

Daniel & Revelation End-time Prophecies Sermon Series
Study # 11: Judgment In The Wedding Room
Daniel 7:9 - 14
 Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor

Daniel 7:1 – 8, Review

In our previous study we looked at the prophecy of Daniel 7:1 – 8. In Daniel 7, God paints a symbolic picture to reveal prophetic reality. We learned about four beasts that comes out of a stormy sea. These four beasts represent the same four kingdoms that was described in Daniel 2, but with more details. See chart below.

Daniel 2	Daniel 7:1-8	Kingdom
Head of Gold	Lion with eagle's wings	Babylon (605-539 BC)
Arms & Chest of Silver	Bear with three ribs in mouth	Medes and Persian (539-331 BC)
Belly & Thighs of Brass	Leopard with four heads and four wings	Greece (331-168 BC)
Legs of Iron	Dreadful Beast	Pagan Rome (168 BC-476 AD)
Ten Toes part iron & clay	Ten Horns on Dreadful Beast & Little Horn	Divided Europe (476 AD to present)
Stone (Everlasting Kingdom)	Everlasting Kingdom	God's Everlasting Kingdom

We also learned that the horns on the dreadful fourth beast also represent nations. Who grew up among the ten horns on the head of the dreadful beast that plucked up three horns? A little horn

Daniel 7:8

8 I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

Since we know that the dreadful beast represents the Roman Empire, the symbolic picture that God paints for us here clearly reveals that this little horn comes up out of the Roman Empire which eventually divided into 10 sovereign nations. This little horn is the fifth empire described in Daniel 7 and later the seventh. This are the details of the empires that corresponds with the feet/toes of the image in Daniel 2.

Before Daniel was given explanation and interpretation about the four beasts and the little horn, God gives us more details about the events that must take place before God's Everlasting Kingdom is set up. God also gives us details about the "Stone" at the end of Daniel 2 that was cut out of the mountain without hands that destroyed the prophetic image.

What does Daniel see in vision next after seeing the little horn with eyes of a man and a mouth speaking great things?

Daniel 7:9, 10

9 I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.

10 A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

Ancient (Aramaic) = venerable. - Strong's. Venerable refers to someone who is revered and reverence because of their longevity, experience, wisdom, and age. The Ancient of days is the venerable One who only desires worship and praise by thousands and thousands of angels around His throne in Heaven. The Ancient of days is God the Father who is everlasting to everlasting!

What was He doing in this Heavenly scene? Verse 10 says that while God is sitting on His throne "judgment was set, and the books were opened."

"Set" H3488 (Aramaic) "to sit or dwell: - dwell, (be) set, sit". This corresponds to H3427, "to sit down (specifically as judge...in quiet); by implication to dwell, to remain; causatively to settle, to marry. - Strong's Dictionary

Based on the Aramaic definition, the judgment was "set" is implying that God the Father is sitting down on His throne presiding over the Heavenly court during the time of judgment. The word "sit" has the same definition as "set" and also corresponds to H3427 which means "to marry." We will see as we study that God the Father not only presides over the court of Heaven during the time of judgment, but he will also preside over the "marriage" at the end of the judgment.

Who is being judged?

2 Corinthians 5:10

10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

God the Father presides over the court, but Jesus is the Judge who decides each case.

John 5:22

22 For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son.

Who are sitting on the "thrones" that were "cast down"?

"Cast down" is Aramaic and means to throw or set. - Strong's. In context of Daniel 7:9-10 "cast down" means set. Daniel sees the thrones set and the Ancient of days sit. Those who sit on these thrones are the "jurors" who are also going through the cases.

Who will also sit on the thrones in Heaven going through the cases of people who have been judged?

Revelation 20:4

4 And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark upon their foreheads, or in their hands; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.

These are the saints of God who are taken to Heaven for one thousand years after the second of coming of Jesus. They will go through the cases of those lost to see how just God is.

What are the books that are opened during the time of judgment?

1) God's Ten Commandments – His Law.

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

- 13 Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole *duty* of man.
- 14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether *it be* good, or whether *it be* evil.

James 2:12

- 12 So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty.

“The books of record in heaven, in which the names and the deeds of men are registered, are to determine the decisions of the judgment. Says the prophet Daniel: ‘The judgment was set, and the books were opened.’ The revelator, describing the same scene, adds: ‘Another book was opened, which is the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.’ Revelation 20:12.”
GC 480

2) **The Book of Life** - contains the names of the faithful servants of God

Jesus speaking to the seventy workers, **Luke 10:20** *Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.*

Paul speaks of his faithful fellow workers, "whose names are in the book of life." **Philippians 4:3**

Daniel 12:1

1 And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy **people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book.**

Revelation 21:27

27 And there shall in no wise enter into it any thing that defileth, neither whatsoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie: but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Revelation 20:15

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

The book of life is the ultimate book in which your name has to be recorded in order to be saved. What are some other books that are opened during the investigative judgment.

