

DANIEL (DARE TO BE GOD'S MESSENGER)
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SERIES: Daniel (Dare To Be God's Messenger)

TITLE: Program 27 – More Than Conquerors

TUESDAY

OPEN

One of the things that I have learned about wisdom is that when you're a wise person you don't make rash decisions. When you're a wise person you sit down and you contemplate the effect of the decision that you're about to make. Do you realize that there is a time coming when people on the face of this earth will have to decide who they're going to worship, because if they worship the wrong one, they will not be able to buy or sell? We'll talk about it today.

PART ONE

Oh beloved, you don't know what a delight it is for me to be with you day after day because we know that as you study through the Word of God book by book, chapter by chapter, verse by verse, you're going to put the living Word of God inside of you. You're going to know how to live because man doesn't live by bread alone; he lives by every word that comes out of the

mouth of God. In other words, life is not a matter of just physical sustenance. It is a matter of being in tune with God. It's a matter of knowing God. It's a matter of intimacy with God. It's a matter of knowing Him in such a way that you are able to stand firm and that you are able to take action, action that is based on wisdom. Wisdom is the fear of the Lord. It is to depart from evil; that is wisdom. It is to know God. So as we go to Revelation 13, we're looking at it, because we're studying the book of Daniel. And there are so many parallels between the end of Daniel, chapter 7 and Revelation, chapter 13. And I want us to go back and see that here people are worshiping the dragon because he gives his authority to the beast. So here's a group of people on the face of this earth that are literally worshiping Satan. Now when you think of Satanic worship, so many times we think of all these kind of mystical things and that. But this is not all these voodoo dances and things like this. It's a very sophisticated worship. The word worship here means literally to bow down. There are two words for worship, to bow down and to serve. So here are people that are bowing down and serving the dragon. The dragon, as we know, is the devil, the serpent of old, Satan. And they're worshiping him because he gave his authority to the beast. And they worship the beast saying who is like the beast. Now I'm reading this again because I want you to pick up an important key word. And that important key word is the word worship. So if you were marking the text of Daniel, chapter 13, which is in your study guide, you would put like a purple cloud around it and then I color it yellow. That's the way I mark the word worship throughout my Bible. All right, so they're worshiping the dragon and they're worshiping the beast and they're saying who is like him. Who is able to wage war with him? Now why are they worshiping him? Well it tells you why. They're worshiping him because they think that he is the supreme power. They think that no one is able to contest him. As a matter of fact, as we saw, he just brought down two representatives of God that no one could kill, the two witnesses of

Revelation, chapter 11. So in seeing that, now watch, they're walking by what their eyes are seeing. They're looking at the visible instead of the invisible. They're looking at the temporal instead of the eternal. So here is a whole mass of mankind worshiping Satan, this dragon who is in all probability in a sense personified and we see that when we study Revelation and they're worshiping the beast, this government that he has given his authority to, that he has backed and they're worshiping him. And there was given to him, to this beast a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies and authority to act for forty-two months was given to him. Now I want you to keep your hand there and I want you to go back to Daniel, chapter 7 because I just want you to see the parallels. I want you to see them on the side of the page. It says in verse 5 he was given, this beast was given authority to act for forty-two months. You take that verse, you go back to Daniel, chapter 7, and this is the beauty of marking time phrases, and you go back and it says in verse 25, he will speak out against the Most High. Now you mark that, so you know the he is the little big horn that comes up after the ten horns. And it says he wears down the saints of the Highest One. He will intend to make alterations in times and law and they will be given into his hand for a time, times and half a time. Time, times and half a times is three and a half years; forty-two months is three and half years. So what you see in Daniel, chapter 7 is you get a detail that Revelation 13 doesn't give you at this point. And that is that when it's talking about this beast and it's talking about his authority to act for forty-two months, it's the beast and the little big horn that has come out of the ten that is the authority now. Okay. So you find this beast and this is important that you remember this. All right back to Revelation, chapter 13. He opened his mouth again, in blasphemies against God. Now remember that the little big horn of Daniel 7, speaks out against the Highest One. So, if he's speaking out here, he's blaspheming God. I mean this is a man that is in open rebellion to God. This is a man that has no sham about him when it comes to pretending to be a Christian. He

