

THE FOUR BEASTS AND THE FINAL KING (Part 2)

Daniel 7:13-28

AiM 8/28/2026

Four Scenes in the Prophetic Panorama of World History and Things to Come:

I. The Imperial Rise of the Four Beasts (7:1-7)

II. The Boastful Arrival of the Little Horn (7:8)

III. The Fiery Judgment of The Ancient of Days (7:9-10)

IV. The Everlasting Kingdom of the Son of Man (7:13-14)

V. The Sobering Interpretation of the Vision (7:15-28)

Please turn your Bibles and your attention to Daniel chapter 7.

It is a joy to continue our study of the incredible Book of Daniel tonight!

Tonight, Lord-willing, we will finish out chapter 7, covering the second half, verses 13-28.

Here in chapter 7 we are considering *The Four Beasts and the Final King*.

Last time, we focused primarily on *the Four Beasts*, but tonight we will turn our attention primarily to focus on *The Final King*!

Once again, this chapter will be another declaration about that overarching theme that controls every page of the book of Daniel:

The absolute Sovereignty and Trustworthiness of the True and Living God.

We are walking through this chapter 7 by considering: *Five Scenes in the Prophetic Panorama of World History and Things to Come*: [See Handout]

Last time, we covered the first three of those scenes—let me briefly recap for you:

I. The Imperial Rise of the Four Beasts (7:1-7)

In vv.1-7, Daniel saw 4 terrifying beasts rising out of the sea.

v. 17 makes it clear that these 4 beasts represent 4 kingdoms.

And further revelation in the book of Daniel (and the unfolding of history) reveals the identity of these four gentile kingdoms.

For example, this vision is an undeniable parallel to chapter 2, where Nebuchadnezzar had his vision of the “segmented statue”.

Which also represented the same 4 earthly kingdoms.

And we will get further details about these kingdoms in the remaining chapters of Daniel.

But we can clearly identify the kingdom that each beast represents:

- Lion with Eagle’s Wings = **Babylon**
- Lopsided Bear = **Medo-Persia**
- Four-headed Leopard = **Greece**
- Monster Beast = **Rome**

But then we considered that out Rome, there was something new—the vision focuses on the 10 horns and the “Little Horn” that emerges.

So in verse 8, we considered a 2nd scene:

II. The Boastful Arrival of the Little Horn (7:8)

- We recognized the identity of this “Little Horn” is apocalyptic figure known to us now as “the Antichrist”...
- we will talk more about him tonight...
- He will arise out of a 10-king confederation of a future, revived Rome...
- he will have great power, “wear down the saints of God”, and blaspheme the Most High God... (v. 25).

From Daniel’s perspective, so far this was a terrifying vision that seemed to spell doom for God’s people...

But then the vision reaches its **turning point** in v. 9:

“...the Ancient of Days took His seat...”

Which brought us to a 3rd scene:

III. The Fiery Judgment of The Ancient of Days (7:9-10)

Let's read vv. 9-12

- 9 “I kept looking
 Until thrones were set up,
 And the Ancient of Days was seated;
 His clothing *was* like white snow
 And the hair of His head like pure wool.
 His throne *was* ablaze with fire,
 Its wheels *were* a burning fire.
- 10 “A river of fire was flowing
 And coming out from before Him;
 Thousands upon thousands were attending Him,
 And myriads upon myriads were standing before Him;
 The court sat,
 And the books were opened.
- 11 “Then I kept looking because of the sound of the great *boastful* words which the horn was speaking; I kept looking until the beast was killed, and its body was destroyed and given to the burning fire.
- 12 “As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but an extension of life was given to them for an appointed season of time.

What we find here in vv. 9-12 is a **courtroom scene**.

This “Ancient of Days” is God the Father.

This title emphasizes God's eternity. He has no beginning. He is outside of time. He is the true and living God. The Most High God.

And here, amid all the CHAOS and TURBULENCE of earthly kingdoms,
the Ancient of Days takes His seat.

Daniel describes Him in breathtaking terms—and I want you to pay close attention to this because some of the details will matter in a moment.

Daniel describes Him as being “white as snow” “hair like pure wool”—hang on to that detail.

