**How Long, O Lord?**

Daniel: God Is In Control

Daniel 8

Main Idea: God’s people have long been attacked by God’s opponents, but one day, God will destroy these forces of darkness once and for all!

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Will Have Its Day \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (1-14)

* Our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in exile is that earthly kingdoms will not \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ forever
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ claimed to be god, removed regular \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, turned the temple into a temple for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, and killed \_\_\_\_\_\_ Jews
* Evil has an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_!

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Is Headed a Certain \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (15-25a)

* The reason we see brokenness is due to \_\_\_\_\_
* God \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is using \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ things to bring about something good – the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of His Kingdom

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Will Have the Final \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (25b-27)

* In the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, we suffer. In the end, we \_\_\_\_
* In light of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, God calls on us to live \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ lives today, tomorrow, and until He calls us home

Because We Know How the Story Ends:

1. We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on God’s Word
2. We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to God’s Word
3. We \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for God’s Word

The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ word is not given by a ram or a goat but by the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, who was slain for our sins!

**Family Discussion Questions:**

1. While Daniel 8 might not be as well-known as some of the other parts of Daniel, we see here a reminder that suffering is real and that suffering ends. How does this truth encourage you in your suffering?
2. True or False: Evil will last and dominate forever
3. True or False: God is working all things for His glory and our good, even when we can’t fully see or understand what that is in the moment
4. What things help us persevere during times of suffering and difficulty when we might not know how long our suffering will last?
	1. Looking to Scripture
	2. Trusting in the Lord’s timing
	3. Coming to church
	4. All of the Above
5. What is the greatest way that we see in Scripture that God provides for His people?
6. Does anything catch our God by surprise?
7. We know how the story ends. We know we suffer in this life, but it cannot compare with the glory we will receive one day! Share this living hope with others today.

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Evil Will Have Its Day Today (1-14)

* Our hope in exile is that earthly kingdoms will not rule forever
* Antiochus IV claimed to be god, removed regular sacrifices, turned the temple into a temple for Zeus, and killed 40,000 Jews
* Evil has an expiration date!

History Is Headed a Certain Way (15-25a)

* The reason we see brokenness is due to sin
* God providentially is using all things to bring about something good – the expansion of His Kingdom

God Will Have the Final Say (25b-27)

* In the moment, we suffer. In the end, we win!
* In light of the end, God calls on us to live holy lives today, tomorrow, and until He calls us home

Because We Know How the Story Ends:

1. We Stand on God’s Word
2. We Submit to God’s Word
3. We Suffer for God’s Word

The final word is not given by a ram or a goat, but by the Lamb of God who was slain for our sins!