



Ice breaker: When life feels uncertain or overwhelming, what helps you stay steady or grounded?

Read and reflect on Daniel 7:15-28:

¹⁵ “I, Daniel, was troubled in spirit, and the visions that passed through my mind disturbed me. ¹⁶ I approached one of those standing there and asked him the meaning of all this. “So he told me and gave me the interpretation of these things: ¹⁷ ‘The four great beasts are four kings that will rise from the earth. ¹⁸ But the holy people of the Most High will receive the kingdom and will possess it forever—yes, for ever and ever.’¹⁹ “Then I wanted to know the meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others and most terrifying, with its iron teeth and bronze claws—the beast that crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. ²⁰ I also wanted to know about the ten horns on its head and about the other horn that came up, before which three of them fell—the horn that looked more imposing than the others and that had eyes and a mouth that spoke boastfully. ²¹ As I watched, this horn was waging war against the holy people and defeating them, ²² until the Ancient of Days came and pronounced judgment in favor of the holy people of the Most High, and the time came when they possessed the kingdom. ²³ “He gave me this explanation: ‘The fourth beast is a fourth kingdom that will appear on earth. It will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, trampling it down and crushing it. ²⁴ The ten horns are ten kings who will come from this kingdom. After them another king will arise, different from the earlier ones; he will subdue three kings. ²⁵ He will speak against the Most High and oppress his holy people and try to change the set times and the laws. The holy people will be delivered into his hands for a time, times and half a time.’²⁶ ““But the court will sit, and his power will be taken away and completely destroyed forever. ²⁷ Then the sovereignty, power and greatness of all the kingdoms under heaven will be handed over to the holy people of the Most High. His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all rulers will worship and obey him.’²⁸ “This is the end of the matter. I, Daniel, was deeply troubled by my thoughts, and my face turned pale, but I kept the matter to myself.”

Review the Big Idea → Because the Son of Man has received the kingdom and the Ancient of Days has decreed the end of evil, God’s people can endure present opposition with calm confidence—knowing that suffering is real, evil is limited, and our future in Christ is secure.

Sermon and Scripture Application Discussion:

1. God Does Not Hide the Reality of Evil (Daniel 7:15–21)

- How does Daniel respond? What does this teach us about bringing fear or confusion to God?
- How does Scripture’s honesty about brokenness challenge the idea that faith should make life easy?
- *“Beastliness wears a suit before it bares its teeth.”*
 - Where do you see hidden brokenness today (e.g., companies, governments, families)?
 - How does this point to the deeper problem of the human heart? (Jeremiah 17:9)

Senior Pastor, Kevin Flannery

Series: Exiles in Babylon: Living as Strangers in a Fallen World

Sermon Title: Endurance for the Saints

Spring Term: Week 15 of 20



2. God Sets Strict Limits on Evil (*Daniel 7:22–25*)

- What do these verses reveal about God’s authority over evil?
- What does it mean that evil’s time is limited?
- “*Evil has a leash.*”
 - When have you experienced a season that felt endless but wasn’t?
 - How does the truth that God sets limits help you persevere?

3. God Will Vindicate His People (*Daniel 7:26–27*)

- What happens to evil in the end?
- Why does this lead to calm confidence instead of panic?
- “*The kingdom is received, not achieved.*”
 - Why is it good news that our future depends on Christ, not us?
 - How does this guard against pride and discouragement? (Ephesians 2:8–9)

4. Holding Honesty & Hope Together (*Daniel 7:28*)

- Why is it encouraging that Daniel is still troubled?
 - What does it look like to live with both honesty and hope?
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Digging Deeper (*Optional*)

- Son of Man → Jesus (Dan. 7:13–14; Mark 14:61–62): Where do you see *cross before crown*?
 - Kingdom of God (Dan. 7:27; Rev. 11:15; Phil. 3:20): What does it mean to live as citizens now?
 - God Over Nations (Dan. 7:17; Acts 17:26): How does this shape your view of world events?
 - Final Justice (Dan. 7:26; Rev. 20:11–15): How does this free you from fear or control?
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Closing Prayer: Lord, You see the reality of this broken world, and nothing is hidden from You. Help us to trust that even when evil feels strong, it is limited by Your power and authority. Give us endurance and calm confidence as we follow you, Jesus, knowing that Your kingdom will come and Your victory is sure.

Faith in Action:

- Apr 14 – Adult Fellowship Luncheon (12 PM, Gym)
- Apr 18 – New Members Course (8:30 AM, A106)
- Apr 19 – Global Outreach Prayer (12 PM, F101)
- Apr 23 – Bible Camp Volunteer Meeting (6 PM, Welcome Center)
- May 10 – Mother’s Day