

Daniel 10:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me,

Analysis

A third strengthening comes: 'Then there came again and touched me one like the appearance of a man, and he strengthened me.' The repeated need for strengthening emphasizes sustained revelation's requirements—not one-time empowerment but continual grace. Each wave of revelation requires renewed enabling. This pattern teaches that Christian life and ministry similarly require continual divine grace—not self-sustained effort but repeated infusions of divine strength. Paul's 'My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness' (2 Corinthians 12:9) reflects this principle. The 'one like the appearance of a man' may be the same figure as v.16 or indicate angelic form accommodated to human perception. The strengthening enables Daniel to continue receiving and eventually recording the revelation for God's people.

Historical Context

The three-fold pattern (strengthening in v.10, 16, 18) parallels biblical use of threefold repetition emphasizing completeness or intensification: Seraphim's 'Holy, holy, holy' (Isaiah 6:3), Peter's three-fold restoration (John 21:15-17), Paul's three-fold plea (2 Corinthians 12:8). God's repeated strengthening of Daniel demonstrates patience, thoroughness, and commitment to enabling His servant. Ancient peoples might have interpreted such repeated weakness as unfitness for ministry; biblical revelation reframes it as precisely the context for divine power's display. The repeated strengthening validated the vision's magnitude—requiring

extraordinary divine grace to receive—and modeled for believers that ongoing ministry requires ongoing grace, not self-sufficiency.

Related Passages

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Study Questions

1. What does the need for repeated strengthening teach about Christian life requiring continual grace rather than self-sufficiency?
2. How does weakness becoming the context for divine strength challenge worldly ideas about fitness for ministry?
3. Why doesn't God grant permanent strengthening but requires repeated divine touch?

Interlinear Text

וַיָּבֹא Then there came again H3254	וַיַּגֵּעַ and touched H5060	כִּי H0	כְּמֹאֵת ה' me one like the appearance H4758	אִישׁ of a man H120
וַיַּחֲזֹק and he strengthened H2388				

Additional Cross-References

Daniel 10:16 (Parallel theme): And, behold, one like the similitude of the sons of men touched my lips: then I opened my mouth, and spake, and said unto him that stood before me, O my lord, by the vision my sorrows are turned upon me, and I have retained no strength.

Luke 22:43 (Parallel theme): And there appeared an angel unto him from heaven, strengthening him.

Daniel 8:18 (Parallel theme): Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright.

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