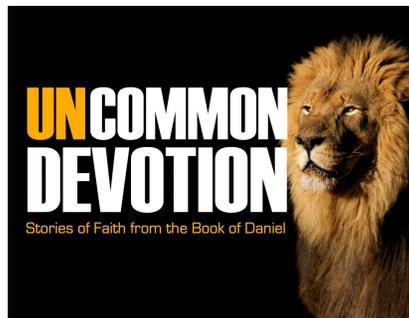


SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

Devoted to the Eternal King

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
February 22, 2026



Who is really in control when our world feels out of control?

1) God's purposes will prevail as earthly kingdoms rise & fall.

Daniel 7:1-2 (NLT) "Earlier, during the first year of King Belshazzar's reign in Babylon, Daniel had a dream and saw visions as he lay in his bed. He wrote down the dream, and this is what he saw. ² In my vision that night, I, Daniel, saw a great storm churning the surface of a great sea, with strong winds blowing from every direction. ³ Then four huge beasts came up out of the water, each different from the others."

2) God is on His throne & He will judge the earth.

Daniel 7:9-10 (NLT) "I watched as thrones were put in place and the Ancient One sat down to judge. His clothing was as white as snow, his hair like purest wool. He sat on a fiery throne with wheels of blazing fire, ¹⁰ and a river of fire was pouring out, flowing from his presence. Millions of angels ministered to him; many millions stood to attend him. Then the court began its session, and the books were opened."

Revelation 20:12 (NLT) "And the books were opened, including the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to what they had done, as recorded in the books."

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NLT) "For God made Christ, who never sinned, to be the offering for our sin, so that we could be made right with God through Christ."

3) God is establishing His eternal Kingdom through Christ.

Daniel 7:13-14 (NLT) "As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. ¹⁴ He was given authority, honour, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal—it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed."

Luke 21:25-28 (NLT) "And there will be strange signs in the sun, moon, and stars. And here on earth the nations will be in turmoil, perplexed by the roaring seas and strange tides. ²⁶ People will be terrified at what they see coming upon the earth, for the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then everyone will see the Son of Man coming on a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ So when all these things begin to happen, stand and look up, for your salvation is near!"

4) God's people will possess the Kingdom & reign with Christ.

Daniel 7:17-18 (NLT) "These four huge beasts represent four kingdoms that will arise from the earth. ¹⁸ But in the end, the holy people of the Most High will be given the kingdom, and they will rule forever and ever."

Daniel 7:23-27 (NLT) Then he said to me, "This fourth beast is the fourth world power that will rule the earth. It will be different from all the others. It will devour the whole world, trampling and crushing everything in its path... ²⁶ "But then the court will pass judgment, and all his power will be taken away and completely destroyed. ²⁷ Then the sovereignty, power, and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be given to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will last forever, and all rulers will serve and obey him."

Big Idea: Because Jesus reigns, we can live faithfully & fearlessly in chaotic days.

How do we live faithfully & fearlessly in chaotic days?

- **Worship Christ wholeheartedly.**
- **Live with hopeful urgency.**
- **Live with an eternal perspective.**

"I demand in the name of the living God - tell us if you are the Messiah, the Son of God."- Matthew 26:63 NLT

"You have said it. And in the future you will see the Son of Man seated in the place of power at God's right hand and coming on the clouds of heaven." - Matthew 26:64 NLT



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Family of Servants on Mission.
To get plugged in email:
impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Devoted to the Eternal King
#7 of 7 - February 22, 2026

Context

- 1) Daniel receives this vision during the reign of Belshazzar, before Babylon falls. How does knowing this comes *before* political collapse shape how we read Daniel 7—especially when our own world feels unstable?
- 2) Daniel’s vision begins with chaos: storms, winds, and beasts rising from the sea. Where do you see similar “storm-like” forces at work in today’s world, culture, or leadership?

Observation

- 3) What contrasts stand out between the **chaos of the beasts** (vv. 1–8) and the **calm authority of the Ancient One** (vv. 9–10)? What do these images reveal about where true power resides?
- 4) In Daniel 7:13–14, what words or phrases describe the “Son of Man” and His Kingdom? What do you notice about the *scope*, *duration*, and *authority* of His reign?

Meaning

- 5) Jesus directly applies Daniel 7:13–14 to Himself in Matthew 26:63–64—at His trial, just before the cross. Why is it significant that Jesus reveals His kingship in a moment that looks like weakness and defeat?
- 6) Daniel 7 promises that God’s people will **possess the Kingdom** and **reign with Christ** (vv. 18, 27). How does this challenge the way we normally think about power, success, and influence as followers of Jesus?

Application

- 7) The Big Idea says: “Because Jesus reigns, we can live faithfully and fearlessly in chaotic days.” Which of these do you need most right now—and why?
 - Worship Christ wholeheartedly.
 - Live with hopeful urgency.
 - Live with an eternal perspective
- 8) When the world feels out of control, what is one practical way this week you can live as someone who truly believes **Jesus is on the throne**—at home, at work, or in your witness?



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