The idea here is **purity** and a blinding brightness.

Daniel then tells us that this is FIERY scene.

His throne is ablaze with fire.

A river of fire comes out from before Him.

All throughout the Bible, we find FIRE as a description of God’s righteous **judgment**.

Here it is no different. This is a courtroom scene.

And the judge takes His seat. And the books were opened.

These are the books that contain the deeds of those who oppose God.

The irrefutable evidence of the true state of one’s soul.

No room for “excuse-making” once these books are opened.

And specifically, here the books are opened in judgment of this “Small Horn”.

And the result is clear—the Antichrist is destroyed and given to burning fire (v. 11).

So, you might think—the vision could end here!

The “bad guy” was destroyed and given to the burning fire!

The Ancient of Days is on the Throne and His righteous Judgment has been executed!

But the vision does NOT end there—and what happens next is PROFOUNDLY IMPORTANT!

This brings us the 4th scene overall:

IV. The Everlasting Kingdom of the Son of Man (7:13-14)

Let's read vv. 13-14—which are some of the most LOAD-BEARING verses in the Bible!

vv. 13-14

- 13** *"I kept looking in the night visions,
And behold, with the clouds of heaven
One **like a Son of Man** was coming,
And He came up to the Ancient of Days
And came near before Him.*
- 14** *"And to Him was given dominion,
Glory, and a kingdom,
That all the peoples, nations, and men of every tongue
Might serve Him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
Which will not be taken away;
And His kingdom is one
Which will not be destroyed.*

THIS is now the culmination and end to the vision.

And here we are introduced to a NEW character—this **"One like a Son of Man"**.

And yet, I want to make the case that this is NOT a new character in the Book of Daniel.

Rather, this "One like a Son of Man" refers to a **messianic hope** that Daniel has continually written about in this book.

And when I say Daniel's **messianic hope**, I'm referring to **the anticipation** that God would send the promised Messiah to deliver His people.

And I want to make the case that this **messianic hope** has already featured prominently in Daniel (and will do so again).

Now—just a bit of a side trail here that I hope is helpful, I think it's important.

Here we are 2,000 years *after* this Messiah's first coming.

His first coming and the eyewitness accounts in The New Testament have revealed to us that this Messiah is Jesus of Nazareth.

That's why his name is Jesus Christ—Jesus the Messiah—the anointed One—the promised one that the prophets anticipated.

So, we have the *fuller* revelation—we know **now** that those messianic prophecies all referred to Jesus Christ.

And because *we know* the fuller picture, sometimes when we look back on the OT prophets, we wrongly imagine that they didn't really have a clear picture.

Sometimes you'll hear this phrase—and it's an error that needs to be rejected—this idea that "*the OT authors wrote better than they knew...*"

A dangerous implication of that kind of thinking is that the OT text really cannot be understood without the *fuller* understanding provided by the NT.

In other words, the OT writers were just writing down messages from God that had no discernable meaning for them or for their audience.

That the meaning of these OT texts cannot be properly interpreted without the NT.

Well, do you see the subtle danger of that thinking?

In a subtle (and often unintentional) way, this strikes at the **clarity** ("perspicuity") of God's Word.

By **clarity** I mean that God does not speak in puzzles or enigmas that *decoded* somehow.

I think one of the greatest vindications of the clarity of the OT is found in Luke 24:25 from Jesus Himself.

This is after the resurrection on the road to Emmaus when Jesus was walking with two of His disciples and he says this:

“O foolish ones and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken.” (Luke 24:25)

In other words, Jesus is saying, the OT was not hidden in enigmas to be decoded only by later revelation.

No! He indicts them for being slow to BELIEVE what the OT prophets had written.

The obvious implication is that the OT was CLEAR and its meaning was available to its readers—even without the NT.

Now, of course the NT provides *more* information and finishes the story, but it does not *change* the previous information or *reinterpret* it.

God chose to reveal Himself by using human language, which He created. Words. Grammar. Syntax. Literary Genre.

And God did this graciously not be hidden, but to be *revealed, understood, and known!*

And since God used human written language, we can use the “normal” approach to interpretation that we always use to understand one another.

All that to say, we can come to a given text and understand what it MEANS!

