

Series: Daniel – Life For Eternity

Text: Daniel 8:1-27

Main Idea: Evil rulers destroy, but God restores.

Title/Hook: Who Is The G.O.A.T.?

Date: 2/26/23

Purpose: To encourage believers that God is in control of human history, and even though Satan and evil human rulers buffet, their days are numbered and God will bring ultimate justice and restoration.

FCF/COR: As God's people we suffer at the hands of evil ruler. Is there real hope future victory? Will God win? Will evil be defeated?

Christ Trajectory: Evil enemies waged war against Jesus in his death but he defeated them and rose victoriously from the grave and brought about ultimate worship through faith in Him.

Apologetic: Fulfilled prophecy shows the validity, credibility, and trustworthiness of Scripture truthfulness and divine authorship.

Structure: Inductive

Main Idea:

Subject (What is the passage about?): What Daniel saw in a vision.

Complement (What does the passage say about the subject?): Greece will conquer the Medes and Persians, a ruler will arise from them who will destroy many, including the saints, he will desecrate the temple, but he himself will ultimately be broken by no human hand and the sanctuary will be restored.

Exegetical Main Idea: Daniel saw in a vision that Greece will conquer the Medes and Persians, a ruler will arise from them who will destroy many, including the saints, he will desecrate the temple, but he himself will ultimately be broken by no human hand and the sanctuary will be restored.

Theological Main Idea: Earthly kings may bring destruction on God's people, but God ultimately brings about restoration of His people.

Homiletical Main Idea: Evil may destroy, but God restores.

Outline:

1. A bold-faced king will deceive and destroy (vv. 1-12, 20-25a, 26)

Read vv. 1-2

Read vv. 3-4

Read vv. 5-8

Read vv. 9-12

Apocalyptic Literature:

- 1. It is revelation of God's ultimate plan for the world**
- 2. It is full of wild and mysterious imagery and symbolism**
- 3. It is meant to encourage and give hope, not to cause speculative panic**

Read vv. 15-25a, 26

Read vv. 23-25a again.

2 Maccabees 6:1-9 – 1 Not long after this the king sent an Athenian senator - to force the Jews to abandon the laws of their ancestors and live no longer by the laws of God, 2 also to profane the temple in Jerusalem and dedicate it to Olympian Zeus, and the one on Mount Gerizim to Zeus the Host to Strangers, as the local inhabitants were wont to be. 3 This was a harsh and utterly intolerable evil. 4 The Gentiles filled the temple with debauchery and revelry; they amused themselves with prostitutes and had intercourse with women even in the sacred courts. They also brought forbidden things into the temple, 5 so that the altar was covered with abominable offerings prohibited by the laws. 6 No one could keep the sabbath or celebrate the traditional feasts, nor even admit to being a Jew. 7 Moreover, at the monthly celebration of the king's birthday the Jews, from bitter necessity, had to partake of the sacrifices, and when the festival of Dionysus- was celebrated, they were compelled to march in his procession, wearing wreaths of ivy. 8 Following upon a vote of the citizens of Ptolemais, a decree was issued ordering the neighboring Greek cities to adopt the same measures, obliging the Jews to partake of the sacrifices 9 and putting to death those who would not consent

to adopt the customs of the Greeks. It was obvious, therefore, that disaster had come upon them.

1 Peter 4:12 - ¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

2. The bold-faced king will be broken and worship restored (vv. 13-19, 25b, 27)

Read vv. 13-14

Read v. 25 again

Read v 25b again

²⁴ His power shall be great—*but not by his own power.*

²⁵ and he shall be broken—*but by no human hand.*

Quote – Iain Duguid – “Daniel 8 opens a window onto the bigger picture of the struggle against Antiochus, though. Antiochus was not simply at war against the earthly saints, but against the heavenly host as well. It is as if the curtain is drawn back, and behind Antiochus we see the ominous power of the spiritual forces of darkness arrayed against our God.”

Hebrews 2:14-15 - ¹⁴ Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

Hebrews 9:23-28 - ²³ Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. ²⁴ For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵ Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, ²⁶ for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the

end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, ²⁸ so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

Main Idea: Evil may destroy, but God restores.

Read v. 27

Main Idea: Evil may destroy, but God restores.