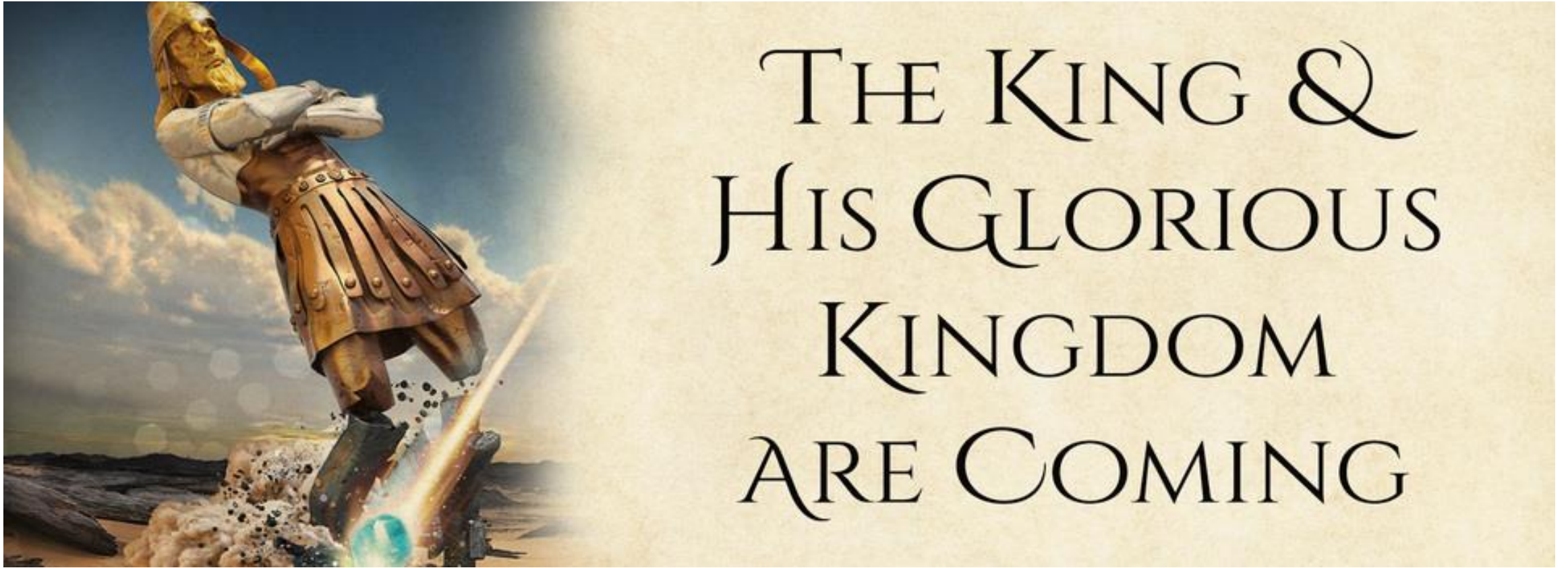


CHANGING KINGS

UNCHANGING GOD



“Is purity possible in a pagan culture?”

Daniel 3:1-18



The Heidelberg Catechism

Question 1. What is thy only comfort in life and death?

Answer: That I with body and soul, both in life and death, am not my own, but belong unto my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ; who, with his precious blood, has fully satisfied for all my sins, and delivered me from all the power of the devil; and so preserves me that without the will of my heavenly Father, not a hair can fall from my head; yea, that all things must be subservient to my salvation, and therefore, by his Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me sincerely willing and ready, henceforth, to live unto him.

The Heidelberg Catechism

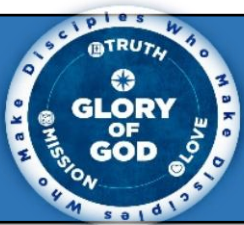
Question 94. What does God enjoin in the first commandment?

Answer: That I, as sincerely as I desire the salvation of my own soul, avoid and flee from all idolatry, sorcery, soothsaying, superstition, invocation of saints, or any other creatures; and learn rightly to know the only true God; trust in him alone, with humility and patience submit to him; expect all good things from him only; love, fear, and glorify him with my whole heart; so that I renounce and forsake all creatures, rather than commit even the least thing contrary to his will.