And its meaning is whatever the original author meant and understood and what his original audience would have understood.

Which is why we study the original languages and historical contexts when interpreting Scripture (Grammatical-Historical Hermeneutic).

I know that's a bit of a side note, but it's important to understand that Daniel was not just writing down things that he knew nothing about.

He was not "writing better than he knew".

No...Daniel was developing a category here that he would've known a great deal about as a student of God's Word up to that point.

Namely, Daniel was writing about the **hope of Messiah**.

And so, we can rightly say that **Daniel has a Christology** (his doctrine of Christ).

Daniel's Christology

- The anticipation of a Divine Deliverer and Final King, called by the title "Messiah" in Dan. 9: 25 (*the name "Christ" is just the Greek translation of the Hebrew title "Messiah"*).
- Daniel, along with the OT prophets, had a clear anticipation of this Messiah who would overpower all earthly kingdoms, deliver His people, and reign over an everlasting kingdom.
- In Daniel's Christology thus far—this Messianic Figure is¹:
 - **The Supernatural Stone in Ch. 2**
 - *destroys the statue of four earthly kingdoms and becomes an everlasting, universal kingdom.*
 - **The Fourth Man in the Furnace in Ch. 3**
 - *confronts Nebuchadnezzar's desire to be the ultimate king and overpowers the fiery furnace, supernaturally delivering His people.*
 - **The Angel of God in the Lions' Den in Ch. 6**

¹ A helpful resource that dives deep into this study is: Abner Chou, ALL THAT IS IN A NAME: DANIEL'S DELIBERATE CHRISTOLOGY AND THE CONCEPT OF THE SON OF MAN, TMSJ 35/2 (Fall 2024).

- *overpowers the lions, delivers Daniel, and confronts King Darius' desire for sovereignty.*
- **The Son of Man in Ch. 7**
 - *comes with the clouds of heaven (cf. Matt 24:30 as Jesus Christ)*
 - *approaches the Ancient of Days in the Divine Courtroom (cf. Rev. 1:13-18 as Jesus Christ; also parallels to Rev. 4-5)*
 - *receives an everlasting kingdom that will not be destroyed—thus, this Son of Man is **The Final King!***

This was Daniel's anticipation based on what he saw in this vision.

- This Son of Man would be...
 - **The Prophesied Messiah:** the ultimate deliverer that Israel longed for--especially now in exile—the one called “Messiah” in Dan. 9:25
 - **The Perfect Man:** the true man that Adam was meant to be as the head of the human race...²
 - which is why the exact title here is “One like a Son of Man”
 - He is truly man, but also MORE than a man (He is God)
 - **The Promised Monarch:** the anticipated Ruler from David's line who would be the Final King to rule over an everlasting and perfect kingdom (2 Sam. 7:12-13).

So, ALL OF THAT to say, that's what would've been Daniel's anticipation and clear understanding—even without knowing *who* it referred to!

Based on what he knew from what God had revealed through the prophets and OT writers up to that point...

...especially Isaiah, Jeremiah, and many of the Psalms... books that we know Daniel studied because he quotes them and refers to them throughout.

² Ibid.

And based on what Daniel had been shown by God when he interpreted Nebuchadnezzar's dream...

Based on the Fourth Man that delivered his friends from the fiery furnace...

Based on the One who came and shut the lions mouths when Daniel spent the night in the lions' den....

And based on what he was now being shown by God in this vision...

This "Son of Man" was Daniel's HOPE!

And indeed, this is the CLIMAX of the vision!

This is the VICTORIOUS END toward which all things are RUSHING—**the victory of the Son of Man!**

That's what God shows Daniel. **This is God's answer!**

To all the chaos and wickedness of this world—*this is God's answer!*

To those who trust God and cry out for Him to bring deliverance—*this is God's answer!*

To those who strive like madmen to build their earthly kingdoms—*this is God's answer!*

Make no mistake. Please understand the GRAVITY *and* HOPE of this.

In vv. 9-12 we had a *courtroom scene* revealing the inescapable judgment of the Ancient of Days against His enemies. But the story doesn't end there.

What we have now in vv. 13-14 is a CORONATION scene—where the Ancient of Days is crowning the Final King!

