

# CAPITOL COMMISSION®

## The Kingdom of Christ and His Saints

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Daniel 7:13-18 I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him. 14) Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed. 15) I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within my body, and the visions of my head troubled me. 16) I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things: 17) 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth. 18) But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.' (NKJV)

AND THE HIGH PRIEST ANSWERED AND SAID TO HIM, "I PUT YOU UNDER OATH BY THE LIVING GOD: TELL US IF YOU ARE THE CHRIST, THE SON OF GOD!" JESUS SAID TO HIM, "IT IS AS YOU SAID. NEVERTHELESS, I SAY TO YOU, HEREAFTER YOU WILL SEE THE SON OF MAN SITTING AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE POWER, AND COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN." MATTHEW 26:63-64

Is this the climax of Daniel's vision? Who is this "Son of Man"? What did He receive from the "Ancient of Days"? Why was Daniel grieved? Who did Daniel ask for the truth? Did this vision match his first one? Who also receives the kingdom?

#### FOCUS ON FUTURE BIBLE STUDIES:

- ➤ MAY 22-24: DANIEL 7:19-25 THE FOURTH BEAST PERSECUTES THE SAINTS
- ➤ MAY 29-31: DANIEL 7:26-28 GOD'S PREVAILING FINAL KINGDOM

When David was king of Israel and had established his kingdom in Jerusalem and built his palace, he planned to build a house for God, realizing that "the ark of God dwells inside a tent of curtains" (2 Samuel 7:2). God did not allow David to build it, but said that his son would build it instead. God, in response, promised David a greater house—an eternal kingdom. "I will set up your seed after you, who will come from your own body, and I will establish his kingdom ... I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be his Father and he shall be My son ... My mercy shall not depart from him ... your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever" (2 Samuel 7:12-16). This is the Davidic Covenant and it is repeated again in 1 Chronicles 17:11-14. But God had made an earlier covenant with Israel of blessings and curses for obedience or disobedience to His Word (Deuteronomy 27-28). Among the curses for disobedience and especially idolatry, "The Lord will bring you and the king whom you have set over you to a nation which neither you nor your fathers have known, and there you shall serve other gods-wood and stone" (28:36). Daniel and Israel were in captivity because of their disobedience nationally. Prior to their captivity, God had warned them, but He had also revealed that there was a promised Messiah who would fulfill that Davidic Covenant. "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this" (Isaiah 9:6-7). Now Daniel is given the timing of this eternal kingdom promised to King David so long ago.

#### **BIBLE STUDIES**

# Virginia

### The Kingdom of Christ and His Saints

AND BEHOLD, I AM COMING QUICKLY, AND MY REWARD IS
WITH ME, TO GIVE TO EVERY ONE ACCORDING TO HIS
WORK ... I, JESUS, HAVE SENT MY ANGEL TO TESTIFY TO
YOU THESE THINGS IN THE CHURCHES. I AM THE ROOT AND
THE OFFSPRING OF DAVID, THE BRIGHT AND MORNING
STAR. REVELATION 22:12, 16

#### I. THE SON OF HEAVEN

#### **DANIEL 7:13-14**

Daniel now climaxes his vision with his final "behold." He has the privilege of seeing the one who would fulfill the Davidic Covenant after the "times of the Gentiles." This is in heaven, yet it is emphasizing His humanity, the "One like the Son of Man." It is the favorite name that Jesus used for Himself during His years of ministry. No less than 81 times Jesus referred to Himself with this title. His divinity is emphasized first in His transportation, "Coming with the clouds of heaven!" Only God is pictured with clouds in the Old Testament, beginning with His protection over Israel in a "pillar of cloud by day" (Exodus 13:21). In addition, He alone is worthy to be presented before the "Ancient of Days," and to be awarded an eternal and universal kingdom. There are five times that His divinity is emphasized in these two verses by placing them first in contrast to the usual sequence: "with clouds of heaven," "to the Ancient of Days," "before Him," "to Him," and "serve Him." This is the first time in Scripture that anyone is presented as the God-Man, fully human, yet eternal and fully divine! Even the early rabbis before the time of Christ knew and taught that this One is the Messiah!

"HOSANNA TO THE SON OF DAVID! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!" MATTHEW 21:9

#### II. THE SPIRIT OF HEAVINESS DANIEL 7:15-16

As Daniel has been given this awesome vision whereby he was able to look down through the corridors of time, he reveals that he was overwhelmed by these predatory animals that had arisen out of the sea and had wreaked so much havoc on God's people for so long. This word "grieved" is the same word as "anxions," used by Nebuchadnezzar when he first had his dream (Daniel 2:3), and was killing his wise men because they would not give him both the dream and its interpretation. The word "troubled" was the same used of King Belshazzar when he saw God's handwriting on the wall and his knees were knocking against one another (Daniel 5:6). His hope, since he had gone into captivity, was in the coming Messiah and now that seemed to be far away. Daniel then asked, likely Gabriel (9:21), for the "truth of all this."

SO JESUS SAID TO THEM, "ASSUREDLY I SAY TO YOU, THAT IN THE REGENERATION, WHEN THE SON OF MAN SITS ON THE THRONE OF HIS GLORY, YOU WHO HAVE FOLLOWED ME WILL ALSO SIT ON TWELVE THRONES, JUDGING THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL. AND EVERYONE WHO HAS LEFT HOUSES OR BROTHERS OR SISTERS OR FATHER OR MOTHER OR WIFE OR CHILDREN OR LANDS, FOR MY NAME'S SAKE, SHALL RECEIVE A HUNDREDFOLD, AND INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE. BUT MANY WHO ARE FIRST WILL BE LAST AND THE LAST FIRST.

MATTHEW 19:28-30

#### III. THE SUMMARY OF HISTORY DANIEL 7:17-18

The interpretation given to Daniel views the four beasts as a mere parenthesis in comparison to eternity. They are "four kings which arise out of the earth." What this heavenly instructor is most excited about is the eternal kingdom given to those who have received the Messiah for all that He is, and especially as their Lord and King. These "saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom." The imperfect tense of this verb and the next seems to point to a rotation of leadership as they continually "receive" and "possess" this eternal kingdom. The infinity of time cannot be stressed more than "forever, even forever and ever."

#### Questions to Ponder:

1) Is your hope in the future coming of the Messiah, the Son of Man?2) Is your commitment to Christ expressed by your outward testimony and sacrifice for Him?3) Are you among the saints because you have received the Messiah and serve Him as your only hope of salvation?