The Heidelberg Catechism

Question 103. What does God require in the fourth commandment?

Answer: First, that the ministry of the gospel and the schools be maintained; and that I, especially on the sabbath, that is, on the day of rest, diligently frequent the church of God, to hear his word, to use the sacraments, publicly to call upon the Lord, and contribute to the relief of the poor. Secondly, that all the days of my life I cease from my evil works, and yield myself to the Lord, to work by his Holy Spirit in me: and thus begin in this life the eternal sabbath.



The Name Game



Israelite Name	Israelite Meaning	Babylonian Name	Babylonian Meaning
Daniel	“God is my Judge”	Belteshazzar	“Bel protect the King” “May Bel protect his life”
Hananiah	“the Lord is gracious”	Shadrach	“the command of Aku” Sumerian moon god
Mishael	“Who is like the Lord?”	Meshach	“Who is what Aku is?”
Azariah	“the Lord is my Helper”	Abed-nego	“Servant of Nego” a god of vegetation – Nebo

Chapter 3 & Chapter 6



1. The command to idolatry by a pagan king
2. The obedient remnant of God's people
3. The gentile king punishes God's people
4. The deliverance of God's people through death
5. The glorification of God among the gentiles because of His great deliverance

Symmetrical Parallels

The Prophecy of Daniel



Ch 2 Kingdom Prophecies

Image of King

Ch 3 Trials of God's People

Image Worship/Fiery Furnace

Ch 4 King's Prophecy

Nebuchadnezzar/Tree Cut Down

Ch 5 King's Prophecy

Belshazzar/ Writing on the Wall

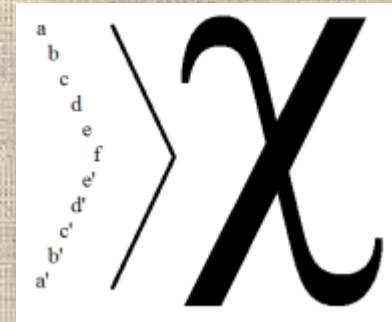
Ch 6 Trials of God's People

Worship King/Lion's Den

Ch 7 Kingdom Prophecies

Wild Beasts

Unifying Theme
Daniel 2:47



Daniel 3:1-30

EXTERNAL PRESSURE
INTERNAL PRINCIPLE



IMAGE:

X5 2:31, 32*, 34, 35
X10 3:1, 2, 3*, 5, 7, (1-7)
10, 12, 14, 15, 18

King's Decree: Ceremony & Command

God's People Accused: Conspiracy (8-12)

Royal Rage – Coercion

SET UP:
X9 3:1, 2, 3*, 5, 7, 12, 14, 18 (13-15)

GENESIS
39:8-10

Answer: Confession & Courage (16-18)

Royal Rage – Consequences

WORSHIP:
X11 3:5, 6, 7, 10, 11, (19-23)
12, 14, 15*, 18, 28

God's People Delivered: Companion (24-27)

King's Decree: Commendation

SERVE:
X5 3:12, 14, 17, 18, 28 (28-30)

Dilemmas in Daniel

Scenario

Solution

1:8	Nebuchadnezzar's Nutrition	1:17
2:10-11	Dissipated Dream	2:27-28
3:15	Image & Burning Fiery Furnace	3:29
4:4-7	Cosmic Tree Chopped	4:17b, 25b
5:7-9	Writing on the Wall	5:10-11, 14
6:9-10	Darius's Den	6:20-22

AFFLICTION & EXALTATION



“I WILL BE WITH YOU”

PSALM

66:10-12

ISAIAH

41:9c-10; 43:1-2

AFFLICTION

Psalm 119:50, 67,
71, 75, 92





Revelation's



Parallels



Seals	Description	Trumpets
5:1-14	Opening Scene (Origins of Judgment)	8:2-6
6:1-17	Six Judgments	8:7-9:21
7:1-17	Dramatic Interlude (The Promise of Care of God's People)	10:1-11:14
8:1	7th & Climatic Judgment	11:15-19

"Who Can Stand"
6:17; 7:1, 9, 11

Care of the Saints
14:12-13

Daniel 3:1-18

In what do you boast?

