

Daniel 7:9-14 The Son of Man - "That's My King .. do you know Him?"

by Pastor Faber McMullen, Union Grove Baptist Church © 2017

Stand to read God's Word ("Principles" are fill-in-blank in bulletin)

SLIDE I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, and He came up to the Ancient of Days, and was presented before Him. And to Him was given dominion, glory, and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away; and His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed. Daniel 7:13-14

We read that text because it will be the ultimate place our journey takes us this morning. We left off last week, with Daniel dreaming a dream that had four beasts. These are in perfect parallel with the civilizations & world powers that were introduced to us back in Chapter 2. Remember the statue that had a golden head, a silver chest, a bronze belly, and iron legs (that stood on a mixture of iron and clay) These were seen in Chapter two with a certain magnificence which showed man's perspective with each showing its greatness and power in human history.



However in Chapter 7, these kingdoms of the Gentiles are seen from God's viewpoint. If you've watched any news this week there is no doubt that you understand that the kingdoms of this world are fragile. What men see as great accomplishments and achievements often God sees as hostile and horrific; man's focus has always been on conquest and domination. You will remember that the beasts that were seen come out of the great sea of humanity and

they are powered by the four winds of the earth. We also saw ten horns on the head of that fourth beast, and we surmised that those will be ten powers, influences, or kingdoms which will evolve out of the residual peoples and powers that were once the Roman empire. Western civilization including the United States is part and parcel of that residue. The little horn is the Bible's first look at the Anti-Christ and he will come out of that sea of humanity.

Then, all of the sudden in the middle of Chapter 7 there is an interruption.

Imagine with me if you will that you're watching a film of Daniel's dream and the screen is split. As you watch these beasts devouring each other on the bottom of the screen, suddenly a flicker comes on and the top half of the screen reveals a peek into

heaven. That peek into heaven reveals a spectacular sight as one referred to as the "Ancient of Days" is seated on a magnificent throne.

Principle 1: One difficulty in interpreting prophecy is that the OT prophets saw the future converging together. It was sort of layer of future laid over another layer. In other words, they just saw the end of days as one event. It has been described as looking off into the distance and seeing mountains. It is only when you get close to the mountains that you realize the great distance between them.

As the OT writers wrote they didn't realize they were looking at different future events. They saw Jesus coming, but they couldn't see for example two events separated in time like his first coming and his second coming. This has caused much confusion among students of the Bible. Indulge me while I point out such a problem.

Principle 2: There is often a huge amount of time between two verses. Let's take a look at a clear example of what I'm talking about:

SLIDE

Isaiah 61 - "The Spirit of the Lord God *is* upon Me,
Because the Lord has anointed Me
To preach good tidings to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound;

We can all tell that this verse is about Jesus when he first came to earth. But, take a look at the next verse.

SLIDE

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn,

What's going on here. The "day of vengeance" did not happen the first time Jesus came. Go now to Luke 4:16 to figure out what I'm saying exactly

SLIDE

16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. **17** And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

18 "The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to *the* poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to *the* captives And recovery of sight to *the* blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord." **20** Then He closed the book, and gave *it* back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. **21** And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

Jesus was explaining verses 1 and 2 to explain His present ministry.

So when you read verse 7 and you're reading about the Roman empire and then you read about the 10 horns there is a huge time gap between these two. So between Daniel 7:7

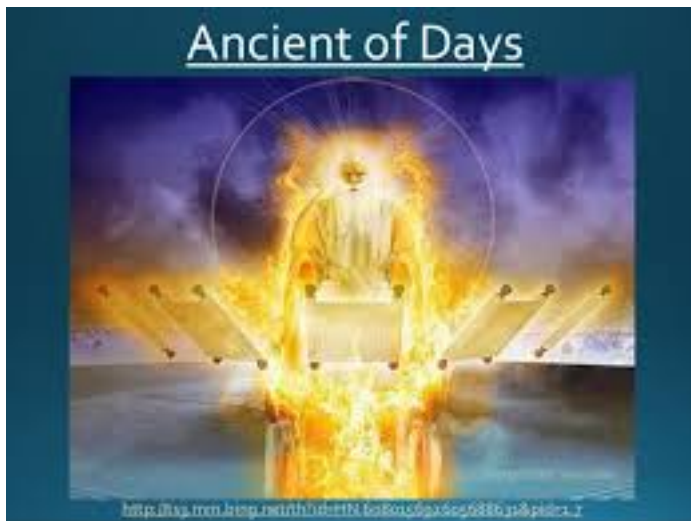
and the next phrases there is a mark that takes us to the Lord's second advent. There is a 2,000 year plus gap..... and then we see a glimpse into the throne room of heaven.

