

## Lesson-13 Study Guide: War in the Heavenly Places

**Lesson Focus Passage:** [Daniel 10-11:1](#)

**Background:** In [Daniel 9:1](#), the chronological note given is “the first year of Darius the son of Ahasuerus, of the lineage of the Medes, who was made king over the realm of the Chaldeans.”

The year referred to was **539 B.C.** But in [Daniel 10:1](#), the chronological marker switches to “the third year of Cyrus king of Persia,” referring to **537 B.C. Darius the Mede** acted as vice-regent for the king of the Medo-Persian Empire, who was **Cyrus**.

It was Darius who took **Babylon** from **Belshazzar** on the night of the handwriting on the wall ([Daniel 5](#)), but he did so in the name of Cyrus, king of Persia. So in the first year following the fall of Babylon the chronology is given in terms of the invading Darius, but three years later in terms of Cyrus, the king of the Medes and Persians.

### Preparatory Questions

1. Read [Daniel 10:1-4](#) and [Ezra 4:1-24](#).

- a. How does the passage in Ezra suggest a possible reason for Daniel’s mourning? How long did Daniel mourn?

What kind of fast did Daniel engage in while he was mourning and praying?

2. Read [2 Corinthians 10:1-6](#).

- a. What does Daniel 10 tell you about the dynamics of the unseen world?
- b. How does Daniel 10 help you better understand [2 Corinthians 10:3-4](#)?

3. As you consider Daniel 10:

- a. What new perspectives on spiritual warfare have you gained?
- b. What key aspect of Daniel’s prayer life would you most like to incorporate into your own?