What makes you inordinately angry?

The answer to these questions points to the idolatry in your own heart?

What is the point of your accomplishments in this life?

How content are you to learn that they will amount to nothing in the end?

“Idolatry Warning”

Flee 1 Cor. 10:14
Avoid 1 Cor. 10:19-20
Stay Way 1 Jn. 5:21
Col. 3:5; Eph. 5:5;
1 Thes. 1:9; 1 Peter 4:3



Prayer

Grant, Almighty God, since we see the impious carried away by their impure desires with so strong an impulse; and while they are so puffed up with arrogance, may we learn true humility, and so subject ourselves to you that we may always depend upon your word and always attend to your instructions.



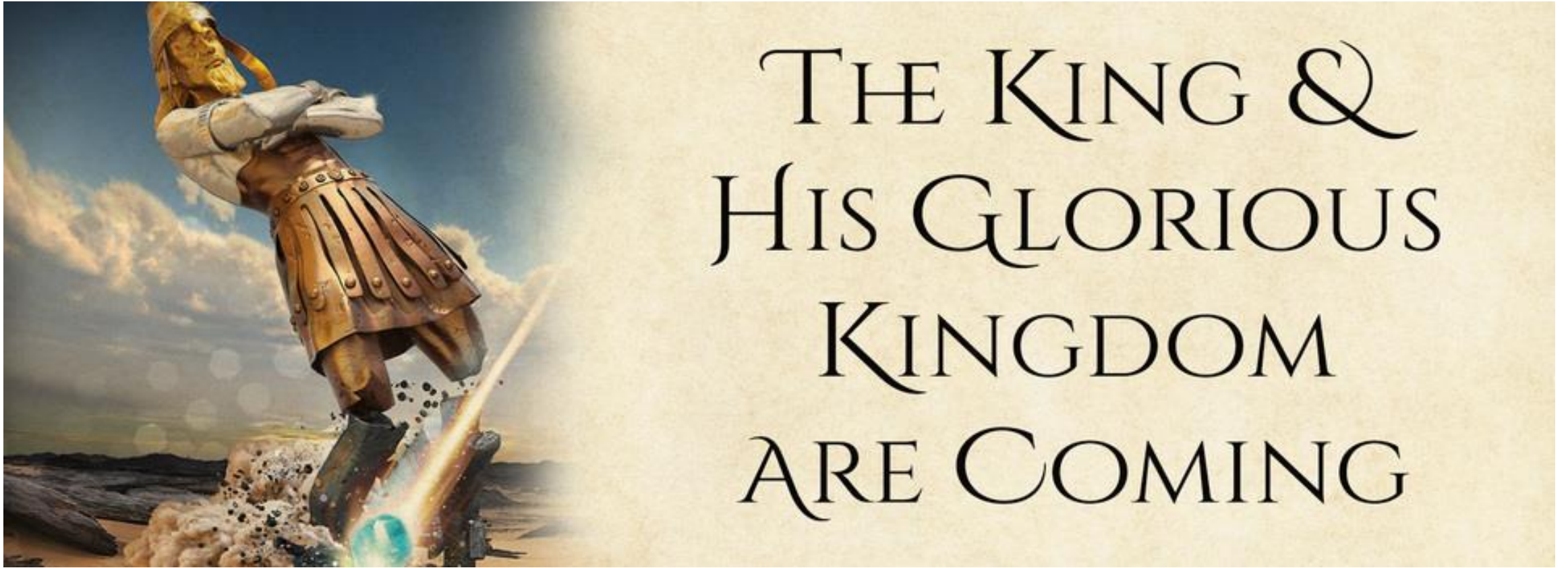
Prayer

When we have learned what worship pleases you, may we constantly persist unto the end, and never be moved by any threats, or dangers, or violence, from our position, nor drawn aside from our course; but by persevering obedience to your word, may we show our obedience, until you acknowledge us as your sons, and we are gathered to that eternal inheritance which you have prepared for all members of Christ your Son. – Amen.



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