Listen again to the glorious CORONATION of vv. 13-14:

- 13** "I kept looking in the night visions,
And behold, with the clouds of heaven

One like a Son of Man was coming,
And He came up to the Ancient of Days
And was presented before Him.
14 “And to Him was given dominion,
Glory and a kingdom,
That all the peoples, nations and *men of every language*
Might serve Him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
Which will not pass away;
And His kingdom is one
Which will not be destroyed.

The Son of Man is the TRUE and FINAL KING!

And beloved young adults, our hearts should ALIGN to this REALITY!

This is real. We should live in light of this!

BOW the KNEE to the true and Final King.

And don't merely give lip-service to this King—NO! Surrender your life fully to Him!

Don't proclaim that He is the true King but refuse to give Him full rights over your life.

Here in v. 14, we can observe Four Characteristics of the Kingdom Given to the Son of Man when He is crowned as the Final King³

1) **An Authoritative Kingdom** ~ “...to Him was given **dominion...**”

2) **A Glorious Kingdom** ~ “...to Him was given...**glory...**”

3) **A Universal Kingdom** ~ “...that all the peoples, nations, and men of every tongue might serve Him...” (compare to 3:4, exact wording from Neb)

4) **An Everlasting Kingdom** ~ “...everlasting dominion which will not be taken away...not be destroyed...”

³ Todd Dykstra, *Course Notes for BE 607: Daniel*, The Expositors Seminary, Spring 2025.

THIS is what will be given to this Son of Man!

He will be crowned the Final King and receive the eternal kingdom!

WHY?

The answer that Heaven gives us in Revelation 5 is this—**Because He is WORTHY!**

This One is **WORTHY** to come up to the Ancient of Days on the Throne and receive from Him the “title deed” to all creation for eternity!

And yet you and I carry on in so many ways as though He is not the worthy King.

Oh, that our lives would reflect that we believe He is WORTHY!

I want you to be gripped tonight with the worthiness of this Son of Man, whom we know is Jesus Christ.

How do we know this is Jesus Christ?

I want to show some clear reasons why Daniel’s Son of Man is Jesus Christ.

The first and main reason is that Jesus took this title “Son of Man” for Himself.

In fact, it was his favorite title to refer to Himself.

He used this term to refer to Himself more than 80 times in the Gospels. (e.g., Matt 16:27; 19:28; 26:64; Mark 8:31; John 1:51).

I want to show just one example of this that clearly connects Jesus’ use of this title to Daniel’s use of it.

Turn over to Matthew 24.

Here Jesus is teaching about the end times.

I want you to notice first verses 14-16 to give you some context here:

Jesus here is teaching about the signs of His glorious return in the future.

And He warns that many will come claiming to be the Christ.

And I want you to notice how one of His “authenticators” is to appeal to the prophecies of Daniel.

- 14 “This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come.
- 15 “Therefore when you see the ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION which was spoken of through Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand),
- 16 then those who are in Judea must flee to the mountains.

So, Jesus appeals to the prophesy of Daniel—that’s in His logic here.

Now drop down to verse 30 where Jesus describes His glorious return:

“And then the sign of **the Son of Man** will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the **SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF THE SKY** with power and great glory.

This is a direct reference to Daniel 7:13—“*the Son of Man coming with the clouds of heaven*”.

So, Jesus, who constantly referred to Himself as the “Son of Man” makes it unmistakably clear here that he is talking about Daniel’s “Son of Man”.

He’s saying, without any ambiguity: “I’m HIM!”

I’m the Prophesied Messiah who will rescue My people!

I’m the Perfect Man who will reverse the curse!

I’m the Promised Monarch who will reign forevermore!

Now, I want to show another powerful connection to this title “Son of Man”.

Turn over to Revelation 1.

The context here is that Christ is giving the Apostle John a *revelation*—a vision—of the things to come in end.

And this is how the revelation to John begins.

Let's read Revelation 1:10-14

- 10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like the sound of a trumpet,
11 saying, "Write in a book what you see, and send it to the seven churches: to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."
12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands;
13 and in the middle of the lampstands I saw **one like a son of man**, clothed in a robe reaching to the feet, and girded across His chest with a golden sash.
14 His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire.

