

"The Coming Kingdom of the Son of Man"



Daniel 7

“But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.”

(Jeremiah 29:7; ESV)

*“Father, your kingdom come and your will
be done on the earth as it is in
heaven.”(Matthew 6:10; ESV)*

Our political passions — when hijacked — can be destructive to us, our witness, and the church.

Our political passions can become hijacked when we as the people of God lose track of our primary identity in Christ.

God's word calls us to navigate this complicated and heated time as if we were exiles living in a foreign land sent by God to be his witnesses.

“These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland.”

(Hebrews 11:13-14; ESV)

“Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.”

(1 Peter 2:11-12; ESV)

“But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord.”

(Philippians 3:20 - 4:1; ESV)

To live faithfully as God's witnesses in
Babylon, we must look to Christ as OUR
FUTURE and OUR HOPE.

Daniel 7:1 (ESV)

1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel saw a dream and visions of his head as he lay in his bed. Then he wrote down the dream and told the sum of the matter.

Daniel 7:2-3 (ESV)

2 Daniel declared, “I saw in my vision by night, and look, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. 3 And four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.”

Daniel 7:4 (ESV)

4 “The first was like a lion and had eagles’ wings. Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man, and the mind of a man was given to it.”

Daniel 7:5-6 (ESV)

5 “And see, another beast, a second one, like a bear. It was raised up on one side. It had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, ‘Arise, devour much flesh.’ 6 After this I looked, and see, another, like a leopard, with four wings of a bird on its back. And the beast had four heads, and dominion was given to it.”



The Winged
Lion of
Babylon

The Bear
of the Medes
& Persians





The Winged Leopard of Greece

Daniel 7:7 (ESV)

7 “After this I saw in the night visions, and look, a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth; it devoured and broke in pieces and stamped what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.”

Daniel 7:8 (ESV)

8 “I considered the horns, and see, there came up among them another horn, a little one, before which three of the first horns were plucked up by the roots. And look, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things.”

The Final Monster



Daniel 7:9-10 (ESV)

9 “As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire. 10 A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.”

Daniel 7:11-12 (ESV)

11 “I looked then because of the sound of the great words that the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was killed, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. 12 As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.”

Daniel 7:13-14 (ESV)

13 “I saw in the night visions, and see, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. 14 And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.”



The Son of Man

To live faithfully as
God's witnesses in
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The Book of Daniel show us a PATTERN at work in history while offering a promise for all generations.

- The Pattern?

- *“Humans and their kingdoms become beasts when they don’t acknowledge God and His authority.” (Mackie)*

The Book of Daniel show us a pattern at work in history while offering a PROMISE for all generations.

- The Promise?

- *“God will one day come to confront the beast, rescue His world and His people, and bring his kingdom.”*
(Mackie)

A Breath Prayer for Disorienting Times

*Inhale. Fill your whole self with breath. And say: **Christ is our future.***

*Exhale slowly and fully. And say: **Christ is our hope.***