



## Daniel 7:1-14

- Courtroom scene
- Who's the judge? God the Father or God the Son?
- Jesus describes Himself as the judge over 20 times

**Mathew 16:27** - For the **Son of Man** is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.

**Matthew 25:31-32** - When the **Son of Man** comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

**John 5:22; 27** - *The Father judges no one, but has given all judgment to the Son,*...And he has given him authority to execute judgment, because he is the **Son of Man**

## Daniel 7:9-14

- Remember this is a courtroom scene
- Jesus is the judge
- Because sin is a crime against God's creation, judgement must happen
- Without judgement, there can be no salvation because evil would still exist, and God's creation would continue to be corrupted
- Therefore, Jesus is committed to judging every individual and thing that produces sin and destroys His creation
- Until Jesus judges in an ultimate and final way, He has not brought full salvation and restoration to Earth

## Daniel 7:9-14

- The beasts of v.1-8 (and all beasts) had to be judged by a man because God gave dominion over the Earth to man (Genesis 1:26-28)
- But no man qualified to judge (Genesis 3)
- So thousands of years go by and the beasts exploit the fact that although man has authority over the Earth, he has no ability to judge and remove the beasts
- God has used man to execute His judgements on other kingdoms, but no man has been able to execute His judgements on the “beasts” behind the kingdoms, so these judgements never fully resolve anything
- So the cycle of evil and oppression continues throughout history
- The only way to stop the rule of the beasts is to judge them by a **man** with **divine** authority
- That's the **Daniel 7** Son of Man

## Daniel 7:9-14

- Because Jesus is fully God – He has full authority over the beasts
- Because Jesus is fully human – He has dominion over the Earth necessary to remove the beasts
- In Jesus, God can judge in righteousness while leaving man's delegated authority intact
- Jesus is able to judge the world because He is God and man

## God's judgements do at least 5 things

1. It brings everlasting salvation
  2. It reveals the glory of the Son of Man
  3. It dethrones the beasts
  4. It establishes a kingdom
  5. It enthrones a people
- This is the reason Jesus had to come twice
  - Jesus did not need to come twice to justify His judgement
  - We are all guilty, we are all deserving of God's wrath
  - The first coming had to happen so that Jesus could secure mercy for us and save us through His judgement

## How are we saved through judgement?

### Judgement includes 2 actions

1. Those who do evil must be punished
  2. Those who do evil must be removed so they cannot continue to introduce evil
- Because God is righteous, He must punish evil, then remove it, so that evil cannot exist anymore
  - **1 John 1:5** - This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that **God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.**



## How are we saved through judgement?

- This concept of punishing evil is not new to us
- Remember this is a courtroom scene
- When someone is guilty of a crime, we instinctively know that that person must be punished and removed from society so other people can live in peace
- When a criminal is judged, society receives salvation
- We all know a bad judge is one who does not punish and remove the criminal
- The problem for us is that we were born in sin
- We are all guilty!
- **Romans 3:10** - ...None is righteous, no, not one;
- **Romans 3:23** - for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

## How are we saved through judgement?

- So God has a dilemma
- God must punish man and end our lives, but God also wants to live with us forever
- **John 17:24** - Father, **I desire that they** also, whom you have given me, **may be with me where I am**, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.
- It's only through Jesus that can God be faithful to judge righteously and, at the same time, show mercy to man

## How are we saved through judgement?

- In **Daniel 7**, we see the Son of Man coming in judgement
- The beasts are punished and every beast kingdom is destroyed
- The judgement is absolute
- At the same time, we see a people given to the Son of Man
- People that come from every nation, meaning they came from the beast kingdoms that were totally destroyed
- These people receive mercy, eternal life, and are exalted to rule with Jesus instead of being destroyed (**Daniel 7:18; 22; 27**)
- How did these people survive? Why weren't they punished and completely destroyed along with everyone else?
- It was not clear how God could be faithful to save creation through His judgements, yet still show mercy to a guilty people and allow them to survive
- How does God accomplish this?

Step One - We Must Still Be Punished

## Step One - We Must Be Punished

- Because sin has corrupted His creation, there must be an appropriate payment
- That payment is death
- **Romans 6:23** - For the wages of sin is death,...

## Step One - We Must Be Punished

- God's plan to reconcile this debt is through Jesus
- Jesus must now become the recipient of God's judgement *for us*
- God still punishes the sin, but the punishment was given to Jesus instead of us
- **2 Corinthians 5:21** - For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.
  
- Earlier I stated that Jesus is the one who judges
- Here it says Jesus is the one who receives the punishment
- So Jesus is both the deliverer and recipient of the punishment
- His judgements are so perfect, that He submitted to His own judgments

## Step One - We Must Be Punished

- The way Jesus defeats Satan and his offspring is by means of suffering and death

**Hebrew 2:14-15** - Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, 15 and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

## Step One - We Must Be Punished

- The greatest man in the universe defeats the most disgusting being ever created by choosing to suffer and die for us, even when we were still his enemies
- **Ephesians 2:2-3** – In which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.
- At the cross, Jesus's mercy and love were on full display as He conquered Satan's claim on God's people by paying our debts
- **Romans 5:8** - but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



