No Fear! Even as Evil Spreads, God is Still Sovereign

Daniel 8: 1-27

Message 8

"When you realize that nothing happens apart from God's awareness, direction and loving purpose, it becomes possible to lay down worry and fear and truly experience His peace."

~Charles Stanley

- > Daniel envisions himself in the citadel of Susa.
 - *Present-day Shush, Iran
- > He sees a two-horned ram standing by the Ulai Canal.
 - *Present-day Karun River
- The two-horned ram is the Medo-Persian Empire.
- The he-goat with the single horn is the <u>Grecian</u> Empire.
- The single large horn is <u>Alexander the Great</u>.
- The "little horn" who oppresses Jewish people is Antiochus Epiphanes.

These prophetic images came to Daniel to encourage him as well as prepare him and others for the changes coming to usher in the Kingdom of God with Messiah as King.



There are several truths to remember as we learn about the End Times.

1st Truth: God allows <u>consequences</u> to follow the lack of <u>obedience</u> by His people and the sin of the world.

A <u>pattern</u> of sin and disobedience has <u>costly</u> consequences in this life and in the <u>next</u>.

2 Chronicles 36: 8 NLT

"The world has lost its power to <u>blush</u> over its sin; the church has lost her power to <u>weep</u> over it." ~Leonard Rayenhill

2nd Truth: When evil is allowed to <u>thrive</u>, it becomes <u>powerful</u> and <u>consumes</u> its victims through <u>strongholds</u> in their lives.

Daniel 8: 23-25a; 2 Timothy 3:1-4 "Christian, beware of thinking <u>lightly</u> of sin. Take heed in case you <u>fall</u> little by little." ~Charles Spurgeon

3rd Truth: God is <u>Sovereign</u> and works out His <u>plan</u> for our lives and in the world.

"Our world is <u>filled</u> with fear, hate, lust, greed, war and utter despair. Surely the <u>Second Coming</u> of Jesus Christ is the only <u>hope</u> of replacing these depressing features with trust, love, universal <u>peace</u>, and prosperity." ~Billy Graham