

# Lenten

# Reflections



The Divine Intervention

## March 13, 2017

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### Scripture

#### **Daniel 9: 4-10**

"Lord, great and awesome God,  
you who keep your merciful covenant toward those who love you  
and observe your commandments!

We have sinned, been wicked and done evil;  
we have rebelled and departed from your commandments and your laws.  
We have not obeyed your servants the prophets,  
who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes,  
our fathers, and all the people of the land.

Justice, O Lord, is on your side;

we are shamefaced even to this day:

we, the men of Judah, the residents of Jerusalem,  
and all Israel, near and far,

in all the countries to which you have scattered them  
because of their treachery toward you.

O LORD, we are shamefaced, like our kings, our princes, and our fathers,  
for having sinned against you.

But yours, O Lord, our God, are compassion and forgiveness!

Yet we rebelled against you

and paid no heed to your command, O LORD, our God,  
to live by the law you gave us through your servants the prophets."

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## **Our Scripture Reflection**

The prophet Daniel speaks on behalf of his people who have turned away from God by their sins. His words express humility before the Lord God who is "Great and awesome." In light of God's greatness, His people have manifested a pettiness which resulted in their shame. There is only one thing for the self-serving and rebellious people to do. They must bow down and seek the compassion and mercy of God. That, my friends, is the purpose of Lent.

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## **Food for your Journey**

Here are some of the lyrics for Twila Paris' "God is in control":

This is no time for fear/ This is a time for faith and determination/ Don't lose the vision here/ Carried away by emotion.

Hold on to all that you hide in your heart/ There is one thing that has always been true/ It holds the world together.

God is in control/ We believe that his children will not be forsaken/ God is in control.

We will choose to remember and never be shaken/ There is no power above or beside him, we know God is in control.

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Have mercy on me for I have sinned. Forgive me, Lord. Amen.