Do the details of that description ring any bells?

Hair like white wool, like snow? Eyes ablaze with fire?

That's matches perfectly the description of who else?

The Ancient of Days in Dan. 7:9!

I believe this is an affirmation of what is revealed all throughout God's Word that Jesus Christ is GOD Himself! He is Deity!

He is Immanuel—GOD WITH US!

This passage positions us to affirm that the Son of Man shares in same divine essence as God the Father!

Which again, is why He is "One like a Son of Man" – for He is not merely a man—He is fully man, but also fully God!

Abner Chou writes,

*“Because the Lord [Christ, here in Rev. 1:14] shares this description with the Ancient of Days [in Dan. 7:9], they share the same timeless essence, a demonstration of **the Son’s deity and equality with His Father.**” (153-54)*

This is a mystery that we cannot understand *fully* in comprehension, but we can understand it *adequately* for belief!

So much theological freight is packed into this title: “the Son of Man!”

And it’s important to grasp that!

You may be aware of the objection that the Synoptic Gospels (*Matthew, Mark, and Luke*) do not contain any explicit statements about the deity of Christ.

The unmistakable connections embedded in this title positively refute such a claim.

All throughout the synoptic Gospels, Christ undeniably connects His identity to this Divine Son of Man.

So, as we stand on this side of Christ’s first coming—and as we have the full revelation of both the OT and NT, we can declare with GREAT HOPE:

Jesus Christ is the Final King!

And that’s what Daniel saw and wrote about!

That brings us to our final scene in this chapter:

V. The Sobering Interpretation of the Vision (7:15-28)

In many ways, the interpretation is what we’ve already walked through—so we will move rather quickly through this—reading most of it from the text.

But there are a couple of spots where I will slow down and point out some important observations.

Let's read.

vv. 15-18

- | | |
|----|--|
| 15 | "As for me, Daniel, my spirit was distressed within me, and the visions of my head kept alarming me. |
| 16 | "I came near to one of those who were standing by and began seeking out <i>from</i> him the exact meaning of all this. So he said <i>it</i> to me and made known to me the interpretation of these things: |
| 17 | 'These great beasts, which are four <i>in number</i> , are four kings <i>who</i> will arise from the earth. |
| 18 | 'But the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come.' |

Now this v. 18 is incredible.

Because this is now declaring God's plans and His care for His people—His "saints" (meaning His "holy ones" "set apart ones" = *believers*).

And the declaration here is that God's saints will receive the kingdom!

This is INCREDIBLE!

Because in v. 14 we were just told that the everlasting kingdom is given to the Son of Man—Jesus Christ! *And so it is!*

But now we are told that the saints ALSO receive the kingdom!

This is the HOPE that would've filled Daniel's sails with fresh wind!

"the saints of the Highest One will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever!" (v. 18)

And here I think it's helpful to just remember why Daniel was writing.

This book was written for a specific audience in a particular context!

Namely, exiled Israel.

Daniel was writing to bring HOPE and remind them that God was still on the THRONE and would ultimate win and fulfill all His promises to His people!

And this has some important implications for how you wrestle with eschatology.

Because when God shows Daniel here in Dan. 7 that the Son of Man and the Saints would receive an everlasting kingdom...we can ask two questions:

- Would Daniel (and his audience) have understood and expected that to be a literal earthly kingdom, or a spiritual kingdom?
 - *I think the clear answer is a literal, physical Kingdom*
 - *The previous four were literal physical and this one is the final one!*
 - *I think it is incongruent with the context to say that Daniel would've been writing about a "spiritual" kingdom that is fulfilled in the church age now*
 - *This kingdom was promised and anticipated for Israel and thus would've accomplished Daniel's purpose of restoring hope to his fellow Jews in exile.*
- Has this happened yet?

How you answer those questions will greatly influence your eschatology.

I believe the best fit with the text and context is that Daniel would've anticipated a literal fulfillment of these things.

Which then presses me toward that second question, *has this happened*—the answer is *no*.

At least not in a way that can bear the weight of the descriptive data here.

Moreover, as we compare this and harmonize it with what we find in Revelation, it fits perfectly with the promise of Christ's coming earthly reign.

