



Going Deeper Daniel 8

1. The RELIABILITY and TRUSTWORTHINESS of the Bible

Daniel 7-8 Apocalyptic Literature:

Tim Mackie on apocalyptic: "To uncover or reveal" the way things really are. In apocalyptic literature GOD "pulls back" His perspective on what is REALLY GOING ON. Heaven to Earth vision.

Historical accuracy of these dreams and visions become hugely problematic for those who say Scripture isn't inspired.

Apocalyptic is strange and hard to read. See Daniel 8:27

What we learn from the accuracy of these visions: **The Trustworthiness of the Bible!**

We believe the Bible not just primarily "because it works" or "because it made me feel better" (although those are both true at times). We believe it because it's true. This is offensive to the post-modern/post-truth culture we live in today.

"Trusting testimony is not an irrational act of faith that leaves critical rationality aside; it is, on the contrary, the rationally appropriate way of responding to authentic testimony. Gospels understood as testimony are the entirely appropriate means of access to the historical reality of Jesus."

- Richard Bauckham

"The New Testament is filled with accounts of miracles that Jesus performed during the course of his ministry. Scientific mistrust of the Bible began with the Enlightenment belief that miracles cannot be reconciled to a modern, rational view of the world. Armed with this presupposition, scholars turned to the Bible and said, 'The Biblical accounts can't be reliable because they contain descriptions of miracles.' The premise behind such a claim is 'Science has proven that there is no such thing as miracles.' But embedded in such a statement is a leap of faith. It is one thing to say that science is only equipped to test for natural causes and cannot speak to any others. It is quite another to insist that science proves that no other causes could possibly exist."

- Tim Keller

*"If Christianity is false it cannot be saved by theology, if it is true it cannot be destroyed by science."
- E.Y. Mullins*

2. The COSMIC plan, power and strategies of the opposition

Bible passages on the nature of the spiritual battle

- Exodus 12:12
- Ephesians 6
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-5

*"Spiritual Warfare: Deceptive ideas that play to our disordered desires that become normalized in a sinful society"
- John Mark Comer*

How does seeing our political and cultural moment through the lens of spiritual warfare help our understanding of the moment we are in? If the Scriptures teach that our struggle isn't against flesh and blood then how do we engage the battle? (See 2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

3. The KEY to understanding the victory of God

Vs. 25 – The PRINCE of princes (the KEY figure will overcome the evil human empires)

"Not with human hands (vs. 25)

*"Nor is he served with human hands as though he needed anything..."
Acts 17:25*

What does this vision of victorious prince tell us about God's victory over the false power?

If God is the one who does it (beats sin and death) what is our part as Christ followers?