

Soli Deo Gloria

Da 7:13,14

A King Comes

His arrival

His coronation

Intro: It happened about 550B.C. The prophet Daniel was lying on his bed one day and he had a dream. In it visions passed through his mind: a lion with the wings of an eagle; a bear; a leopard with four wings; a large, terrifying powerful beast with iron teeth and ten horns. Then Daniel saw **“one like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven.”** Today we will learn what this part of Daniel’s vision was all about and what it means for us personally. We will be guided by this theme: **A King Comes**. We will note two things: **1) His arrival** and **2) His coronation**.

I. His arrival

A. What is Daniel seeing in vision? (13)

1. ‘son of man’

- a. Daniel’s description of the events in his vision at night are rather cryptic
- b. who and what is Daniel speaking about?
- c. let us examine what he says and compare it with other portions of Scripture and allow Scripture to interpret Scripture to find the answer to that question
- d. Daniel speaks of the one coming as **“one like a son of man”** – this is a human being
- e. when we compare this with Jesus’ appearance on this earth as a human being
- f. and with how Jesus often referred to himself as the **‘Son of Man’**
- g. we quickly discover the identity of this ‘person’ Daniel speaks about-it’s Jesus

2. ‘coming with the clouds of heaven’

- a. furthermore, Daniel tells us that this **‘one like a son of man’** is **‘coming with the clouds of heaven’**

- b. the clouds are his vehicle, his mode of transport
 - c. compare this with our Epistle lesson in which John wrote in his **(Re 1:7, “Look, he is coming with the clouds...”)**
 - d. or we might recall what Jesus told his disciples about the end of time and his return in **(Lk 21:27, “At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.”)**
 - e. all comparisons being made, we conclude that Daniel is seeing a vision of Jesus’ second coming
- B. Who will see and how they will feel
1. Jesus’ return seen by all
 - a. this coming will be quite different than his first coming in Bethlehem
 - b. just a handful of people witnessed Jesus’ first coming
 - c. his parents, some shepherds
 - d. but all people will witness Jesus’ second coming
 - e. when Jesus comes the second time all people will see him
 - f. every eye from the US to Japan, from the North pole to the South pole will see Jesus’ return – a point confirmed in John’s **(Re 1:7, “...and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him...”)**
 2. a joyful occasion for the faithful
 - a. as our Epistle lesson points out, many, many people will mourn Jesus’ second coming
 - b. they will mourn because it will signal the beginning of awful things for those who do not believe
 - c. and they will know this
 - d. but for the faithful, for us, this will be a joyful occasion
 - e. when we see Jesus returning we will see one who is like us
 - f. not someone intimidating or frightful
 - g. not someone who will overwhelm us
 - h. but someone with a welcome and friendly countenance
 - i. we will see a friend, a flesh and blood brother, coming to bring us only good things
 - j. **(Lk 21:28, “When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”)**

Trans: What a joyful day for us, this day when Jesus, the Son of Man, returns with the clouds. On the day of his arrival every hope we have as Christians will be fulfilled. And on this day we will witness the coronation of Jesus, the King of kings.

II. His coronation (14)

A. Given supreme power over all

1. given authority, glory, sovereign power
 - a. at the coronation of a king, the one to become king is given power by another person-perhaps his predecessor or an official of some kind
 - b. in Daniel's vision Jesus is led into the presence of the **'Ancient of Days'**
 - c. this unusual title refers to God the Father, the eternal, unchangeable One
 - d. in the Father's presence Jesus is given **"authority, glory and sovereign power"**
 - e. on the Last Day Jesus will receive a kingdom from God the Father
2. why?
 - a. some men are made king just because of their bloodline or succession
 - b. whether they deserve it or not
 - c. but not Jesus – he deserves to be a King because he died for all people
 - d. the supreme sacrifice of his life for the salvation of all people entitles him to be a King
 - e. all people owe him their life and salvation
 - f. for this reason Jesus is given **"authority, glory and sovereign power"** and made King

B. His subjects

1. Jesus is King of all
 - a. now, an earthly king is only king over a certain ethnic group or territory
 - b. there are many people and much territory over which he does not have authority
 - c. but at the End Jesus will be made King over all
 - d. and all people will be subject to him and worship him

- e. whether they are willing or not
 - f. Paul predicted this when he wrote in **(Php 2:10ff, "at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord...")**
2. some forced some willingly
 - a. all will be subject to the King Jesus
 - b. for some like the devil, his cohorts and unbelievers the subjection will be forced
 - c. but others, like us, will joyfully and willingly subject themselves to King Jesus
 - d. we will be subjects under our King Jesus in his kingdom
 - e. but only because of the Triune God and his gracious action in our lives
 - f. we were rebels, throwing off the rule of Jesus, destined for hell
 - g. but God the Father changed us-he sent his Son to die for us
 - h. and by the work of his Spirit God the Father led us to trust in his Son, our Savior
 - i. and by this he brought us into the kingdom of his Son
 - j. (Co 1:13,14, "For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of his Son he loves, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.")**
 - k. now and forever we are subjects in King Jesus' kingdom
- ### C. His eternal invincible kingdom
1. eternal
 - a. we are well aware that kingdoms rise and kingdoms fall – all of them, history has proved it
 - b. witness Hitler's 1000 year Reich destroyed by Allied power or the demise of Communism
 - c. but Jesus' kingdom will endure forever
 - d. as Jesus is eternal so is his kingdom
 2. invincible
 - a. and, we are well aware of the fact that every kingdom has its enemies looking to destroy it and very often it has happened
 - b. dictators are toppled; tyrants are deposed; despots are assassinated

- c. but Jesus' kingdom is invincible, it will never be destroyed
- d. because all the enemies of Jesus' kingdom will be locked up in hell forever
- e. in this eternal, invincible kingdom you and I will live
- f. never to die but always to enjoy the glory that is in store for us and awaits us
- g. as Jesus called it (Mt 25:34, "...the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.")**
- h. in that glorious kingdom we will serve our King Jesus in everlasting 'righteousness, innocence and blessedness,' to borrow a line from Luther
- i. this knowledge will influence how we live on earth as we await our King's return
- j. we will in Peter's words (2Pe 3:11,12, "...live holy and godly lives as [we] look forward to the day of God and speed its coming.")**

Concl: Today is the Last Sunday of the church year. For the last three weeks we have heard about the Last Judgment, the Saints Triumphant, and Christ the King and his eternal kingdom. As Christians we eagerly await the realization of all the hopes associated with these things and we join the apostle John in the closing words of his Apocalypse and we say, **"Come Lord Jesus!"** Amen.