

Small Group Notes

Sermon: 14/11/21



Daniel 7

Martin Segal

Scripture

Daniel 7

Daniel 8

Introduction

On Sunday we continued our sermon series exploring the book of Daniel with Martin speaking on chapters 7 and 8

Overview

Daniel 7 brings us to the second part of the book where the writing moves from historical narrative to apocalyptic, using complex and mysterious images to communicate the end of this present age and the ushering in of the new.

The visions of these 2 chapters have led to many interpretations over history, with the focus being based around which kings and kingdoms are represented by the beasts and horns. However, the main focus of these chapters isn't on the beasts but on God who is over all things.

On Sunday morning we looked at 3 major themes that run throughout the chapters, the book and in fact the whole of scripture.

1. Conflict

Firstly, we saw throughout these chapters that this present age is full of conflict. Conflict has defined the history of humanity and continues to do so at a global, local and personal level. Conflict is not only between one another but is specifically targeted at the people of God. We will face challenge because of our faith. The reason for that is because our world is at conflict with God. This is why Christ came, died and rose again - to take us from a place of conflict to peace with God.

2. Calling

Another major theme is that of a calling to faithfulness for God's people. We shouldn't be surprised by conflict that comes our way whether that be overt or covert. From direct persecution for our faith to finding ourselves in a season of being pushed aside and forgotten. No matter what conflict may look like in our lives its aim is the same: to hinder our faith and rob us of all the fullness that Christ has won for us.

3. Coming

Finally, we saw the theme of our call to endure is rooted in the promise of the coming of Christ. Who is like the son of man, who has been given glory, power and a kingdom and who's reign will last forever?

Questions

1. How are you experiencing conflict at the moment and what impact is it having in your faith?

2. What does it look like for you to follow Christ faithfully this week?
3. How does knowing the promise that Jesus will come again fuel you to endure through the conflict?