

## “God’s plan for the kingdoms” (Daniel 7)

**Verses to Remember:** “I kept looking Until thrones were set up, And the Ancient of Days took His seat; His vesture was like white snow And the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne was ablaze with flames, Its wheels were a burning fire. 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” (Daniel 7:9-10).

### Three attributes of the Ancient of Days to Remember

#### 1. He is everlasting

- The term “Ancient of Days” speaks to him being the rock that has always been. God has been there for all of the days.
- The other kings and kingdoms may be extremely powerful in their moment, but it is only a moment and then they are gone. Alexander “the Great” conquered vast territories, but was dead by the age of 32.
- Whatever earthly kingdom we find ourselves in the midst of, we need to understand that it is temporary, but our God and his kingdom will be everlasting.

#### 2. He is sovereign

- God is the one who allows kingdoms to rise and he brings them down. He raises up kings and brings them down. He humbles kings. We saw this in in chapters 4 and 5 where God humbled Nebuchadnezzar and then humbled and removed Belshazzar. We saw it in chapters 3 and 6 where God delivered Shadrack, Meshack, and Abed-nego from the hand of Nebuchadnezzar and then Daniel from the hand of the lions. And we see it here and in chapter 2 where God is sovereign over kingdoms and history. God knows the kingdoms that will come and there is an overall plan of history that he is sovereign over. In the midst of whatever is happening in our world (Iran attacking Israel for instance), we can trust and know that God is ultimately in control.

#### 3. He is the awesome Judge

- God himself is holy and pure (v.9).
- God is of awesome power more awe-inspiring than all the beasts (vv. 9-10).
- God’s judgment of the evil kingdoms and of the antichrist will be swift and beyond resistance. As we think about the judgment of God, we should be grateful that evil will be vanquished.
- We should also remember that all who live will stand before the great court and the great Judge of the Universe, and he will open his books in front of us. If he were to read from the book that contains our sins, and were to judge us for them, we could not stand. But through Jesus our sins can be wiped away, and we can be found in another book called the book of life. (Dan 12:1; Rev 20:12).