3) **Book of Remembrance** - all of deeds of God's faithful are recorded in this book.

Malachi 3:16

16 Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

Nehemiah 13:14

14 Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof.

“In the book of God's remembrance every deed of righteousness is immortalized. There every temptation resisted, every evil overcome, every word of tender pity expressed, is faithfully chronicled. And every act of

sacrifice, every suffering and sorrow endured for Christ's sake, is recorded. Says the psalmist: 'Thou tellest my wanderings: put Thou my tears into Thy bottle: are they not in Thy book?' Psalm 56:8." GC 481

4) **Record of Sins (unconfessed)** – all deeds of unconfessed sins

Ecclesiastes 12:14

14 For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good (book of remembrance), or whether it be evil (Record of sins).

Matthew 12:36, 37

36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

1 Corinthians 4:5

5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord come, who both will bring to light the hidden things of darkness, and will make manifest the counsels of the hearts: and then shall every man have praise of God.

Isaiah 65:6, 7

6 Behold, it is written before me: I will not keep silence, but will recompense, even recompense into their bosom,

7 Your iniquities, and the iniquities of your fathers together, saith the LORD, which have burned incense upon the mountains, and blasphemed me upon the hills: therefore will I measure their former work into their bosom.

Review - 3 books: Book of Life, Book of Remembrance, and the Record of Sins.

“Every man's work passes in review before God and is registered for faithfulness or unfaithfulness. Opposite each name in the books of heaven is entered with terrible exactness every wrong word, every selfish act, every unfulfilled duty, and every secret sin, with every artful dissembling. Heaven-sent warnings or reproofs neglected, wasted moments, unimproved opportunities, the influence exerted for good or for evil, with its far-reaching results, all are chronicled by the recording angel.” Great Controversy p.482

“As the books of record are opened in the judgment, the lives of all who have believed on Jesus come in review before God. Beginning with those who first lived upon the earth, our Advocate presents the cases of each successive generation, and closes with the living. Every name is mentioned, every case closely investigated. Names are accepted, names rejected. When any have sins remaining upon the books of record, unrepented of and unforgiven, their names will be blotted out of the book of life, and the record of their good deeds will be erased from the book of God's remembrance. The Lord declared to Moses: ‘Whosoever hath sinned against Me, him will I blot out of My book.’ Exodus 32:33. And says the prophet Ezekiel: ‘When the righteous turneth away from his righteousness, and committeth iniquity, . . . all his righteousness that he hath done shall not be mentioned.’ Ezekiel 18:24.” Great Controversy p.483

When is the time of judgment?

Revelation 14:7

7 Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

God the Father the one who presides of the court in Heaven set up the appointment of the judgment! We will see at a later study that the beginning of the judgment was also prophesied in Daniel chapter 8! That will be a very powerful study!

The appointed “hour” of the judgment is already here! This is why the message is urgent!

Who does the Judgment begin with?

1 Peter 4:17

17 For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?

Hebrews 9:27

27 And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:

Before Jesus comes back His work of Judgment must be complete. We will look at more details concerning the judgment when we study Daniel chapter 8.

What does Daniel see next after he saw the judgment scene of the Ancient of Days, God the Father, presiding over the court?

Daniel 7:11, 12

11 I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

12 As concerning the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away: yet their lives were prolonged for a season and time.

After briefly seeing the judgment court scene in Heaven, Daniel sees the final judgment of the little horn who was speaking great words. The little horn was found guilty and destroyed. Based on the context of the verses 11 and 12, this little horn will be the seventh and last earthly empire. In verse 12 the other empires lost their dominion, but all those who were living within those empires were not totally destroyed or killed at that time. Their lives were extended for a season. As we continue our study we will see that the little horn was the fifth empire after the Roman Empire and will be the seventh empire set up at the end of time. This is the last earthly kingdom before, Jesus set up his everlasting kingdom.

Who else will be cast in the “burning flame” with the little horn and totally destroyed and burned up?

Revelation 20:15

15 And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

Where is the location of the little horn in relation to the image of Daniel 2? The feet!

In Daniel chapter 2 where does the stone that was cut without hands strike? Does it strike the head, arms, thighs or legs of the image? NO! The stone strikes the feet. This the last earthy empire and seventh earthly empire, the little horn located.

Daniel 2:34

34 Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces.

After Daniel sees the fate of the little horn prophetically, what scene does Daniel see next?

Daniel 7:13

13 I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him.

The earthly sanctuary was a miniature model of the Heavenly Sanctuary in which Jesus Christ is our High Priest!

