

BE FAITHFUL: THERE'S HOPE FOR TOMORROW!

LAST WEEK'S MESSAGE

Read Daniel 12

Why do we study biblical prophecy? Biblical prophecy validates who God is and the Bible as God's reliable word, helps us grow in faith, prepares us for eternity, and inspires us to tell others about Jesus. Daniel 12 is full of end-times prophecies — what can we learn from them?

GOD'S KINGDOM LASTS FOREVER

In Daniel 2, King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon had a dream that was anxious to understand but withheld information about. None of the wise men in all of Babylon were able to help him, but Daniel was able to describe the dream in detail to the king and interpret it (Daniel 2:31-45). The statue in Nebuchadnezzar's dream represents world kingdoms in history: head = Babylon (vv.37-38), chest and arms = Medo-Persian Empire (v.39), belly and thighs = Greece (v.39), legs = Rome (v.40), and the feet/ten toes are presumed to be the revived Roman empire (vv.41-43). The stone that struck the feet of iron and clay that crushed the statue is Jesus Christ (Acts 4:11-12)!

Eventually, Daniel had a vision of four beasts (Daniel 7:1-8), which was mirrored by the next one in Daniel 8. He had dreams about the Medo-Persian empire (ram with two horns) that was conquered by the Greek empire (Daniel 8:1-8) through Alexander the Great (male goat with a big horn). After his death, four of his generals — Cassander, Lysimachus, Seleucus, and Ptolemy — took control of the empire and historically divided it among themselves. All were eventually beaten by the Romans as prophesied.

Only the prophecy about the feet/ten toes has not yet been fulfilled, but just like how the Babylonian empire which was conquered by the Medo-Persian kingdom in Daniel's lifetime (Daniel 5:30-31), this prophecy will be fulfilled, and this future kingdom will also be destroyed. Only God's kingdom will remain forever!

GOD'S PEOPLE WILL BE TESTED

Part of Daniel's visions was one of "a little horn which grew exceedingly great" (Daniel 8:9-11). This prophecy alludes to Antiochus Epiphanes ("god manifest") who was one of the generals who succeeded Alexander the Great and "magnified himself" to be equal to God. In 175-164 B.C., he committed the "abomination of desolation"

by sacrificing a pig inside the temple in Jerusalem. This prophecy has "double fulfillment" where it will be fulfilled again in a future event. A future "Roman empire" (the fourth beast), which could be a revived Roman Empire, will still arise (Daniel 7:7). This "beast" is described as having ten horns in Revelation 13:1, it parallels the prophecy in Daniel 7 (vv. 7-8, 21).

Rome crushed their enemies and ruled over conquered nations with an iron fist unlike any other kingdom before it. And just like how Daniel was tested (Daniel 1:8, 3:18, 6:10), God's people were tested then, during the Roman empire, and now. According to Open Doors, 365 million Christians are persecuted worldwide as of this year. There is a spread and imposition of liberal worldviews (legislation, social media), and there is also the threat of economic and social loss if Christians do not conform to worldviews. We will also be tempted to compromise our faith and disobey God. The love of self, money, and pleasure; division, unforgiveness; living a double life, and DIY/fake Christianity are themselves signs of the end times that Paul and Jesus warned us about.

GOD'S SON, JESUS, WILL RETURN

Daniel 9:24-26 describes a 70-week timeline: the first 69 "weeks" being 483 years from the time of Daniel up to the decree to rebuild Jerusalem (445 B.C.), its restoration in 396 B.C., and the "silent years" between the Old and New Testament that followed. An unknown time gap follows that includes the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, the destruction of Jerusalem in 70 A.D., and the "Church Age" which continues until today up to the arrival of the 70th "week". In the 70th week there will be a 7-year covenant between the Antichrist and Israel which will be broken "mid-week" (3.5 years), the second fulfillment of the "abomination of desolation" (Matthew 24:15-16), and a tribulation period. But it culminates with "complete destruction of the one who makes desolate" — the final and forever defeat of Satan! The Ancient of Days will come and His people will possess the everlasting kingdom (Daniel 7:14, 21-22). God's people will be rescued in the "time of distress" and those who are in the Book of Life will "awake" to everlasting life, with those who lead people to Jesus shining like stars forever (Daniel 12:1-3)!

