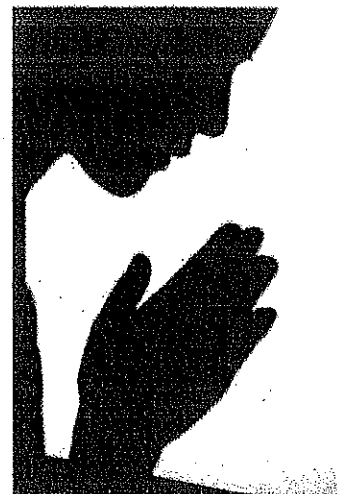


# CORNER

## PRAYER

**“O LORD, listen!  
O LORD, forgive!  
O LORD, hear and act!  
For your sake, O my God,  
do not delay,  
because your city and your  
people bear your Name.”**

Daniel 9:19



This verse ends the prayer of Daniel beseeching the Lord to help his people. Daniel was in Babylon because of the destruction of Jerusalem. His prayer routine in exile for around 70 years was to go to his room three times a day and pray to the Lord on behalf of his people. He had been observing a partial fast, and while he was still in prayer, the angel Gabriel came to him and told him he had come to give him insight and understanding about what was soon to take place. It was then Gabriel told him about the coming of the “Anointed One.” Daniel must have been amazed and comforted by this new foretelling of the coming of the Messiah who would be the True Sacrifice once and for all. Daniel’s prayer had been most desperate on behalf of Israel because they had lost everything, and they had already seen and endured much trouble.

This verse is also the selection of the theme for the National Day of Prayer this year, so the message is two-fold that I share it. First, it is a focus for the season we will celebrate as Easter week when Jesus rose from the dead, and second, looks forward to the Annual National Day of Prayer event that will be held on May 4, 2017 when we will gather together to pray for our nation. As we have entered this season, be encouraged to bless the Lord for the indescribable gift of Jesus and continue in prayer for our people and nation.

*Becky Stewart*