

INTRODUCTION

- * The first half of the book of Daniel was primarily historical. Today, we begin considering the final six chapters which are primarily prophetic. Yet, the prophecies of Daniel contain such great detail that liberal scholars have sought for years to prove that they were written after the fact! However, in 1952 Cave 4 at Qumran revealed fragments of a manuscript containing segments of the prophetic portion of the book of Daniel! These are manuscripts are commonly referred to as the Dead Sea Scrolls. At least eight manuscripts of Daniel have been found among the 11 caves; only the Psalms (13) and Exodus (9) outnumber that number of manuscripts!
- * This is where we begin to see The Impact of His Writing! Remember 2 Timothy 3:16 (all scripture is God-breathed) and 2 Peter 1:19-21 (no prophecy of scripture is of any **private interpretation**, but holy men spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit).
- * As we enter into this portion it is important to remember two concepts: 1) Prophecy is best understood "after the fact." 2) Progressive Revelation refers to the fact that God continued to unveil more details regarding prophecy (specifically, end-time prophecy) throughout Scripture. That which is given later agrees with, and expands upon, that which has already been given.
- * THE MAJOR LESSON that we need to remember as we begin to consider this portion is that God is Sovereign over ALL Kingdoms and events. HISTORY is truly HIS-STORY! Nothing has ... or will ... take God by surprise. I do not need to fear or be anxious about my current, or future, situation because God has it under control!
- * At the beginning of the reign of Nebuchadnezzar, he had his dream of the statue which represented five kingdoms and then that of the Messiah's. YHWH allowed Daniel the privilege of receiving the identical dream and it's interpretation. I often wonder whether Daniel, in his studies and prayers, continued to ponder and pray about further understanding regarding that dream/vision ... because the prophetic portion of the book of Daniel expand upon this prophetic dream of Nebuchadnezzar.

INSTRUCTION

I. OBSERVATIONS

A. The Four Kingdoms (v. 1-8; cf. 2:37-45)

1. THE LION (v. 4; cf. 4:33)

2. THE BEAR (v. 5)

3. THE LEOPARD (v. 6)

4. THE TERRIBLE BEAST (v. 7-8, 23-24; Daniel 2:40-43; Revelation 12:3; 13:1-8; 17)

B. The Pompous Horn (v. 8, 20-25)

1. HIS I _____ (cf. Daniel 8:9-12; 11:29-32; Revelation 13:1-9)

2. HIS B _____ (v. 8,11,20-21,24-26; Revelation 13:6)

C. The Ancient of Days (v. 9-14, 21-22, 26-27; Revelation 1:14-15)

1. HIS DESCRIPTION (cf. Revelation 1:14-15)

2. HIS COURT

D. The Son of Man (v. 13-14)

1. HE CAME _____ (cf. Matthew 24:30; 26:64; Acts 1:9-11; Revelation 1:7; ... Revelation 10:1-7; 14:14-20)

2. HE WAS GIVEN _____ (cf. Revelation 11:15)

E. The Saints of the Most High (v. 18, 21-22, 25-27; cf. Daniel 9:24-27; 7:25; Revelation 13:7)

II. APPLICATIONS

A. The S_____ of the Ancient of Days

1. HE IS THE ULTIMATE R_____ (v. 14)

2. HE IS THE ULTIMATE J_____ (v. 10,22,26)

B. The P_____ of Daniel (v. 15, 28)

INTROSPECTION

- * HOW DOES A CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE EVENTS AFFECT YOU? ARE YOU TRUSTING IN THE SOVEREIGNTY OF GOD?
- * DO YOU HAVE A DESIRE TO KNOW THE WORD OF GOD MORE FULLY? WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO MAKE THAT HAPPEN?
- * ARE YOU WILLING TO ACCEPT THE FACT THAT THERE WILL BE THINGS THAT GOD HAS CHOSEN NOT TO REVEAL TO US?
- * AT TIMES, SAINTS OF THE MOST HIGH WILL BE ASKED TO GLORIFY GOD THROUGH SUFFERING AND PERSECUTION. WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO STRENGTHEN YOUR FAITH?
- * IS THERE A NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY YOU THINK ... AND, THEREFORE, THE WAY YOU ACT?

INTERACTION ... Thoughts & Questions to ponder for later discussion

- * Consider the following verses: Proverbs 21:1; Ezra 7:27-28; Psalm 105:23-26. What is stated regarding God's interaction among nations and history. What other Scripture passages can/should be considered?