

DANIEL

Servant of the Most High God

Mission Arlington/Mission Metroplex Curriculum • Summer 2021

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LESSON 7

Scripture: Daniel 7:1-12:13

Memory Verse: Luke 1:31-33

“...Jesus...will be called the Son of the Most High...his Kingdom will never end!”

*Unless otherwise noted, Scripture is from the New Living Translation of the book of Daniel.



LESSON 7: The Most High God Knows the Future

We have studied many things over the course of six chapters, three kings, and two empires, things that could be seen and touched. It was an account of the history of Daniel's time. Did you know that we have only studied HALF of the book of Daniel? Many people don't realize that there are six more chapters after the account of Daniel being thrown into the lion's den and then rescued! Those six chapters are nothing like the first six; they are **not** an account of what happened after the lion's den. In fact, they are not history at all. The last six chapters of the book of Daniel are prophecy, information about the future. Daniel received it in visions from God. The first visions came while Belshazzar ruled Babylon. The latter visions came during the Medo-Persian reign. There weren't just visions, though. Many things were happening behind the scenes that cannot be seen by most of us, including spiritual battles while God was sharing prophecy with Daniel.

We will not look at every detail of every vision Daniel had. The visions are about odd beasts but they give us more information about King Nebuchadnezzar's dream from chapter two of the book of Daniel. So, instead of all the details, we will look at a pattern in those visions that began with King Nebuchadnezzar's dream. Who remembers that dream? (Wait for answers?) Yes, King Nebuchadnezzar dreamed of a statue with a gold head, silver chest and arms, bronze torso, iron legs, and iron and clay feet. What did the statue represent? (Future kingdoms.) Which kingdoms were represented? Babylon, Medo-Persian, Greek, Roman, and then some mixture of Rome and something unknown. Daniel's visions give us more information about those kingdoms. His visions were about animals and beasts, but they help us understand the kingdoms more. In the beginning the Babylonians, like lions, were fierce and fast. The Medo-Persians, like bears, would conquer the nations before them; no one could stand against them. The Greeks, like leopards, were furious as they rose to power and a leader would arise who would threaten Israel, God's chosen people, stop the sacrifices in the temple of the Most High God, and overthrow truth and righteousness. (8:8-12) The Romans would be different from and more terrible than all the others and were seen in Daniel's vision as a "dreadful, terrifying and very strong" beast. (7:7) They "devoured and crushed and trampled down what was left." (7:7 AMP) And as if that were not bad enough, at some later time, a kingdom will arise from Rome that will wage war with God's holy people and defy the Most High God. God's people will be placed under his control for a short time.

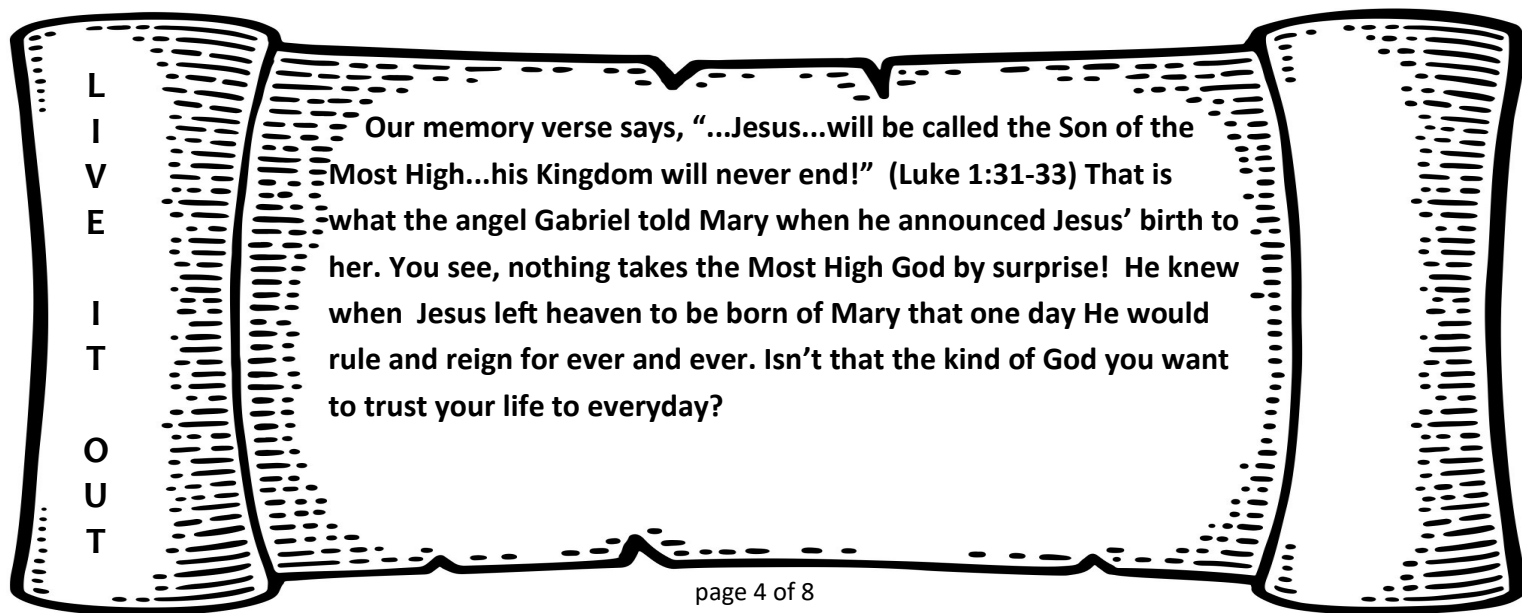
That sounds terrifying and awful, doesn't it? But will all of this last forever? Will those kingdoms keep hurting people, God's people? Let's see what message God gave another prophet. (Read Habakkuk 1:11) One day they will be held guilty. These strange and terrible beasts represent the kingdoms of this world. They push and strain and devour not realizing that their time is short.

