Hope in Chaos

Wyatt Martin // March 13, 2022

Daniel 8

Big Idea: God gives exiles hope even in the midst of chaos.

Exile: A citizen of God's kingdom living in the tension of being in the world but not of it.

God gives exiles <u>hope</u> even in the midst of <u>chaos</u>.

Why does God give us prophecy?

1. Hope for citizens of God's Kingdom.

2. Warning for citizens of the kingdoms of the world.

John 16:33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Sermon questions

Meet Daniel. A man who stayed radically faithful to God and thrived in his faith while living right in the middle of one of the most godless kingdoms of all time. He has a lot to teach us about what it looks like to be an exile—a citizen of God's kingdom who lives in the tension of being in the world but not of it. We are continuing our series in Daniel, and our passage this Sunday is **Daniel 8.** The Big Idea is: *God gives exiles hope even in the midst of chaos.*

Use these questions to discuss the message from Sunday, focusing on how you can **grow** as an everyday follower of Jesus and how you can **go** accomplish what Jesus calls you to do.

1. When you think of studying biblical prophecy, what is your gut reaction? Do you have any experience with talking about prophecy in the church?

2. One of the repeated themes of the prophecy in **Chapter 8** is that no matter how powerful earthly empires may seem, they ultimately always fail. Living in the U.S., one of the great empires of our day, how can you resist the temptation to put your ultimate hope in in the kingdoms of this world instead of the Kingdom of God?

3. Wyatt said on Sunday that God gives us prophecy so that we can have hope. In the chaos of the world around us, what has God told us about the future that can give you hope right now?

4. Without the eternal perspective of God, there is much in our world today that produces fear and anxiety. What are some ways that you can **grow** this week in experiencing the fruit of the Spirit, especially peace, even knowing that your circumstances may be chaotic?

5. As followers of Jesus, how does our hope in the future God has promised give us a unique perspective on world events such as the current war in Ukraine? What opportunities do you have to share that hope as you **go** towards people in your life who need Jesus?