

Thursday Morning Group 2021: The Book of Daniel

Program:

21. Introduction and Daniel 1: Despite appearances God is in control
22. Daniel 2 & 3: The Wisdom of Faith
23. Daniel 4 & 5: God of Nations
24. Daniel 6 and Matthew's Passion Narrative: Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament
25. Daniel 7: The One like a Son of Man

The "Messianic Secret"

Jesus only refers to himself as "Christ" (Messiah) on 5 occasions in the Gospels

Before his crucifixion/resurrection

Mar 9:39- 41 But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. For the one who is not against us is for us. For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

Joh 4:25-26 The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

Joh 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

After resurrection

Luk 24:26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?"

Luk 24:46 and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead

The Gospel writers give him the title:

Mat 1:1 The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Mar 1:1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

John 1:17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Others confess it:

Luk 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Mat 16:16 Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."

Joh 1:40-41 One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. (41) He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ).

Jesus commands silence

Luke 4:41 And demons also came out of many, crying, "You are the Son of God!" But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ.

Mat 16:20 Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Why? He doesn't deny that he is Christ, but it is clear that their expectations about who the Christ would be and where he would come from are wrong.

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The half healing of a blind man: Mark 8:22-26

The reaction of the crowds to the feeding of the 5000: Joh 6:14-15 When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!" Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Joh 7:41- 42 Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?"

A point of contention throughout the Gospels:

Luke 3:15 As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ (see also John 1:20)

Joh 7:25-26 Some of the people of Jerusalem therefore said, "Is not this the man whom they seek to kill? (26) And here he is, speaking openly, and they say nothing to him! Can it be that the authorities really know that this is the Christ?"

Joh 7:31 Yet many of the people believed in him. They said, "When the Christ appears, will he do more signs than this man has done?"

Mat 22:41-46 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them a question, (42) saying, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." (43) He said to them, "How is it then that David, in the Spirit, calls him Lord, saying, (44) "'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? (45) If then David calls him Lord, how is he his son?" (46) And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

The question answered at his trial

Mat 26:63 But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God."

Mat 26:64 Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

The Son of Man Jesus' favorite self-designation

Matthew	30 times
Mark	14 times
Luke	25 times
John	12 times

Outside of the Gospels, only used in Rev 1:13, 14:14

"Son of Man" simply means "human"

Num 23:19 God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?

Psa 8:4 what is man that you are mindful of him, and the son of man that you care for him?

Ezekiel 93x

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Daniel himself in 8:17: "I was frightened and fell on my face. But he said to me, "Understand, O son of man, that the vision is for the time of the end."

Jesus makes extraordinary claims about the "Son of Man"

Mat 9:6 ... the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"...

Mat 12:8 For the Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath."

Mat 13:41 The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers

But it is clear that Jesus' understanding of the term is derived from the vision in Daniel 7

Mat 16:27 For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

Mat 16:28 Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Mat 19:28 Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on his glorious throne, you who have followed me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Mat 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.

Mat 26:64 Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven."

Understanding the vision of Daniel 7

Daniel 7:1-8 A vision of four beasts

Identifying the four beasts

1. Babylon: "Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man, and the mind of a man was given to it."
2. Bear
3. Leopard (Greece – fast!)
4. Greece (The little horn – Antiochus IV) or Rome

Remember the vision of chapter 3 – probably missing the point

Daniel 7:9-12 The Ancient of Days

Thrones

Wheels

Seated

Fire

Clothing

Court sat in judgement

Hair

Books opened

Daniel 7:13-14 The One like a Son of Man

Coming with the clouds of heaven

Not the Ancient of Days!

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It's David! (2 Samuel 7)

But is it?

Daniel 7:15-28 The interpretation

Dan 7:27 And the kingdom and the dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High; his kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.'

The significance of this title

Yes, the messiah, but not as you know it

Joh 18:33-37 So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" (34) Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" (35) Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" (36) Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." (37) Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

Understanding the charge of Blasphemy

Mat 26:63-66 But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, "I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God." (64) Jesus said to him, "You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven." (65) Then the high priest tore his robes and said, "He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. (66) What is your judgment?" They answered, "He deserves death."

"Darrell Bock, in applying his massive study of blasphemy to the condemnation of Jesus, concludes that this was the main focus of the charge, but he also goes on to suggest a secondary element of "cultural blasphemy" which added to the offense. Blasphemy included speaking and acting not only against God but also against his temple and his appointed leaders in Israel (note Exo_22:28)."²

Claiming the sovereign authority to judge the high priest

The tables have turned!

The significance of the title "Son of Man" for us

From now on – Not eschatological, a present reality

Coming with the clouds of heaven - Act 1:9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

Act 1:11 ... "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

² R. T. France; "The Gospel of MATTHEW" NICNT. Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. 2140 Oak Industrial Drive N.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan 2007

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The one like a Son of Man and Psalm 110 “from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven”

The One like a Son of Man in Revelation

Daniel 7		Revelation	
7:14	And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom , that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.	1:5-6	Rev 1:5-6 and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood (6) and made us a kingdom , priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.
7:13	“I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man,	1:7 1:13	Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man,
7:9	and the hair of his head like pure wool	1:14	The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow.
7:9	As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat	4:2	At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne.
7:10	the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.	5:1	Then I saw in the right hand of him who was seated on the throne a scroll (book) written within and on the back
7:10	a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him;	5:11	Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,
7:3-6	And four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. (4) The first was like a lion and had eagles' wings. Then as I looked its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man, and the mind of a man was given to it. (5) And behold, another beast, a second one, like a bear. It was raised up on one side. It had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth; and it was told, ‘Arise, devour much flesh.’ (6) After this I looked, and behold, another, like a leopard, with four wings of a bird on its back. And the beast had four heads, and dominion was given to it.	13:1-2	And I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads. (2) And the beast that I saw was like a leopard; its feet were like a bear's, and its mouth was like a lion's mouth. And to it the dragon gave his power and his throne and great authority.

Revelation tells the story of Daniel 7 and Psalm 110