

Sermon Guide October 5: Daniel 8

What stood out to you most from the sermon? Why?

Key Takeaway:

- 1. God's past performance quarantees His future faithfulness.
- 2. Prophecy provides perspective for our present circumstances.
- 3. God is in control of history, using even pagan rulers to accomplish His purposes.
- 4. The story of Antiochus Epiphanes foreshadows future events and ultimate victory in Christ.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. How does understanding God's faithfulness in past prophecies strengthen your faith today?
- 2. Throughout history God used many empires including the Persian, Greek, and Roman empires and used them for His purposes. How do you see God working through current world events or leaders?
- 3. Discuss the parallels between Antiochus Epiphanes and the future "man of lawlessness" mentioned in 2 Thessalonians 2. How does this help us understand biblical prophecy?
- 4. How does the certainty of Christ's return impact your daily life and decisions?
- 5. God kept His word before and will keep it again. Share a time when God's faithfulness in your past gave you confidence for your future.
- 6. What does it mean practically to "love God most and love others best by getting just one more into the presence of Jesus"?

Practical Applications:

- 1. This week, identify one area of uncertainty in your life. Reflect on how God's past faithfulness can give you confidence in that situation.
- 2. Choose a prophecy from the Old Testament that was fulfilled in the New Testament. Study it and share your insights with the group next time.
- 3. Pray for persecuted believers around the world who may be experiencing challenges similar to those faced during Antiochus Epiphanes' time.
- 4. Make a plan to share the hope of Christ with someone in your life, remembering that we are called to bring others into Jesus' presence.