

**“3 WEEKS WITHOUT A BATH, FOOD, OR MOXIE - OH MY!” (Daniel 10)**  
**FBC Earlville 8-19-12 10:30 AM Rev. J.B. Stopford, Pastor**

**INTRODUCTION** Today's "Special": "A Pirate Funny"

So a pirate walked into a bar, [OK, so my wife says not to mention "bar" in church!] and the bartender said, "Hey, I haven't seen you in a while. What happened? You look terrible."

"What do you mean?" said the pirate, "I feel fine."

"What about the wooden leg? You didn't have that before."

"Well," said the pirate, "We were in a battle, and I got hit with a cannon ball, but I'm fine now."

The bartender replied, "Well, okay, but what about that hook? What happened to your hand?"

The pirate explained, "We were in another battle. I boarded a ship and got into a sword fight. My hand was cut off. I got fitted with a hook but I'm fine, really."

"What about that eye patch?"

"Oh," said the pirate, "One day we were at sea, and a flock of birds flew over. I looked up, and one of them pooped in my eye."

"You're kidding," said the bartender. "You couldn't lose an eye just from a little bird poop."

"It was my first day with the hook."

Have you ever wondered what angels are all about, and what they do throughout the day? Daniel 10 gives us a vivid insight! **PRAYER**

**#1 TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL (vs. 1-9)**

**Key word: "no" (v. 3)**

What is your comfort zone? Your home? Your family? Your finances? All the above? What would it take to get you out of your comfort zone?

Illus.: the comfort zone of 11 W. Main versus Camp Lookout

Daniel was taken out of his comfort zone in order to be still before the Lord!

And to prepare his heart, he went without a bath ("no anointing"), food, or moxie (see "wine" defined as "sweet drink"! ). What would we go without in order to be fully relying on God?

**#2 LOVED BY AN ANGEL (vs. 10-11)**

**Key word: "beloved" (v. 11)**

Did you know - really KNOW! - that you are greatly beloved in heaven? God uses that word at least 116 times in Scripture! At His Son's baptism and at the transfiguration, the Father calls Jesus "My beloved Son"!

Look at Romans 16:5,8,9,12, 2 Pet. 3:8, and 1 John 4:7 if you need uplifting!

**#3 NOTICED BY AN ANGEL (v. 12)**

**Key word: "heard"**

Did you know that God HEARS us? 1 John 5:14,15 invites God's children to the intimacy in prayer that the angel was telling Daniel about. How intimate with God is OUR prayer?

**#4 STRENGTHENED BY AN ANGEL (vs. 13-19)**

**Key word: “strengthened” (v. 18)**

**Compare: “no strength” (v. 16)**

God specializes in caring for those who are weak, not with those who are proud. See Romans 8:26, 1 Cor. 1:27; and the classic 2 Cor. 12:9,10.

**CONCLUSION: Grounded by an angel (vs. 20-21)**

**Key word: “Scripture” (v. 21)**

OK, so it has been awhile since you were “touched by an angel”. But what can we pursue as Daniel did? The Scriptures! May our hearts find hope in the Word of God!

**PRAYER**