Let's continue with verses 9-10

"I kept looking Until thrones were set up, And the Ancient of Days took *His* seat; His vesture *was* like white snow And the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne *was* ablaze with flames, Its wheels *were* a burning fire." "A river of fire was flowing And coming out from before Him; Thousands upon thousands were attending Him, And myriads upon myriads were standing before Him; The court sat, And the books were opened.

Principle 3: Daniel sees a personage of God the Father that he and only he calls "The Ancient of Days".

This Ancient of Days is only mentioned three times in the Bible and they're all right here in Daniel. Daniel is visualizing God if we could see what He looks like in physical form. It is the aramaic "Atik Yomin"... "the elderly one" the one who's been around forever.



So back to our split screen, you remember on the bottom screen we see the turmoil of man, and there is this Ancient one appearing on the top part of the screen.

This short piece of scripture reveals several things about the essence of God.

1. Eternity of God - The "Ancient of Days" means He is Eternity past and He is eternity future.

The Ancient of Days is not confined by time, rather He is the source of time. He is the Alpha. He is the Omega; the beginning and the end. He made time. Psalm 90:2 - declares that "Before the mountains were formed or the earth and the world were brought forth, you are God from everlasting to everlasting."

2. Purity of God - Next Daniel gets a glimpse of His purity - His hair and His garments are as white as snow. This is a biblical description of God's purity. Psalm 51:7 says, "wash me and I shall be white as snow" This is a scene of absolute purity. He is perfect. He is without sin. He is without blemish. God is perfect righteousness.

3. Majesty of God - And then we see Him in His majesty - Look again at the verse, "And the Ancient of Days did sit on His throne" The text literally says "His throne is placed". Why is He seated there? He is about to judge the world.

4. Authority of God - We see Him in His authority - Scripture says "His throne is like a fire." It can go wherever it is needed. A fiery stream issues before it. Fire is a preparation for the Judgment of God. Psalm 50:3 says, "Our God shall come, and shall not keep silent; A fire shall devour before Him, And it shall be very tempestuous all around Him." Psalm 97:3 "A fire goeth before Him and devoureth His enemies". Fire is judgment.

5. Lastly, we see His deity - thousands upon thousands of angelic beings worship before Him. There are billions of angels bowing down and worshipping Him. Don't try to see this as a specific number, but this shows the worship that God receives from all of creation.

And now God is about to open the books. "The Books are opened." This scene reminds me of sitting as a lawyer in the noisy courtroom as the room is filled people are chatting and waiting for the judge to get to the courtroom. There is a noise, a din, that fills the place, and then the bailiff walks in and shouts in a loud voice "All Rise"; and the judge enters in his black robe of authority, majesty, and justice. This is what Daniel sees.

Principle 4: God is now getting ready to open the books and to read judgment on these kingdoms and these peoples that strive with one another for greatness. The nations of the earth are rising and falling, but God reigns over them all in heaven on His throne.

Verses 11-12 take us back to earth. And we see that the Anti-Christ, The Beast, is speaking and the beast was slain and his body was given to the flame. That old wicked person will rule over the earth for 3.1/2 years but he will be cast into the lake of fire. So who is the first person to be thrown into the Lake of Fire? The Anti-Christ is the first person to be thrown into the lake of fire. The beast and the false prophet. Revelation 19:20 So now we are done on earth and we go back to the heavenly screen.



Verse 13 "I kept looking in the night visions, And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him. If you are students of prophecy you will know that Jesus is referred to in several ways. Sometimes he is referred to as the "Son of God"; and that speaks of His deity. When He is referred to as the "Son of David" that speaks to His royalty. And when He is referred to as the "Son of Man" it speaks of His humanity.¹

Principle 5: Jesus is the "Son of Man" referred to in this passage.

