JUNE 2, 2019

Daniel 8:1-27

Thy Kingdom Come: Rise Up in An Upside-Down World

Speaker: Josh Weidmann

It can be easy to only see what is in front of us and not see the bigger picture of what God is doing around us. Perspective is everything for the Christian. When we see God's hand holding us our circumstances don't seem so daunting. In this message, we look at Daniel 8 and God's vision given to Daniel about his ultimate power to overcome the evil powers in this world.

THIS WEEK:

- ☐ Increase my watchfulness this week by guarding against the influence of evil on my heart and mind.
- ☐ Read Ephesians 5:14-15 and evaluate my life to ensure I am making the best use of my time.
- ☐ Pray for God to increase my outlook on the future and look for His answer in my circumstances.
- ☐ Get with another Christian and pray together for increased hope for our church.

DISCUSSION

☐ Rise up in your **watchfulness** against evil. – vv. 1–18

- Read Daniel 8:1–18.
- What signs do you see in today's world that warns you to be "watchful" against evil?
- How has the evil, that you have seen, come into your sight? Quickly? Slowly? Give some specific examples.
- Have you become "spiritually calcified" in any way since becoming a believer? What does that look like for you? How does that happen?
- What are some specific ways that you "de-calcify" yourself? Be specific.

☐ Rise up in your **confidence** with God. – vv. 19–26

- Read Daniel 8:19–26.
- How does Satan deceive you in today's world? What do you do to protect yourself against his deception? How has that grown your confidence in God?
- There will be many anti-Christ's in our lifetime and for time to come. How do you recognize an anti-Christ?
- Read Philippians 1:6. What should this verse teach you about your confidence in God? Replace the word "you" with your personal name. Re-read it out loud. Have somebody else read it to you. How does that make you feel? What promise of God is in that scripture?
- Memorize Philippians 1:6. Keep it as a "hip pocket verse." When your confidence in God is waning, take it out and recite it (out loud). Pray it back to God. "Father God, THANK YOU for beginning a good work in me and promising to see it through to completion at the time of Christ Jesus." Recite this verse to somebody else.

☐ Rise up in your **enthusiasm** because of Christ's future deliverance. – v. 27

- Read Daniel 8:27.
- Why was Daniel "sick for some days"?
- When was the last time you were sick over your own sin?
- When was the last time you wept over your own sin?
- How do you "rise up and go about your King's (Jesus) business"?
- Read Psalm 103:12. How does this verse speak to your confidence in Jesus? How does it speak to you when you fall into sin.

Apply: What is one thing that you can take away from this message that you can apply to your life this week?