Specifically, I'm thinking of Revelation 20. The clearest, most detailed passage on Christ's kingdom.

Rev. 20 show us that Christ will establish His kingdom on earth and reign for 1,000 years, before the final eternal state (New Heavens/Earth).

And this millennial kingdom described Rev. 20 fits perfectly with the kingdom described in Daniel 7.

Consider the clear parallels:

- It is a kingdom that is established after the defeat of the Antichrist (Dan. 7:26-27 // Rev. 20:2)
- It is a kingdom where saints reign with Christ (Dan. 7:18 // Rev. 20:4, 6)
- It is a kingdom that will never end (it merges into the Eternal State) (Dan. 7:27 // Rev. 20-21)

So again, would Daniel have expected a literal earthly kingdom and King? Yes.

Let's continue on reading this interpretation of the dream:

vv. 19-25

- | | |
|----|--|
| 19 | "Then I desired to know the exact meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, extraordinarily fearsome, with its teeth of iron and its claws of bronze, <i>and which</i> devoured, crushed, and trampled down the remainder with its feet, |
| 20 | and <i>the meaning</i> of the ten horns that <i>were</i> on its head and the other <i>horn</i> which came up and before which three <i>of them</i> fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth speaking great <i>boasts</i> and which was larger in appearance than its associates. |
| 21 | "I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and overcoming them |
| 22 | until the Ancient of Days came and judgment was given in favor of the saints of the Highest One, and the season arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom. |
| 23 | "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the <i>other</i> kingdoms and will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it. |
| 24 | 'As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will make low three kings. |

Let's make a few observations here about the Antichrist (the small horn).

He is "*different*" from the other kings. He is far more influential. Far more powerful. Unprecedented.

25 'He will speak words against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make changes in seasons and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time.

- He is a blasphemous ruler who sets himself against the Most High.
- He “wears down” the Saints of the Highest One – this is his activity:
 - o he is totally opposed to God’s people and will persecute them and wear them down.
- Law (authority) will be given into his hand for “a time, times, and half a time”
 - o What is this?
 - o A “time” is a year. (more on this next time)
 - o But this is a year, years (so 2), and half a year = 3 ½ years.
- Do you know what this sounds like? Turn over to Revelation 13.
- There we find a description of the figure known as the Antichrist that is undeniably parallel in its details.
- Revelation 13:5 ~ *“And there was given to him a mouth speaking great boasts and blasphemies, and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him.”*
- How long is 42 months? 3 ½ years. A time, times, and half a time.
- So all that to say, this harmonizes perfectly with descriptions of the Antichrist in the Book of Revelation and 2 Thessalonians.
- It is a sobering prophesy that there will be a 7-year period of Great Tribulation (such as has never been seen)
- Antichrist will seem to be prevailing.

BUT, let’s continue with the interpretation in v. 26:

26 'But the court will sit *for judgment*, and his dominion will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever.

- 27 'Then the reign, the dominion, and the greatness of *all* the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One; His kingdom *will be* an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him.'

A restatement that declares GOD WILL WIN!

Then the vision concludes and Daniel says:

- 28 "At this point the matter of *this revelation* ended. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts were greatly alarming me, and the splendor of my *face* changed, but I kept the matter in my heart."

Daniel models for us the right response to this.

What we find here is SOBERING.

It should produce SOBER-MINDEDNESS about ultimate reality.

It should produce *humility, integrity/purity*.

- *[Bridge to Gospel Summons] Does the reality of the imminent return of Christ—the Final King—secretly torment you?*
 - *Are you just distracting yourself with earth-bound things...*
 - *Turn to Him! Bow the knee to the TRUE KING.*

This chapter should produce that kind of WAKE UP call to our souls!

But it should also produce great HOPE!

We should...

- *Marvel at God's sovereignty – His kingdom WILL be established – His purposes will NOT be thwarted.*
- *Marvel at the precision and accuracy of the prophecies here regarding the four kingdoms, surely we can trust that all God's future revealed here will come to pass.*
- *Trust Him! Let these massive realities bolster your rest in the One who completely trustworthy! HE WILL KEEP HIS PROMISES!*