You may remember on the night before Jesus was crucified he was interrogated by the high priest and when Jesus referred to himself as the "Son of Man" the high priest tore his own clothes and offered Jesus up to be killed. I read now from Mark 14th Chapter verses 60 and following: The high priest stood up *and came* forward and questioned Jesus,

¹ Dr. David Jeremiah

saying, "Do You not answer? What is it that these men are testifying against You?" But He kept silent and did not answer. Again the high priest was questioning Him, and saying to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed *One*?" And Jesus said, "I am; and you shall see THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF POWER, and COMING WITH THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN." Tearing his clothes, the high priest said, "What further need do we have of witnesses? "You have heard the blasphemy....and they all condemned Him to be deserving of death."²

Principle 6: God is going to judge Jesus and is going to give him the nations of the world.

Principle 7: Jesus is to receive the kingdom, authority and power that is His. Rev 11:15 says it this way, "Then the seventh angel sounded: And there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdoms of this world have become *the kingdoms* of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever!" Psalm 72:11 says, "Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him; All nations shall serve Him."

Rev 19:15-16 Now out of His mouth goes a sharp sword, that with it He should strike the nations. And He Himself will rule them with a rod of iron. He Himself treads the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. **16** And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name is written: KING OF KINGS AND ^L_{SEP}LORD OF LORDS.

So church, who is Jesus to you? I want to play a video clip for you this morning that says what I want to say better than I could ever say it myself. This is Dr Shadrach Meshach Lockridge who was born right up the road from us in Robertson County, Texas. He was one of the greatest Baptist preachers of all times. He pastored Calvary Baptist Church in San Diego for many years. He is so eloquent. The clip is hard to hear because it was recorded probably 50 years ago, but listen and ask yourself today, do you know Him?

VIDEO CLIP REV. SHADRACH MESHACH LOCKRIDGE -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXKRwv5xF5c>

He's the King of the Jews - that's a racial King.
He's the King of Israel - that's a national King.
He's the King of Righteousness. He's the King of the Ages.
He's the King of Heaven. He's the King of Glory.
He's the King of kings and He's the Lord of lords. That's my King!

Well, I wonder do you know Him.

My King is a sovereign King - no means of measure can define His limitless love.
He's enduringly strong. He's entirely sincere. He's eternally steadfast.
He's immortally graceful. He's imperially powerful. He's impartially merciful.

Do you know Him?

He's the greatest phenomenon that has ever crossed the horizon of this world.
He's God's Son. He's the sinner's Savior. He's the centerpiece of civilization.
He's unparalleled, He's unprecedented. He is the loftiest idea in literature.
He's the highest personality in philosophy. He's the fundamental doctrine of true

² *New American Standard Bible: 1995 update.* (1995). (Mk 14:60–64). LaHabra, CA: The Lockman Foundation.

theology. He's the only one qualified to be an all-sufficient Savior.

I wonder if you know him today?

**He supplies strength for the weak. He's available for the tempted and the tried.
He sympathizes and He saves. He strengthens and sustains. He guards and He
guides. He heals the sick. He cleansed the lepers. He forgives sinners.
He discharges debtors. He delivers the captive. He defends the feeble.
He blesses the young. He serves the unfortunate.
He regards the aged. He rewards the diligent. And He beautifies the meek.**

**I wonder if you know Him? Well, my King---
He is the key, He's the key to knowledge.
He's the wellspring of wisdom.
He's the doorway of deliverance.
He's the pathway of peace.
He's the roadway of righteousness.
He's the highway of holiness.
He's the gateway of glory.**

Do you know Him?

**His life is matchless.
His goodness is limitless.
His mercy is everlasting.
His love never changes.
His Word is enough.
His grace is sufficient.
His reign is righteous and
His yoke is easy and
His burden is light.**

**I wish I could describe Him to you.
But He's indescribable. He's incomprehensible.
He's invincible.
He's irresistible.**

**Well, you can't get Him out of your mind,
You get Him off of your hand,
You can't outlive Him, and you can't live without Him.**

**Well, the Pharisees couldn't stand Him, but they found out they couldn't stop Him.
Pilate couldn't find any fault in Him.
Herod couldn't kill Him.
Death couldn't handle Him and
the grave couldn't hold Him. Yeah !**

**THAT'S MY KING !
THAT'S MY KING ! YEAH !**

Let us pray - Invitation to know Him

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