doesn't need to. He doesn't need to be politically correct, riding both sides of the fence, talking Christianese when he's with Christians and talking other things when he's not. We know from Revelation, chapter 12 that there is a multitude of believers on the face of the earth at this time. I believe personally, that the church itself is gone, but there are a multitude of believers because these are people, Revelation 12 tells us, and I want you to go to Revelation 12, verse 17. It says that the dragon was enraged with the woman, with Israel and went off to make war with the rest of her offspring who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus. So here are people that are offspring's of Israel because they have believed in Jesus Christ. And therefore, they are on the earth at this time. Now this man is not trying to appease them in any way. I mean, when it comes to God, he's black and white. And, he is saying I don't want any of that light. I am totally of the kingdom of darkness. I am the king and I am ruling. All right, and it says he opened his mouth, Revelation 13:6, and blasphemies against God, to blaspheme His name and His tabernacle. Now that's very important. His tabernacle, that is those who dwell in heaven. What is the tabernacle of God or the tent of God or the dwelling place of God? It's believers. In 1 Corinthians, chapter 6, verse 19 and 20 it says what, know you not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, the Holy Spirit who is in you? What does Colossians say? How does Colossians describe a Christian? Christ in you, the hope of glory. So this is a man that is in open blasphemous rebellion against God and against His people, against His name and against His tabernacle. And then it explains those who dwell in heaven. I mean he is in a rage at anything or anyone that bears the name Christian or believer in God. And then it goes on to say in verse 7 and this is incredible: It was given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. Now if it was given to him to make war with the saints and overcome them, who gave him that authority? Well, you say the devil gave him the, the authority. But who beyond the devil, who is the supreme sovereign ruler of all the universe?

Who creates good and creates adversity? Who is the one who does all these things? It is the Lord. In Isaiah, chapter 45, God says I create good and I create adversity. I am the Lord who does all these things. So this is in the plan of God. This is what I want you to know. And I want you to understand. You say, but I can't understand a God like that. It is a mystery to me, why God would allow something like that to go on. Well, let me just go back to Revelation, chapter 10 for a minute. In Revelation, chapter 10 in verse 7 it says this: In the days of the voice of the seventh angel when he is about to sound, then the mystery of God is finished as he preached to His servants the prophets. And I think that mystery of God is finally God is going to take his power, but not until God is ready. You say, I just cannot agree with that. Well honey, or sir, excuse me, you're a man, you're not God. And so you may not agree with it; it may not fit your description of God, but your description of God is off. It's not okay, but it's understandable. And it's understandable because what you have to do is you have to keep studying the Word of God and you've got to study the Old Testament if you're going to get to know God, if you're going to get understand His ways, if you're going to understand His prophecies, they all begin in the Old Testament. So we come back and what we see in Revelation, chapter 13 is that it was given to him to make war with the saints and overcome them. Now what does that tell us about Daniel 7? We'll look at it after this announcement.

PART TWO

Get your pen ready and let's read Revelation, chapter 13, verse 7 again and watch carefully. We're going to find an insight here that is awesome that helps us understand Daniel 7. It says and it was given to him, to the beast. Now we know we've got a dragon that gives the beast authority. We've got a beast with seven heads and ten horns. Now it was given to the beast to make war with the saints and to overcome them and authority over every tribe, and people, and tongue, and nation was given to him. All right, now

