

Sermon Notes -- Daniel 12 -- Resurrection

Evil Inhabits One Man

In chapter eleven, we saw a turn. Instead of evil possessing a government, we see evil entering the world through a man.

Read Daniel 11:36-12:1 – The Anti-Christ

We described him last week and his power is immense. But there is a promise in verse 45 – “*He will come to his end, and no one will help him.*”

Evil seems to start broadly but ends up focused in one man.

God Inhabits One Man

Good also seems to start broadly. They pray to just one God, but God is everywhere and hard to pin down.

But by the end, God is also found in a man. We saw Jesus in the fiery furnace. We saw Jesus coming on a cloud. We saw Jesus coming to Daniel though delayed by the Prince of Persia. And we see Jesus, as a man on fire, telling Daniel about the end of time.

Read Daniel 12:2-3 – The Resurrection (also 1 Thess 4:16-17)

But there is a catch. Some will go to everlasting life and others to shame and everlasting contempt.

Choices

In Daniel, the choices are really clear. The stories don't leave any doubt about how to make the right decision. When Daniel and his friends are faced with a choice, either to obey the government and turn their back on God or to accept the punishment of death, they choose death. They choose death without hesitation and without regret.

Your choice is simple. Choose the Christ or the Antichrist. And if you choose God through Jesus Christ, you need to begin living as God would have you to live.

Read Daniel 9:4-6 – Daniel's Prayer

Daniel said “We.” We have sinned. We have done wrong. We have been wicked. We have rebelled. We have turned away from your commands. We have not listened to your prophets.

I know my own heart. And while I've been a pretty descent guy my whole life, it hasn't been good enough. There is still some pretty ugly stuff inside me. Stuff that I've come to know and hate. And there is more stuff I didn't even know is there.

Read Deuteronomy 30:19 – Joshua Gives a Choice

Read John 5:24-30 – Jesus Gives a Choice

Repeat these words in your thoughts. Say them to God with an open heart and a sincere voice.

I believe there is good and I believe there is evil.

I believe there is one God who became a man. And I believe there is an evil One, who will be destroyed in the last days.

And I believe that I am a sinner, that there is something in me that makes poor choices on a too regular basis, and that I am one of the people responsible for the problems in this world.

And I believe that by placing my faith in Jesus Christ, the Anointed One, the Messiah who was promised to come, that I will be able to live a more holy life here on this earth, and that when my body is resurrected on the last day, that I will enter into eternal life with God forever.

In Jesus' Name I Pray, Amen.

Questions to Ponder -- Daniel 12 -- Resurrection

Agree/Disagree – draw a checkmark if you agree

- _____ When I'm dead I'm dead
- _____ When I die, I deserve punishment
- _____ Life has become a choice to serve Jesus or Satan

Pastor Brian said, *“God is also found in a man. We saw Jesus in the fiery furnace. We saw Jesus coming on a cloud. We saw Jesus coming to Daniel though delayed by the Prince of Persia. And we see Jesus, as a man on fire, telling Daniel about the end of time.”*

1. Do you find it difficult to believe that God is found in one man? How is that possible?

Read Daniel 11:36-12:1 – The Anti-Christ

2. Do you find it more frightening that evil could possess an entire empire or that evil will be rolled up into one man?
3. Is it more difficult to believe God is in One Man or that evil is in One Man?

Read Daniel 12:2-3 – The Resurrection (also 1 Thess 4:16-17)

4. Is resurrection a nightmare to you or does it give you hope?

Pastor Brian said, *“Your choice is simple. Choose the Christ or the Antichrist. And if you choose God through Jesus Christ, you need to begin living as God would have you to live.”*

5. Do you believe the choice is that simple?

Read Daniel 9:4-6 – Daniel's Prayer

6. Why does Daniel say “We” sinned? How is it that we all fall short of the glory of God? (Romans 3:23)

Pastor Brian said, *“I know my own heart. And while I've been a pretty descent guy my whole life, it hasn't been good enough. There is still some pretty ugly stuff inside me. Stuff that I've come to know and hate. And there is more stuff I didn't even know is there.”*

If you don't see where you have made bad choices and that there is something in you that can't seem to help but make bad choices at least now and then, then you haven't taken a very good look at yourself.”

7. Do you consider yourself a good person? Are you good enough to stand before God on the last day/

Read Deuteronomy 30:19 – Joshua Gives a Choice

Read John 5:24-30 – Jesus Gives a Choice

8. Have you chosen between Jesus and the Anti-Christ?

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I believe there is one God who became a man. And I believe there is an evil One, who will be destroyed in the last days.

And I believe that I am a sinner, that there is something in me that makes poor choices on a too regular basis, and that I am one of the people responsible for the problems in this world.

And I believe that by placing my faith in Jesus Christ, the Anointed One, the Messiah who was promised to come, that I will be able to live a more holy life here on this earth, and that when my body is resurrected on the last day, that I will enter into eternal life with God forever.

In Jesus' Name I Pray, Amen.