Where are you placing your confidence for the future and eternity?

last week's memory verse

Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

DANIEL 12:3

discuss this message

Where are you placing your confidence for the future?
What about for eternity?

How has your faith in Jesus been tested? How did He help you overcome the test?

How does the assurance that Jesus will return someday impact your life now?

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About the GIFT...

Come to the Welcome Center!

STEP INTO THE COMMUNITY

Fellowship and learn together with people like you!

WOMEN2WOMEN ALL WOMEN


A Jolly Jamboree: Let's Celebrate God's Goodness!

with Deonna Tan-Chi

December 5, Thursday, 10:00 AM, MPH

ALSO STREAMED LIVE ONLINE

  ccfwomen2women




 CCFWomen2WomenMinistry

B1G MINISTRY SINGLES

B1G 18 and B1G Fridays Reunion

December 6, Friday, 7:30 PM, MPH

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NXTGEN KIDS FROM 4-12 YEARS OLD

Timeless Capsule: Unlock Jesus' Messages to the Seven Churches

Sundays, 9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM

G/F CCF Center (ages 4-12)

ZOOM: for ages 7-12; 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM
message us at [facebook.com/ccfnxtgen](https://www.facebook.com/ccfnxtgen)
to sign up

ONLINE: Bible Lesson Video Premiere
9:00 AM at   ccfnxtgen

LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR FAITH

Continue to be equipped in your discipleship journey.

Be equipped with GLC!

GLC LEVEL 1

Book 1: One by One, Session 5

ONSITE: December 1, Sunday
10:30 AM, Room 2A

ZOOM: December 4, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

Book 4: CCF DNA, Session 1

ONSITE: December 1, Sunday
1:30 PM, Room 2A

ZOOM: December 4, Wednesday, 7:30 PM

Can't attend GLC F2F or GLC Zoom?

Use the Self-Paced Online format
or do GLC in your DGroups!

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YOU BEING HERE IS NO ACCIDENT!

God brought you here
for His purpose.

God loves you.

He desires for you to have a meaningful life with Him in the present and gain eternal life with Him in the future.

*Know therefore that the Lord your God, He is God, the faithful God, who **keeps His covenant and His lovingkindness** to a thousandth generation with those who love Him and keep His commandments – Deuteronomy 7:9*

God is holy.

We are sinful, and our sin separates us from Him.

Everyone has sinned and is far away from God's saving presence. – Romans 3:23

God is merciful.

In His love, He made the only way for us to be reconciled to Him: through His son, Jesus Christ. Jesus had to die on the cross for our sins and be raised to life for eternity.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him. – Romans 5:8

I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me. – John 14:6

God is gracious.

By placing our faith in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven of our sins and saved from eternal death.

For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. – John 3:16

For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. – Ephesians 2:8-9

Would you like to place your faith in Jesus Christ today?

Lord Jesus, I need You. I confess that I am a sinner. I believe that You died on the cross to pay for all my sins. With Your help, I will turn away from my sins. Please come into my life and be my Savior and my Master. I accept Your gift of eternal life. Make me the kind of new person You want me to be. Thank You for giving me eternal life. Amen.

God keeps His promises.

You can be sure that you have eternal life when you trust in Jesus.

And the testimony is this, that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who has the Son has the life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the life. These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life. – 1 John 5:11-13



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JOIN THE PLENARIES FROM THE DESIGNATED OVERFLOW AREAS:

at the Main Building	at the LAI Building
Multi-Purpose Hall	G/F
Social Hall	2/F
7/F Gym	19/F

at the G/F lobby booth or on idc.org.ph

LOVE ~ TRUTH: INSEPARABLE

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Saturday Nights

5:00 PM

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9:00 AM, 12:00 NN, 3:00 PM, 6:00 PM

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