

Daniel Session 5 Group Discussion Questions

Chapters 8-9

Chapter 8

1. Describe the scene. What moving pictures did Daniel see and where does he see himself?
2. What similarities and differences do you see between chapters 7 and 8?
3. Apocalyptic imagery is meant to make things clearer, not hidden. What has become clearer to you as you have studied this chapter?
4. Sometimes we think that things are particularly bad for the church in our own time and place. How does this chapter challenge that idea?

Chapter 9

1. Describe Daniel's prayer. What feelings does it evoke in you as you read it?
2. Do you find prayer hard? If so, what causes that? Do these verses help you in any way with that struggle?
3. What role does confession play in your prayer life? What needs to change?
4. To lament means to have regret, remorse and repentance. When we read Daniel's lament we are reminded of the Lord Jesus as he prayed for us in John 17. What do you think he might be praying for us right now?
5. Take some time to write down your own lament and confession for you, your family, your community and the world. (We will use this in lecture. The homework was to paraphrase this prayer, so they may already have this done.)
6. Chapter 9 concludes with a prophesy. Describe the prophecy.
7. God seems to be describing his plan for redemption, not only for the Israelites, but for the world. Do you ever find yourself diminishing the scale and scope of God's plan of salvation? How can you make sure to pause and contemplate the magnitude and greatness of His perfect plan?

Additional Questions

How has reading these two chapters helped you read apocalyptic literature better?

How has it increased your humility in coming to these texts?

What study tools were especially helpful to you this week?