

Bible Study

Daniel 7:1-28

Opening Question:

1. What excites you about the future?
2. What do you anticipate most about the second coming of Christ?

Read Daniel 7:1-18

Discussion Questions

1. Observation & reflection
 - (a) What kind of literature is this?
 - (b) What word or idea stands out to you, from each text what did you struggle to understand?
 - (c) What is the theme of the passage?

2. What word is repeatedly used to describe the people of God? How does the New Testament define this term? (1 Corinthians 1:2).
 - (a) Does this surprise you?

3. Daniel is troubled and anxious after having this vision and hearing its interpretation. Are you surprised with his reaction based on what you know from previous chapters?
 - (a) What does this say about human nature when it comes to things we do not understand?
 - (b) What can we learn from how Daniel responds (V16)

4. How does Daniel describe the four beasts? How would you describe the word picture that Daniel is painting? What is different with the fourth beast?
 - (a) What happens between the fourth beast and the saints?
 - (b) What does the fate of the fourth beast tell us?

5. What characteristics of God do we see in verses 9-12? Is this consistent with your view of God? Why or why not?

6. What do you think the books are that are mentioned in V10? What do you think they contain?

7. Verses 13-14 describe the coming of the Son of Man. Is this something that you are anticipating? How does your life reflect that? What are some practical ways that can help us “long for his appearing”? (2 Timothy 4:1-8)
8. Why do you think kingdoms of the world are pictured as beasts but Christ looks like a son of man?
 - (a) What does this mean for our primary allegiances
9. Daniel is told that the saints of the Most High will share in the kingdom with the Son of Man. What do you find most appealing about Daniel's description of God's kingdom (vv. 13-14, 27), and why?
10. What do you think our current attitude, motivation and actions should be based on what we hear in this passage?

Thought Points

- Daniel, a godly prophet and a man of unshakable faith, has been steadfast in his daily walk of fellowship with God throughout the first six chapters of the Book of Daniel.
- Daniel received the vision during the first year of Belshazzar (approx 552BC)
- This is the first prophecy in the book revealed directly to Daniel.
- Daniel 7 mirrors Daniel 2
- A thousand thousands is meant as a picture of innumerable multitudes, representing not one kingdom but all kingdoms of the earth standing before God.
- Prophecies are given so that we may look at history, especially events occurring in our own lifetime, from God's perspective.
- A large chunk of Bible prophecy has already happened. Chapter 8 and 11 of the Book of Daniel, deal with prophecy that has already happened. The accuracy of Daniel's predictions are have been supported by history.
- Our allegiance is first to the Kingdom of Heaven, but held in tension with the fact that we are called to love this world and those who live in it.

Extra Reading

Psalm 51:7, 104:3, Isaiah 1:18, Isaiah Ezekiel 1, Daniel 12:1, Mathew 7:7-8, Luke 10:20, Luke 12:32, John 15:18-21, 2 Timothy 4:1-8, Revelation 5:11, Revelation 11:15, Revelation 19:11-16, Revelation 19:20, Revelation 20:11-15,

Personal Reflection:

- How does knowing that God will accomplish His plan in the end, encourage you?