Let's think back to King Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the statue. What ultimately happened to that statue? (Wait for answers.) Yes, a rock not cut by human hands fell on the feet and crushed them and then the entire statue crumbled and fell to dust. Who is the "rock not cut by human hands"? Yes, it is Jesus! (Read Daniel 7:9-10) The books were opened in judgment and just like Babylon's last king, Belshazzar, all these

kingdoms will be weighed on the scales of justice and found wanting. They just do not measure up! Once they are judged and condemned, something wonderful happens. Who remembers from Daniel chapter two what happened to the rock not cut by human hands? It became a great mountain that covered the whole earth. (2:35) Daniel described it this way, “During the reigns of those kings, the God of Heaven will set up a kingdom that will never be destroyed or conquered. It will crush all these kingdoms into nothingness, and it will stand forever.” (2:44) “At that time every one...whose name is written in the book will be rescued.” (12:1b) And “the kingdom of the world [will] become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Messiah, and **HE** will reign forever and ever!” (Revelation 11:15) When all of this happens, those in Heaven who serve God will fall on their faces and worship God saying, “We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty...because you have taken Your great power and have begun to reign. The nations were angry and your wrath has come. The time has come for judging the dead, and for rewarding Your servants the prophets and Your people who revere your name.” (Revelation 11:17-18)

Do you know what that means? It means that for those of us who have chosen to follow Jesus and serve Him, we will live with Jesus forever in heaven. We will get to see, face to face, the One we have only known by name before! What is the name of God we have talked about most this summer? The Most High God. He is the one who rules and reigns. He raises up kingdoms and takes them down. He is the One in control.

We have mentioned another important name in this lesson, Jesus. Does anyone know what Jesus’ name means? It means Jehovah is Salvation, or God Saves. Other than angry kings, what do you and I need to be saved from? S.I.N. All of us have sinned. We deserve eternal punishment for that sin and we will receive it if we keep our lives only for us. We have a choice, though. While we were sinning and unaware of our need, Jesus died for us and offers us the free gift of eternal life. (Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:8) He is offering it to you right now, through me. Will you accept that gift?

