

# A Son of Man Comes to the Ancient of Days

"In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon" (550-549 B.C.), Daniel "saw a dream and visions of his head as he lay in his bed" (Dan 7:1). The first part of Daniel's

dream was about the changes that would come as the Babylonian empire faded and a new world empire emerged. But it's the second part of Daniel's dream that we want to pay careful attention to in this lesson.



"As I looked, thrones were placed, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his \_\_\_\_\_ was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands \_\_\_\_\_ him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened." (Dan 7:9-10)

“From \_\_\_\_\_ to everlasting you are God.” (Psa 90:2; 93:1-2)

"I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a \_\_\_\_\_, 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 \_\_\_\_\_." (Dan 7:13-14)

Jesus' most common way of describing himself, used more than \_\_\_\_\_ times!

**So did Jesus fulfill this prophecy?** If so,

how? Just before his death, he told the Jewish authorities:

"You will see the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." (Mark 14:61-62)

After his resurrection from the dead, after commissioning his apostles to be his witnesses "to the end of the earth,"

...he was lifted up, and a \_\_\_\_\_ took him out of their sight. (Acts 1:9)



But even this is not the end of the story. Listen to the angels who told the apostles, "This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will \_\_\_\_\_ in the same way as you saw him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). Jesus is the King and Jesus is coming again.

## For Class & Family Discussion:

- ▶ When you hear God referred to as “the Ancient of Days,” what comes to your mind? How is he different from us and everything we have or experience here on earth?
- ▶ Who is being described in [Daniel 7:10](#)—the “thousand thousands” and “ten thousand times ten thousand” who serve him and stand before him? [Revelation 5:11-12](#) might help us here...
- ▶ Of all the ways Jesus could have described himself, why do you think he most frequently referred to himself as “the Son of Man”?
- ▶ Something really important is going on in [Mark 14:60-64](#). What is Jesus communicating? What do you think he meant? Why was the high priest so upset by what Jesus said?
- ▶ With Jesus’ words from [Mark 14](#) in mind, notice what John said near the beginning of the last book of the Bible. What do we learn in [Revelation 1:5-7](#)? What does it all mean?
- ▶ Let’s make sure we make the connection as clearly as possible: how does [Acts 1:6-11](#) relate to [Daniel 7](#)?
- ▶ Not long after Jesus’ ascension in [Acts 1](#), what did Stephen see in [Acts 7:54-56](#)? What does it mean? What can we learn?
- ▶ How ought [Daniel 7:14](#) shape our view of the world this week?

## For NEXT Sunday:

- ▶ We’ll examine Jesus’ words in [Matthew 12:38-41](#). What is “the sign of the prophet [Jonah](#)”? How does it relate to our King? **We’ll talk about it...**