



Daniel 7

March 6, 2022

Kevin Sneed

**Main Idea:** Empires come and go, but God's Kingdom endures forever

1. Think about particularly chaotic times in your life. Share with the group what you learned about how to maintain your faith and hope in those times.
2. Vision Scene Part 1: Read Daniel 7:1-8. What do you think Daniel's state of mind was when he saw the beasts in his vision?
3. Vision Scene Part 2: Read Daniel 7:9-10. How does the description of Ancient of Days contrast with the description of the beasts? What is the new perspective these verses bring to Daniel's vision?
4. Read verses 11-14. Discuss all you observe in these important verses. How might this encourage you in your life right now and in the chaotic times in which we live?
5. Read verses 15-18. Kevin said, *"The task of the church, the task of the follower of Jesus is to continually seek to reestablish the rightful posture and reign of God."* What might it look like for each of us and CPC to seek to fulfill this task?
6. Read verses 23-25. Why is the closing line a line of hope?

7. Read verses 26-28. So we ask the question that followers of Jesus have asked many times before, it is in some sense the question that Daniel is wrestling with as well...what do the people of God do when they find themselves confronted with the beastly empires of the world?
8. Kevin ended his sermon by taking us through a time of lament. Through lament we connect with God in these three ways.
  - A. Lament is the exercising of spiritual agency in the face of loss, grief, and suffering.
  - B. Lament is uniting our suffering with Christ's suffering.
  - C. Lament is practicing the presence of God in the midst of deep pain and sorrow.

Here is a link to learn more about Lament:

<https://conversatio.org/the-practice-of-lament/>

Take time to lament. We suggest as a group you use Psalm 13 as your lament guide. As Kevin suggested, read Psalm 13 together. Then move into a time to lament war, violence against the innocent, suffering, and loss. You may want to use this time to lament your own personal loss and trauma. Share what God revealed to you in your time of lament.

Close in prayer and offer encouraging words from Daniel 7 or Psalm 13 to close your study time.