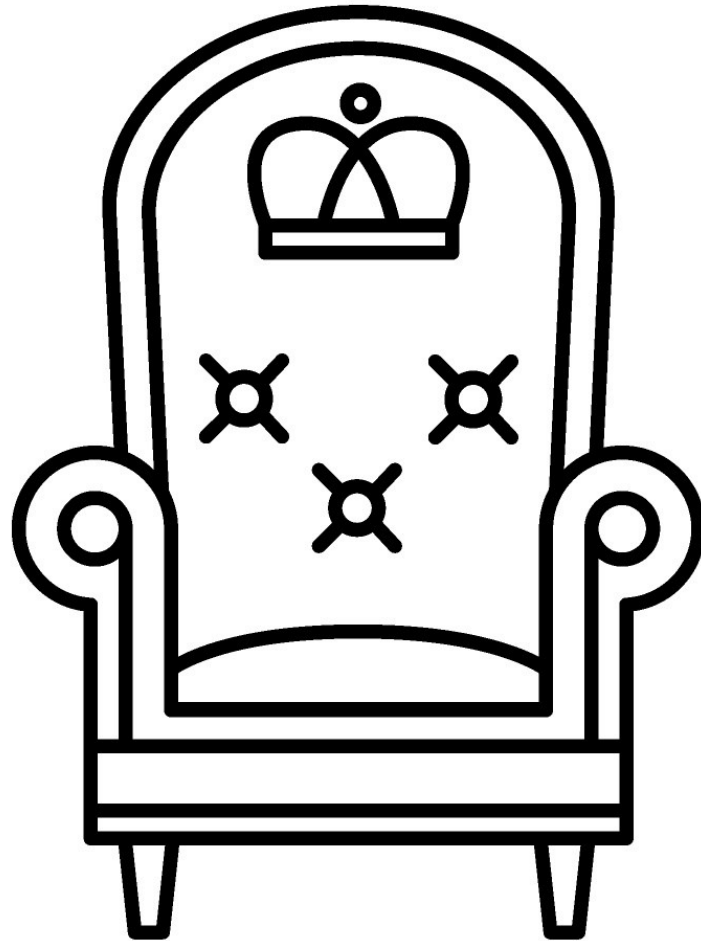


ACTIVITIES

- Memory verse activity: Make Memory Verse Mobius Strips (Infinity Loops). Print the memory verse on paper strips. Tape the strips together after giving the paper a half-twist. Talk about Jesus' kingdom that will never end and you re-read the "never ending" verse.
- Provide coloring pages of the story. Even though this lesson doesn't lend itself well to traditional coloring pages, print off pages of lions, bears and leopards. Encourage older students to add to the animal what is missing in its description in Daniel, chapter 7.
- Make your balance scale with hangers, string, and cups. Compare the weights of different objects. Discuss the Kingdom of God vs the kingdoms of this world. How do they "measure up?"
- Make a test with review questions of the entire book of Daniel.
- Play any of the Animal Games you might not have gotten to from Lesson 4. Focus especially on the animals listed in the final chapters of the book of Daniel. (lion, bear, leopard, ram, and goat — even the dreadful, terrible beast, if you are up for it!)
- For Further Study: Create a Statue Match-Up. Provide pictures of Nebuchadnezzar's statue from Lesson 2, Chapter 2, as well as pictures of the animals in Daniel 7, 8. Read through these two chapters and match the animal with the correct part of the statue.



LUKE 1:31-33



Jesus... will be called
the Son of the Most High;
his Kingdom will never end!

WORD SEARCH

P	A	W	U	O	L	A	E	J	G	N	D	K	A	Daniel
K	I	O	G	D	A	N	I	E	L	T	A	D	D	
W	P	R	O	P	H	E	C	Y	L	B	N	C	M	Visions
T	D	L	G	R	O	N	O	H	H	T	I	N	I	prophecy
R	A	D	O	G	H	G	I	H	T	S	O	M	M	
I	W	K	E	D	T	N	I	E	R	S	L	S	O	World Kingdoms
N	W	I	L	L	N	E	V	E	R	E	N	D	D	
Y	A	N	A	S	E	M	I	T	E	E	R	H	G	Jesus
I	A	G	L	E	M	R	S	P	S	N	A	U	N	Son
R	L	D	E	K	E	I	I	M	A	E	Y	E	I	
E	A	O	C	H	D	T	O	A	V	H	E	A	K	Most High God
T	P	M	U	I	E	I	N	Z	E	Z	D	G	S	His Kingdom
N	E	S	U	S	E	J	S	A	S	A	A	E	I	
I	N	E	S	O	T	G	O	P	A	R	T	Y	H	Will Never End



WORD SEARCH

P	A	W	U	O	L	A	E	J	G	N	D	K	A
K	I	O	G	D	A	N	I	E	L	T	A	D	D
W	P	R	O	P	H	E	C	Y	L	B	N	C	M
T	D	L	G	R	O	N	O	H	H	T	I	N	I
R	A	D	O	G	H	G	I	H	T	S	O	M	M
I	W	K	E	D	T	N	I	E	R	S	L	S	O
N	W	I	L	L	N	E	V	E	R	E	N	D	D
Y	A	N	A	S	E	M	I	T	E	E	R	H	G
I	A	G	L	E	M	R	S	P	S	N	A	U	N
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E	A	O	C	H	D	T	O	A	V	H	E	A	K
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N	E	S	U	S	E	J	S	A	S	A	A	E	I
I	N	E	S	O	T	G	O	P	A	R	T	Y	H

Daniel

Visions

prophecy

World Kingdoms

Jesus

Son

Most High God

His Kingdom

Will Never End

