

Beyond our control

- What things are beyond our control yet really matter?
- How do you respond?
 - What do you tell yourself?
 - How do you counsel others?
- What is the hope we have?

Incomparable

Daniel 7:1-14

Brown (English) Bible: Page _

White (Spanish) Bible: Page _

Red (Chinese) Bible: Page _



Three Major Aspects of Worldviews

- Objective
 - Guilt & innocence
 - Generally individualistic
- Relational
 - Shame & honor
 - Generally collectivistic
- Domination
 - Vulnerability & power
 - Generally spiritually focused

**TO UNDERSTAND OUR WORLD,
GOD AND THE GOSPEL,
WE NEED ALL 3**

SO WE NEED EACH OTHER!

“Holy Week”

Sunday: Palm Sunday

- Jesus entered Jerusalem, being welcomed as a king
 - Palm branches and coats on the ground to honor Jesus
 - “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”
 - “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”

Mark 11:8-9

Thursday: Last Supper with disciples = Maundy Thursday

Friday: Crucifixion = Good Friday

Sunday: Resurrection = Easter

What kind of King is Jesus?

Again the high priest asked him, “Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?”

“I am,” said Jesus. “And you will see the **Son of Man** sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and **coming on the clouds of heaven.**” *Mark 15:61-62*

- Quoting from Psalm 110 and Daniel 7

Daniel

- One of the Jewish people who were conquered by the Babylonians (around 586 BC)



Daniel

- One of the Jewish people who were conquered by the Babylonians (around 586 BC)
- Daniel chapters 7-12: “Apocalyptic” literature
 - Visually very dramatic
 - Lots of symbolism
 - Question: allegory? *Does each symbol has a direct referent? What?*
 - Emphasis:
 - Current crisis of evil
 - It will get worse
 - It will be replaced by future good

Daniel 7

- 1: Setting for Daniel’s visions: 1st beast/kingdom
- 2-8: 4 beasts=4 kingdoms: terrorizing, uncontrollable
- 9-10: Ancient of Days on the throne in beauty and power
- 11-12: Judgment of the beasts: power is removed
- 13-14: Son of Man’s unending, unlimited kingdom
- 15-28: Visions “explained”

The Big Idea

**The final, incomparable authority
over all
forever
is God
in Jesus Christ
though it doesn't look like it today**

Daniel's audience had more
“beasts” coming

We have more “beasts” coming

“In spite of exile and persecution,
God is still in control of history
and will see His purposes through.”



Implications

1. Hope in God

- No power or authority can begin to compare with the power and authority of God

Romans 8:31-39

What, then, shall we say in response to [God's promise to bring us to glory]? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all—how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies. Who then is the one who condemns? No one. Christ Jesus who died—more than that, who was raised to life—is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.

interceding = praying with authority to the Father

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written:

“For your sake we face death all day long;
we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Implications

1. Hope in God

- No power or authority can begin to compare with the power and authority of God
- He offers to take us into His protection through the heroic act of Jesus Christ to conquer the greatest powers for us through His death and resurrection
 - Jesus said, “Come to me!”

Implications

1. Hope in God
2. Realize the limitations of all other hopes
 - Education
 - Money
 - Friends and relationships
 - Personal ability, resolve, attitude, and character
 - Governments and organizations
 - ...
 - **Everything else** will fail us in the face of sin and death

The Big Idea

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Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober,
set your hope on the grace to be brought to you
when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming.

1 Peter 1:13

What/who are the “beasts” in your world?

What are the other hopes, hopes that will certainly fail?

You, dear children, are from God and have overcome them, because the one who is in you is greater than the one who is in the world.

1 John 4:4

