

Daniel 9:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.

Analysis

Daniel continues confessing Israel's disobedience: 'Neither have we obeyed the voice of the LORD our God, to walk in his laws, which he set before us by his servants the prophets.' This specifies the rebellion—not merely abstract sin but concrete covenant violation. The phrase 'obeyed the voice' emphasizes personal divine communication; 'walk in his laws' indicates lifestyle obedience; 'set before us by his servants the prophets' acknowledges that instruction was clear and authoritative. Israel's sin wasn't ignorance but willful rejection of known truth. Reformed theology emphasizes the aggravated nature of sin against light—rejecting clear revelation brings greater guilt than sins of ignorance. Daniel's prayer models taking responsibility rather than pleading ignorance or blaming circumstances.

Historical Context

Israel received continuous prophetic witness: Moses established the law; Joshua, Samuel, Nathan, Elijah, Elisha, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and others called the nation to covenant faithfulness. These prophets repeatedly warned of exile if Israel persisted in rebellion (e.g., Deuteronomy 28-30, Jeremiah 7, Ezekiel 5-7). Yet the nation ignored them, persecuted them, and continued in idolatry and injustice. The exile vindicated the prophets—everything they warned came to pass. Daniel's prayer acknowledges this: the prophets faithfully delivered God's message; Israel's failure

to obey brought predicted consequences. Church history shows similar patterns: clear biblical teaching, persistent disregard, eventual consequences.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Psalms 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How does rejecting clear prophetic instruction aggravate guilt beyond sins of ignorance?
2. What does Israel's pattern of receiving yet disobeying prophetic witness teach about human nature's resistance to God's word?
3. How should recognizing that we've been given clear biblical instruction affect our repentance?

Interlinear Text

וְלֹא	שָׁמַע עָמֵנוּ	בְּקוֹל	יְהוָה	אֱלֹהֵינוּ	לֵלֵךְ
H3808	H8085	H6963	H3068	H430	H1980
	Neither have we obeyed	the voice	of the LORD	our God	
בְּתוֹרֹתָיו	אֲשֶׁר	נָתַן	לִפְנֵינוּ	בְּיַד	עֲבָדָיו
H8451	H834	H5414	H6440	H3027	H5650
in his laws	which he set	before	us by	his servants	the prophets
					H5030

Additional Cross-References

Daniel 9:6 (Prophecy): Neither have we hearkened unto thy servants the prophets, which spake in thy name to our kings, our princes, and our fathers, and to all the people of the land.

2 Kings 18:12 (References God): Because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD their God, but transgressed his covenant, and all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded, and would not hear them, nor do them.

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