next to that verse write Daniel 7:23. Flip to Daniel, chapter 7, verse 23. It says then he said, the fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth which will be different from all the other kingdoms and it will devour the whole earth and tread it down and crush it. So we said that that word, the whole earth, there kol ara, could be just the Near and Middle East. And yet when we get to Revelation, chapter 13, verse 7 we see that this beast is given authority not only to overpower the saints, but authority over every tribe, and people, and tongue, and nation was given to him. So what does that encompass? That encompasses the whole earth. Does that encompass your nation? Un huh. So what does that mean? That means that you have a one-world ruler. If you have a one-world ruler you have a one-world government. Now look at verse 8. And all who dwell on the earth will worship him. So there you have the word worship again. You want to mark it again. So they're worshipping the dragon. They're worshipping the beast. And everybody on the whole earth is going to worship him. Now he's going to qualify the all. Does it mean every living creature on the face of this earth is going to worship him? No, what he's telling you is that the extent of the power and authority of this fourth beast of Daniel, chapter 7, the fourth kingdom of Daniel, chapter 2, his authority and his power is going to influence all the earth. Every single human being on the earth is not going to worship him, but all the earth, collectively is going to worship him and then he defines who it is: those whose name was not written from the foundation of the world, in the book of the life of the Lamb who has been slain. In other words, everyone who is not a believer is going to worship him. Those whose name were written in the book of the life of the Lamb who was slain. Now who's the Lamb who was slain? When Jesus appeared, John the Baptist said behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sins of the world. The Jews understood perfectly because they took a lamb at Passover; they sacrificed that Lamb and it was in celebration of their deliverance out of Egypt when God said He saw the blood of that lamb on the doorpost of the house, then

the angel of death passed over. So when they sinned, they brought a sacrifice. So they understood that the Lamb that was slain was Jesus Christ. The Lamb that was slain is described in Revelation, chapter 5, when He comes and He stands before the Lord and He takes the title deed of the earth into His hands, the scroll that has seven seals and is written on inside and out. He's described as behold, the lion of the tribe of Judah, the Lamb as if it had been slain. Okay, so the people that worship this beast on the face of this earth are not those whose names have been written in the Lambs book of life. But what are they going to do? Watch what it says. If anyone has an ear, let him hear. If anyone is destined for captivity, to captivity he goes. If anyone kills with a sword, with a sword he must be killed. Now this destined for captivity, to captivity he goes is a term that is used in the book of Jeremiah. It says here is the perseverance and faith of the saints. In other words if you're truly a believer in Jesus Christ, then no matter what you do to me, no matter how you threaten me, I will not bend. I will not bow. I will not worship the beast. Do you see the parallel between Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego when Nebuchadnezzar says you bow or you burn? You go into the furnace and you bow before the statue; you bow before this government. And they said no, God is able to deliver us. But if He does not it does not matter, we will not bow. It's the same here. It's the perseverance of the saints. What you and I learned about Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego is applicable to us. And it says I saw another beast coming up out of the earth and he had two horns like a lamb and he spoke as a dragon. Now you have a triumvirate. You have three: you have the dragon, you have the beast and you have another beast. And it says and he exercises all the authority of the first beast in his presence. He makes the earth and those who dwell in it to worship the first beast. This is like an unholy trinity and you see it later on in Revelation. To worship the first beast, whose fatal wound was healed. And he performs, this second beast, great signs so that he even makes fire come down out of heaven just like the two witnesses did. And it

says he makes fire to come down out of heaven the earth in the presence of men. And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs that was given to him to perform. If you're the kind of person that only follows Jesus, or only follows others because you see signs and miraculous wonders, you're able to be deceived. It says they followed him because of the signs which it was given to him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast. Do you see what's happening? Who had the wound of the sword and has come to life. And you say, what does that mean? We'll talk about it later. And there was given to him to give breathe to the image of the beast and the image of the beast might even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed. And he calls all, small and great, rich and poor, free men and slaves to be given a mark on their right hand or on their forehead and he provides that no one should be able to buy or sell except the one who has the mark of the beast, either the name of the beast or the number of his name. In other words, if you don't have that mark on your right hand or on your forehead then you cannot buy and you cannot sell. These are the days that are coming. They are difficult days. They are hard days and they are going to get worse and worse and worse. Read 2 Timothy, chapter 3 and you'll see the character of men in these days. You say, but I don't think I'm going to be here. Honey, what are you doing in the here and now? What are you doing today? Are you bowing before the world? Are you cowering to the world or are you standing like a child of God? Are you persevering? Are you believing God? See, it's now that we're to live for Him. And wisdom looks at the future and says the future is God. And because the future is God I'm going to walk in the fear of the Lord. That is the beginning of wisdom. And I'm not going to bend and I'm not going to bow. It doesn't matter what they do to me because I know the end of the story. And I know that there is perseverance for the saints and that we come out the winners. So beloved, live like a Christian; act like a Christian and don't worship the world.