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Chapter 7

vs 1-8: Visions of the Four Beasts

What do you make out of the dream of the four animals? Are they humanly concocted? Nightmares? Divinely given? Why do you think so?

vs 9-14 Judgment Before the Ancient One

What picture does the 'Ancient one', also called the 'Ancient of Days' bring to mind? Wisdom or senility? Sentimental softness or moral purity? Venerability or vulnerability? Why do you think so?

What do you make of the one like "a son of man"? And what do you think is his coming kingdom like?

vs 15-28: Daniel's Visions Interpreted

The kingdom of 'the little horn' made war against the people of God and prevailed for a while. How do we Christians experience the power of the world moving against God and God's people?

To what would you compare the kingdom that shall be an 'ever lasting kingdom' in verse 27?

Chapter 8

vs 1-14 Vision of a Ram and a Goat

Does Daniel's prophesy strike you as history written before hand or after the events?

vs 10-12 : How might one reach for the stars today, desecrate the Temple, or trample truth under foot?

vs 11-21: The Interpretation of the vision

v 17: What kind of bad news about your Faith beliefs would it take to terrify you?

Chapter 9

vs 1-19 Daniel's Prayer

vs 1-19: Daniel prays for the city of Jerusalem and all the people of Israel, but not for himself. Why do you think that is? And why should we come together to confess the sins of the community?

vs 17-19: The tone of Daniel's prayer is intense, bold, and demanding. Why do you think that Daniel was able to use this tone? Is there ever a time you can imagine when you would use this tone in your Prayer? Why or why not. Have you ever done so?

vs 20-27: The Seventy Weeks

The angel Gabriel brings the vision of an even greater evil that will befall Israel. What, in your imagination, might be the greatest evil or catastrophe that could befall St Luke's church or the greater Christian community? Let us join in prayer: Dear God of justice and mercy. Daniel had been given visions and dreams to warn his people of the devastating results of God's judgment because of their disobedience and evil ways. But at the right time you have sent your Son, our Lord Christ into our world to reveal to us your will and commands but also your love and grace, and to win for us the victory over sin and death. We give you our most deep and sincere thanks for the Christ's coming, for only in him and through him is our future secure. Help us, dear Abba, to keep our attention and our eyes on him, and to follow in his steps, for he is our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen