


Daniel 37 – Christ's Holy Throne

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Daniel 7:9-10



Prologue: Leviathan – Metaphor of Satan's Kingdom

- Daniel describes this fourth beast as terrifying, dreadful and very strong
 - This beast is not directly linked to any known animal so Daniel must give a description of how powerful this beast is so we understand its metaphor
 - The previous three kingdoms were linked to men and thus given knowable animal metaphors: Lion, Bear and Cheetah
 - This kingdom is not of this world but powered by Satan whose metaphor throughout the Bible is the Dragon – Serpent – Worm (Job 31: 34-35; 12:8)
 - Isaiah links Satan to the Leviathan; remember, God asks Job if he is strong enough to tame the Leviathan; Beast and Satan (Accuser) (Job 41)
 - Satan, a spirit being or fallen angel, has a different nature than man, who was given God's nature; yet he wants to rule us as a god (Job 1:26; 2:9; 10:26-28)
 - Leviathan probably could not survive the Postdiluvian world and died out by Daniel's day, passing into legend to become today's mythical dragon



Prologue: Ten Horns – Union of Kingdoms

- Horns are metaphors for power (Control), in this instance, governmental power or kingdoms which:
 - Are based on Satan's law of Lex Talionis, unmerciful in its judgment
 - Permeates every worldly kingdom from a common source (One Body)
 - Appears strong but managed to prevent mutual destruction (MAD)
 - May correlate to ten governments or simply denotes Satan's completeness
- Small Horn arises which is given eyes like a man making it different from the other horns which have no such characteristics: blind followers
 - Horn speaks to dominates its subjects but does not unite three horns leaving seven horns which follow it: seven is perfection; completeness of control
 - Smallness denotes deception as if it is most powerful leader, able to completely dominate the large horns to form a more perfect union

Jesus Sat on the Throne: His Finished Work of Salvation

- Who is this Ancient of Days?
 - Father called forth Light to banish the darkness: Day and Night (Jn 1:9)
 - Christ was the active agent shaping Creation and the Light shining into the Darkness which fled, but falls, to overcome Him (Jn 1:9, 9:9)
 - Christ is the very essence of the Father's Wisdom describing His monogenesis and inviting sinners to learn from Him (Jn 6:23)
 - John describes Christ's post-ascension appearance which matches Daniel's description: Christ (Jn 1:20)
- Sitting down denotes His finished work (Jn 1:12, 10:11-14)
 - Daniel's vision is of Christ's victory in bringing peace between the Father and saved sinners; this is His victory over the now less than terrifying small horn (Jn 1:4, 11)

Recognizing Christ's Holiness: Foundation of Grace

- God gives Daniel, and thus ourselves, a glimpse of His Holiness by displaying His Throne metaphorically as spirit has no recognizable form to our eyes
 - Recognize that the Father is Spirit and is worshipped in Spirit and Truth (Jn 4:24)
 - John writes that **no one** has ever seen the Father at any time (Jn 1:18)
 - Scripture depicts the Father speaking; any visual representation of God must be the Son, Jesus Christ, who will dwell with mankind in eternity (Jn 1:14, 20:17, 20:19)
- This view breaks up the terrifying depiction of Satan's coming kingdom lest everyone believe he is more powerful than God; comforts believers (Jn 1:19-5, 14, 16, 21:21-22)
 - Old Testament, pre-stauros, views of Christ's Throne emphasizes His holiness
 - Others are also present: God, Christ, does share authority unlike Satan

Thorns Were Placed: Hierarchy in Heaven

- Daniel begins by describing thrones, positions of authority, hastily placed around Christ's Throne in Heaven
 - Sitting denotes authority, *ex cathedra*: Cathedral is the building that contains the choir (When Pope speaks *ex cathedra*, he speaks for God: RCC doctrine)
- Who do these thrones belong? Why are there many if God is One?
 - Beings on these thrones have crowns, Authority, and white robes, Righteousness, (Jn 4:4, 10:11, 19:10)
 - Revelation describes twenty-four (Number: Government (12) doubled: Worship) elders (Ancient like Christ - Wise) on thrones about God's-Christ's Throne (Jn 1:13-14)
 - When Christ appears as the Lamb, Sacrifice, these elders sing a new song of grace as they worship Christ; hence, these are angels witnesses of His judgment
 - Often assumed to be men due to crowns and white robes, elements of new covenant; but only angels have been present since Creation as witnesses of God's righteous judgment offsetting Satan's charges of God's unrighteous judgment (Jn 1:14, 17, 18:27, 20:11, 20:20, 20:34)

God Works Through Myriad of Angels: God is Not a Tyrant

- God is omnipotent, omniscient and omnipresent: the Trinity does not need either angels nor people; yet God created both and shares authority
- God allows angels to participate in His creation; specifically, they administered the Law (Died without mercy; Angel of Death of First Born) (Ex 12:23-30; 17:16; 18:17; 19:12; 20:1)
- Angels present at Creation and remain into eternity future (Job 38:7)
- Angels rejoice in Christ's victory and sinners who are saved knowing that these saved ones will govern over them; probably cause of Lucifer's sin (Is 14:12-14; 28:16-17; 33:22; 45:1; 54:17)
- When Christ sits to judge, angels will be Jury, witnesses to rightness of judgment: White (purify) Throne Judgement: God has no pleasure in sinner's second death (Is 17:10; 33:17; 49:22; 57:1)
 - People given this hearing to defend themselves, but Books of Works testify against them
 - Satan, with his demons, go directly into Lake of Fire: Fire of Holiness which they rejected (Is 33:14)

Christ Does Not Negate Holiness: Father's Holiness is a Flaming Fire

- Old Testament views of Christ's Throne emphasize His holiness which must be satisfied but cannot be satisfied by sinners
 - Depiction of His fiery Throne with its wheels reinforce that God's authority, need for Christ's sacrifice, was established in Holiness; It remains Holy (Is 12:18-20)
 - Christ's sacrifice satisfied God's holiness but does not change the character of the Father who remains holy: Flaming, purifying fire (Is 12:2)
 - Angels, specifically Seraphim, are ministering spirits of fire, guarding God's holiness; these are the four angels who constantly announce God is Holy (Is 6:1-7; 6:2-6; 6:8-11)
- Wheels on His Throne show He is not fixed in Heaven but omnipresent watching over and participating in His Creation making a holy people
 - Coincides with Ezekiel's vision of God, Seraphim and wheels-in-wheels of eyes: (Holy Spirit) (Four various heads are metaphors of their qualities) (Is 1)

Mount Horeb: Father's Footstool on Earth (Is 63:2; Ac 7:45)

- Father's presence on Earth when He spoke His Moral Law: Ten Words (Ex 19:18-20)
 - Father's holy presence on earth heralded by lightnings, thunders, smoke and crashing rocks
 - Clouds shielded them from the Father and they were warned to keep their distance lest they violate His holiness with their fleshly sinfulness
- Isaiah given a vision of Christ on His holy throne and experienced the depravity of his sinfulness; he was made righteous by Christ based on His future sacrifice (Coal to lips: pure words) (Is 12:6; 50:10; 52:1-20)
- When Elijah, prophet associated with fire (holiness of God) believed he failed, he ran to Mt Horeb, revelation of God's holy presence; however, that time had passed as God works individually via still, small voice: Grace (Is 19:25-26)

Lucifer's Privileged Position: Traded Light for Darkness

- Before his sin, Lucifer walked amongst the fiery (holy) stones leading to God's Throne
 - Lucifer's metaphor was of jewels reflecting God's glory in Heaven to His angels
 - Lucifer no longer reflected God's glory after his sin; instead, he became Dark Light (asebeia; ungodliness) to establish his self **above** God's holiness (24:48-52; 622-23)
- God's Word, words, refined by fire to remove dross from silver, purifying it; Hagjazo Process (Sanctification) removes the manifestation of our sinful worldview after salvation, preparing us for New Nature-Eternity Future (9:124-5)
- God's fire, holiness, replaced by river, Grace, which sinners rejected; separated fire becomes Lake of Fire (Hell is just fiery holding area) (24:14-22)
 - They rejected being clothed in Christ's righteousness; judgment is directly facing God's holiness in their sinfulness: Fear of the Lord – Wisdom is Salvation in Christ (9:11-13)

Comparison of the Testaments: Old – Holiness; New – Holiness Satisfied

- Christ's sacrifice transformed Heaven instantly; for Eternity (2Co:1331-32; 1Th:4:14-15)
- God's Old Testament Throne: Holiness Awaiting Satisfaction
 - God's/Christ's interaction in Old Testament constantly emphasized God's holiness against all sinfulness; yet mercy and grace inexplicitly present predicated on Christ's sacrifice, stouros – Elijah (24:21,47-48; 1:30-42)
- God's New Testament Throne: Holiness Satisfied in Christ
 - Green arch over Christ's Throne: Denoting peace through the Lamb (He:55-57; Re:4:2)
 - Stream of Fire: Death; replaced with River of Life lined by Trees of Life – **Life** (9a:22:1-2)
- No wonder Christ told Mary to not hinder Him, once He passed the Seraphim, guardians of God's holiness, and presented Himself before the Father (Mercy Seat); Heaven instantly changed – Thus, the New Song of Salvation (1Th:2:17; Re:5:11-14)

Heaven Forever Changed: Hope – Peace with God Through Christ (Re:5:5)

Old Testament {Law}
Holiness Required from YOU



New Testament {Grace}
Holiness Satisfied in Christ

