**Is Anyone In Control?**

Daniel: God Is In Control

Daniel 7

Main Idea: While nations rage throughout the earth today, God rules on His throne and provides His people with joy and hope that this world can’t touch or take away.

Earthly Kingdoms Are \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1-8)

* The purpose of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is to encourage believers, not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them
* These 4 beasts represent \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and they terrify Daniel

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Kingdoms \_\_\_\_\_ Under God’s Control (9-14)

* God is seated on His throne as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Who is the Son of Man? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!
* Jesus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ His Kingdom when He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to heaven. He will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ His Kingdom when He \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Kingdom \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ All Others (15-28)

* 4 Main Views of Apocalyptic Literature:
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – all to come in the future
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – all happened in the past
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – playing out over history
  + \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ – no literal fulfillment, symbolic
* Early Christians often said: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* In Scripture, we see that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**What To Do Today Knowing How the Story Ends:**

1. Human Rulers Will Oppose Us: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Human Rulers Will Try to Silence Us: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Spiritual Forces Will Try to Divide Us: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
4. Spiritual Forces Will Discourage Us: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
5. God Wins: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The Gates of Hell Will \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Prevail Against the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus Christ!

**Family Discussion Questions:**

1. Daniel’s dream terrified him even though he knew that his God was in control. What are some things that have scared you? How has remembering God’s power encouraged you?
2. The purpose of eschatology is to encourage God’s people, and books like Daniel and Revelation are among the most popular with Christians being persecuted. Why do you think this is the case?
3. True or False: There is one clear-cut interpretation of every detail in this chapter that every single Christian agrees with
4. As you think of some of the uncertainties you face in life, how does the truth of God’s victory help you stand boldly on God’s Word?
5. Which is not an animal mentioned in Daniel 7
   1. Lion
   2. Tiger
   3. Bear
6. We talk a lot about the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, but often, we don’t talk as much about the ascension. Why does the ascension of Jesus matter so much? (Read Matthew 28 and Acts 1)
7. We know how the story ends! Who is someone you know who doesn’t know Jesus as Lord and Savior? Pray that God will provide you with opportunities to share this hope with them this week!

**Is Anyone In Control?**

Daniel: God Is In Control

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Main Idea: While nations rage throughout the earth today, God rules on His throne and provides His people with joy and hope that this world can’t touch or take away.

Earthly Kingdoms Are Not in Control (1-8)

* The purpose of eschatology is to encourage believers, not divide them
* These 4 beasts represent Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome… they terrify Daniel

Earthly Kingdoms Are Under God’s Control (9-14)

* God is seated on His throne as judge and king
* Who is the Son of Man? Jesus Christ!
* Jesus inaugurated His Kingdom when He ascended to heaven. He will consummate His Kingdom when He returns

God’s Kingdom Destroys All Others (15-28)

* Views of apocalyptic literature:
  + Futurist – all to come in the future
  + Preterist – all happened in the past
  + Historicist – playing out over history
  + Idealist – no literal fulfillment, symbolic
* Early Christians often said: Jesus is King
* In Scripture, we see that God’s people suffer

**What To Do Today Knowing How the Story Ends:**

1. Human Rulers Will Oppose Us: Stand Firm
2. Human Rulers Will Try to Silence Us: Sing Loud
3. Spiritual Forces Will Try to Divide Us: Study Hard
4. Spiritual Forces Will Discourage Us: Speak Jesus
5. God Wins: Don’t Be Surprised!

The Gates of Hell Will Not Prevail Against the Church of Jesus Christ!