## Step One - We Must Be Punished

- **Colossians 2:13-15** - And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.
- Satan lost his claim on God's people when Christ died
- Our debt was fully paid
- The effect on Satan is that he was fully disarmed, shamed, defeated
- He freely chose to suffer and die to show us how much He loved us
- We show God how much we love and desire Him by choosing Him (instead of Satan and his offspring) when we suffer
- We demonstrate our love for Him when we chose Him even in suffering

## Suffering

- Satan's goal is to always diminish God's glory and ruin His people
- God gets glory when He allows Satan to cause us harm and we suffer, but instead of giving in, we still choose God even if we have to deal with the pain
- **2 Corinthians 12:1-10**

## Suffering

- **2 Corinthians 12:7** – So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.
- God's way of controlling Paul's pride was to give him a thorn in the flesh
- Satan wants Paul to be conceited
- So God uses Satan's desire to His advantage and allows Satan to harass Paul
- At the same time, the effect is Paul remains humble
- God's providence is so great that He works all things together for His good
- He is totally in control
- God gets to show that He is far greater in wisdom and power than Satan
- At the same time, God is shown to be more desirable than anything Satan can give, because Paul still desires God, even if it means he has to endure suffering

## Suffering

- God's goal is for Christ to be magnified as the ultimate treasure of the universe
- Jesus is to be desired more than anything
- Satan's goal is to offer every conceivable pleasure to draw us away from desiring and being satisfied in Christ

## Suffering

- When we suffer and experience these temptations, and can “boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.”
- It shows that we desire God over everything
- We are willing to suffer anything to be with Him
- When that happens, Satan becomes thoroughly defeated
- Imagine how infuriating it must be for Satan to not only fail to obstruct God’s plans, but unknowingly participate in them
- Then, even though the result causes pain to God’s people, God’s people see the suffering as something worth going through

## Suffering

**Philippians 3:7-8** - But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

- Christ is shown to be the ultimate treasure, worthy of us going through anything to attain Him
- In this way, Jesus gets glory

## Step One - We Must Be Punished

- We do not face the full penalty of our sin, Christ suffered what we deserved
- Because sin brought death, the only appropriate punishment is death
- Death ends human life, so the punishment of death meant that no human could survive
- But Jesus was not only fully man, He was fully God
- Because He was human – He was an acceptable substitute to receive our punishment
- Because He was God – The death of His human body did not end His life
- Jesus's sinlessness was required to be our substitute, but His divinity was the key to Him surviving the punishment
- No one's sin escapes, all will be judged
- But God faithfully punished our sins when Jesus became the recipient of our judgement
- That's how we are saved **through** judgement

Step Two – God Must End the Life of the Sinner



## Step Two – God Must End the Life of the Sinner

- God's creation cannot be saved until God removes every creature that sins
- That includes the offspring of the serpent and the offspring of the woman
- God is faithful to end our lives, but He still offers us a way to be with Him
- This occurs in 2 stages
- The first stage is re-creating a person through re-birth

## John 3:3-7

Jesus answered him, Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4 Nicodemus said to him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, You must be born again. 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.

## Step Two – God Must End the Life of the Sinner

- We cannot enter the kingdom God unless we are born of the Spirit. Why?
- The kingdom is an eternal kingdom that only comes when all sin is removed
- Only a creation that's free of sin can live the kingdom where God dwells
- So God sends the Holy Spirit to live inside of us at salvation

**1 Corinthians 6:19-20** - Or do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you**, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

**John 14:16-17** - And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for **he dwells with you and will be in you.**

## Step Two – God Must End the Life of the Sinner

- Once inside of us, the Holy Spirit then re-creates us
- Instead of destroying us immediately like we deserve, He transforms us
- The Holy Spirit begins to transform our desires over time so that we love what God loves and we hate sin
- No one who loves sin will be in the newly created kingdom because they would reintroduce sin and the corruption process would start again

## Step Two – God Must End the Life of the Sinner

**2 Corinthians 5:17** - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come

- We are not made divine when we are born again
- Instead, God himself comes to dwell within our fallen bodies
- This gives us a new, sinless source of life to change our desires

## Step Two – God Must End the Life of the Sinner

- The second stage of ending our lives, but still being able to be with God, is the physical death of our bodies
- Although the Holy Spirit indwells us and re-creates us and gives us new desires, we still live in a sinful body
- We are still corrupt
- We can never be fully rid of sin until our body is removed
- **1 Corinthians 15:42-53**

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- **1 Corinthians 15:42-53**
- So, at death, our bodies are destroyed
- For us to continue, we have to be given new bodies
- A body that is free from sin and able to live without sin



## Step Two – God Must End the Life of the Sinner

**Philippians 3:20-21** - But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body,...

- Because death comes from sin, this new body will never die, because it will never sin
- The death of our bodies is the judgement we must endure, but through Jesus, God turns judgement into salvation

## Step Two – God Must End the Life of the Sinner

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- So does everyone receive salvation? No
- Since the new creation cannot be corrupted by sin, those who reject the Holy Spirit's work will not inherit eternal bodies
- God is not going to give glorious, sinless bodies to a person who wants to continue in sin
- That would defeat the purpose
- God simply gives them over to their desires
- **Romans 1:21-24** - For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. 22 Claiming to be wise, they became fools, 23 and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things. 24 Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity,...

- Until God comes in judgement, creation remains in bondage to sin
- Judgement results in condemnation for the wicked, but salvation for the saints
- Therefore, The Son of Man had to suffer and The Son of Man has to judge





