Persians (9:1-2), what did Daniel do? Where do you turn in the midst of crisis or transition?

- 539/538 B.C. – about 12 years after Daniel's second vision in chapter 8. He is about 81 years old.

- **"Ahasuerus"** is the Hebrew derivative of a Persian **title** [Greek = Xerxes] for king. Not the same person as the king mentioned in the book of Esther.

² in the first year of his reign, I, Daniel, observed in the books the number of the years which was *revealed* as **the word of the LORD** to **Jeremiah** the prophet for the completion of the desolations of Jerusalem, *namely*, seventy years.

⇒ How does v. 2 support the verbal inspiration of Scripture taught by the Apostle Paul in 2 Timothy 3:16?

- Daniel took prophecy literally. Cf., **Jer.25:1-14** (605 BC) and **29:1,10-14**.

- The first copy of these scrolls had been destroyed (**Jer.36**), but God had them copied again in order to preserve them for Daniel. Cf., **Ps.119:152; Isa.40:8; Mt.24:35**.

- Why were the Israelites exiled? Cf., **Lev.25:1-12, 18-22** – Sabbath rest and the Year of Jubilee were good for the land and good for the spiritual life of God's people. But the people rebelled (**2Chron36:15-21** then **22-23**). Timing theories: Either 606/605 BC (beginning of siege) to 537/536 BC (50,000 Jews return, Ezra 1-2) Or, 586 BC (Temple destroyed) to 515 BC (2nd Temple built & dedicated).