Jesus here is not coming to the earth, He is coming in the clouds of Heaven to the “Ancient of days”, God the Father, who is presiding over the heavenly courtroom. The heavenly courtroom, which is in the Most Holy Place in the Heavenly Sanctuary, is the same place where Jesus decides each case in the judgment. **In the first phase Jesus moved into the courtroom to judge each case in the temple.**

This coming is foretold also by the prophet Malachi: "The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of hosts." **Malachi 3:1. This takes place in heaven. We will learn in a later study that after Jesus ascended back to Heaven in 31 AD He went into the Holy Place in the Heavenly temple. The prophecy in Daniel 8:14 reveals that Jesus later went into the Most Holy Place where the judgment began. We will study this in detail when we look at Daniel chapter 8.**

In the second phase after Jesus completes His work as judge, He is brought before God the Father. What did God the Father give Jesus?

Daniel 7:14

14 And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Who makes up the kingdom of God? At the end of the judgment all who are written the book of life will be a part of God’s everlasting kingdom from every nation and languages of people. **They are not defiled and corrupted with the world or sin. They have been totally washed by the blood of the Lamb!**

After the judgment is complete by Jesus, God the Father who presides over the court, officiates a “wedding ceremony” to marry Jesus and His bride, the Kingdom of God. In this ceremony God the Father officially gives Jesus the Husband, everlasting dominion, glory and His bride—the kingdom of God. They are made one in holy matrimony. **After the official marriage is complete Jesus returns to the earth the second time to get all those who make up His kingdom, His wife.**

The second coming of Jesus is the consummation of His marriage to His bride. They are unified together, physically and spiritually, never to depart!

In Revelation 21:9, 10 what is the New Jerusalem, the capital of the everlasting kingdom, known as when Jesus sets up the New Jerusalem on the New Earth?

Revelation 21:9, 10

9 And there came unto me one of the seven angels which had the seven vials full of the seven last plagues, and talked with me, saying, Come hither, **I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife.**

10 And he carried me away in the spirit to a great and high mountain, and shewed me that great city, the holy Jerusalem, descending out of heaven from God.

Who are the residents of the New Jerusalem? God’s faithful people making up His pure church, His WIFE!

The everlasting kingdom, is the same kingdom depicted as a stone in Daniel 2 that strikes the feet of the image bringing an end to all earthly kingdoms.

What does the stone represent? The everlasting kingdom. Who does the stone represent? Jesus!

Acts 4:10-12

10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.

11 This is the **stone** which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner.

12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

The stone is united, Christ and His kingdom, His bride

Again, what takes place before the wedding in Heaven?

The judgment. It is in the same heavenly courtroom as the wedding. So those who are being judged are also waiting for the wedding to take place between Christ and His everlasting kingdom.

Jesus explains what happens in the wedding room before the marriage takes place in His parable of the invitation to the wedding of the king's son.

What did the king do in the parable when the guest were in the room waiting for the marriage to take place?

Matthew 22:11

11 And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment:

Before the marriage took place ALL the guests and their garments were **investigated and examined by the king**. The wedding garment represents the righteousness of Jesus Christ made white through His blood.

“He who is found wanting is cast out, but all who upon examination are seen to have the wedding garment on are accepted of God and accounted worthy of a share in His kingdom and a seat upon His throne. This work of examination of character, of determining who are prepared for the kingdom of God, is that of the investigative judgment, the closing of work in the sanctuary above.” Great Controversy 428

We are living in the time of judgment NOW. “The HOUR of His Judgment is come!” Will you be ready for the wedding when it takes place? Will you have on the right garment without spot or wrinkle?

Remember when Jesus returns to this earth for the great consummation with His bride, she will be a virgin undefiled and covered!

Revelation 14:4

4 These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

Revelation 7:14

14 And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Are you ready for the marriage and the great consummation?

Don't forget before there is a marriage there is a judgment! There is no consummation before the marriage. The marriage must take place first. During the time of judgment there is courtship that must take place first with the groom, the Lamb, Jesus Christ.

Jesus is already pure. He has proven Himself faithful to you. He died to save your life. **During the time of courtship with Jesus your character is being judged. Are you faithful in courtship with Jesus undefiled by the world?**

Ephesians 5:25-27

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

If a man or a woman cheat on each other before they are married what will happen after the marriage? The same. The courtship with Jesus now is extremely important. If you cheat on Jesus during your courtship, their will be NO marriage.

In order to be faithful you must learn not only be a hearer but a doer of the Word unspotted from the world.

James 1:23-25, 27

23 For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass:

24 For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was.

25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

27 Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.

We also must have the divine nature of Christ in order to be unified with Christ!

2 Peter 1:3, 4

3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:

4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.

Are you ready for the marriage and the great consummation?