



Life More Abundant Bible Study

Bible Prophecy: Daniel Chapter 7B

Daniel Chapter 7 introduces several critical bible prophecies that are a foundation for doctrinal truth. As a continuation of our in-depth study of the chapter, we will focus on the heavenly court scene portrayed in Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 and understand the events at play and their significance.

Background to the Court Scene:

The sanctuary that God instructed Moses to build in the wilderness (Exodus 25:8, 9) was a replica of the sanctuary in heaven (Hebrews 8:4, 5). Each item in the earthly sanctuary had significance in pointing to Jesus and His work of redemption. This gives occasion for the presentation of another literary technique used extensively in the Bible, namely:

Types and Anti-Types. The earthly sanctuary was a “type” of, or representation of, the heavenly sanctuary. The actual sanctuary in heaven is called the anti-type. Similarly, every lamb, bull, goat, or dove that was slain for the remission of sin was a “type” of Jesus Christ; Jesus Christ himself being the anti-type.

The earthly sanctuary held symbolism for many purposes including the following:

- A place of Atonement
- A place of Intercession
- **A place of Judgment**

Let us see how each of these are intertwined and how they relate to the court scene of Daniel 7. As background, review the *Day of Atonement* and *Sanctuary Diagram* (Daniel 7C and 7D) accompanied by these readings:

- Leviticus 16
- Hebrews 9:1-15

THE HEAVENLY COURT SCENE:

Consider the consistent chronology of the rise and fall of world empires we have studied thus far, notice that the court scene:

1. Follows the description of the rise of the fourth beast (the fourth world empire),
2. Occurs before the destruction of the same beast (the beast having the horn speaking pompous words)

Given the aforementioned consistency in chronology, this would imply that the court scene occurs parenthetically, during the existence of the fourth world empire and concludes before the destruction of the same world empire.

Daniel 7:9 provides a host of detail regarding a central character in the scene, the Ancient of Days; by the description given, and the context of the following verses, who is the **Ancient of Days**? Consider the following verses:

- Psalm 90:2
- Psalm 102:24-27
- Isaiah 6:1-3
- Isaiah 51:9
- Daniel 7:13
- Ezekiel 1:26-28

Daniel sees that thrones were put in place, apparently for the thousand thousand and ten thousand times ten thousand that stood before God, the Father. This great multitude is said to minister and stand before God as eyewitnesses.

Who are the thousand thousand and ten thousand times ten thousand in this scene? Consider the following verses when giving your answer.

- Hebrews 1:13, 14
- 1 Timothy 5:21
- Revelation 5:11, 12

The bible says that the court was seated and the books were opened. What two books at a minimum are being evaluated and what do they contain? Consider the following verses when giving your answer.

Book 1: _____

- Exodus 32:31, 32
- Daniel 12:1
- Luke 10:20
- Philippians 4:3
- Revelation 3:5, 13:8, 20:12, 15; 21:27
- Psalm 69:28

Book 2: _____

- Malachi 3:16
- Psalm 56:8
- Acts 10:4
- Ecclesiastes 12:14
- Matthew 12:36, 37

Based on what we have read so far, we see the following:

1. A heavenly court scene with God the Father seated

2. Thrones placed for the ministering angels who participate in the court scene as witnesses
3. The Book of Life and Book of Remembrance at a minimum, opened, bearing the life record of every individual who has ever walked the earth.

The most glorious portion of the court scene is described in verses 13 and 14 where one like the Son of Man is brought on the clouds of heaven to the Father who is seated on His throne. Who is the *Son of Man* that is given such pomp, and honor and is able to stand before the Father? Further what is the chariot of clouds that He rides upon? Consider the following verses:

Son of Man:

- John 1:18
- Luke 21:27
- Matthew 8:20
- Matthew 9:4-6
- 1 Timothy 2:5

Clouds:

- Matthew 16:27
- Psalm 104:3
- Psalm 68:17

For what purpose is Jesus brought to this heavenly court scene? Consider the following verses:

- Matthew 22:11, 12
- Matthew 25:31-34
- Mark 14:62
- John 5:22, 27
- Acts 17:30, 31
- Romans 14:9, 10
- 2 Corinthians 5:10
- Malachi 3:1-5
- Psalm 68:21-24
- John 12:46-50; 15:22-27; 16:8, 9

This is most interesting! Many are convinced that men will be judged by God the Father, yet we see that it is Jesus, the One who died for the sins of the world, to Whom judgment has been committed. Jesus has come to the scene to determine the fate of the two classes of people that have existed on the earth since the fall of man:

- the *righteous* who embrace God's covenant and work of mercy towards them by faith and obedience

- the *wicked* who ignore God's covenant, spurning the gift of salvation and live lives in rebellion to God and His Law

The scene may be an eerie scene as we consider our own life record of mistakes and flaws. However, recall the role of the High Priest on the antitypical Day of Atonement? Let us see another illustration of a court scene that should brighten our hopes! Read the following and discuss:

- Hebrews 9:11-15
- Zechariah 3:1-5
- Hebrews 7:20-28
- 1 John 2:1, 2
- Revelation 3:5

The heavenly court scene of Daniel 7 ends with Jesus, the Son of Man, being brought before God the Father by a host of angels to serve as High Priest and Mediator in judgment for the righteous, but as a Judge for the wicked (Malachi 3:5). The court of God is the place where the wrongs and injustices of the world are vindicated and the righteous are glorified. Consider the lamentations of the Psalmist regarding the hardships of the righteous, the ways of the ungodly, and God's due reward towards them:

- Psalm 73
- Psalm 75:2
- Psalm 7: 9, 10
- Psalm 9:7-12
- Psalm 98:9

The angels serve as eyewitnesses in this great court scene (Luke 12:8, 9) for another crucial reason. Consider the following verses:

- Matthew 13:37-43
- Matthew 13:47-50

Lastly, the same court scene describes another aspect of the Everlasting Covenant's fulfillment, the giving of the Eternal Kingdom to Jesus, the Seed of Righteousness, and Savior of the World. Consider these last verses as we conclude this study:

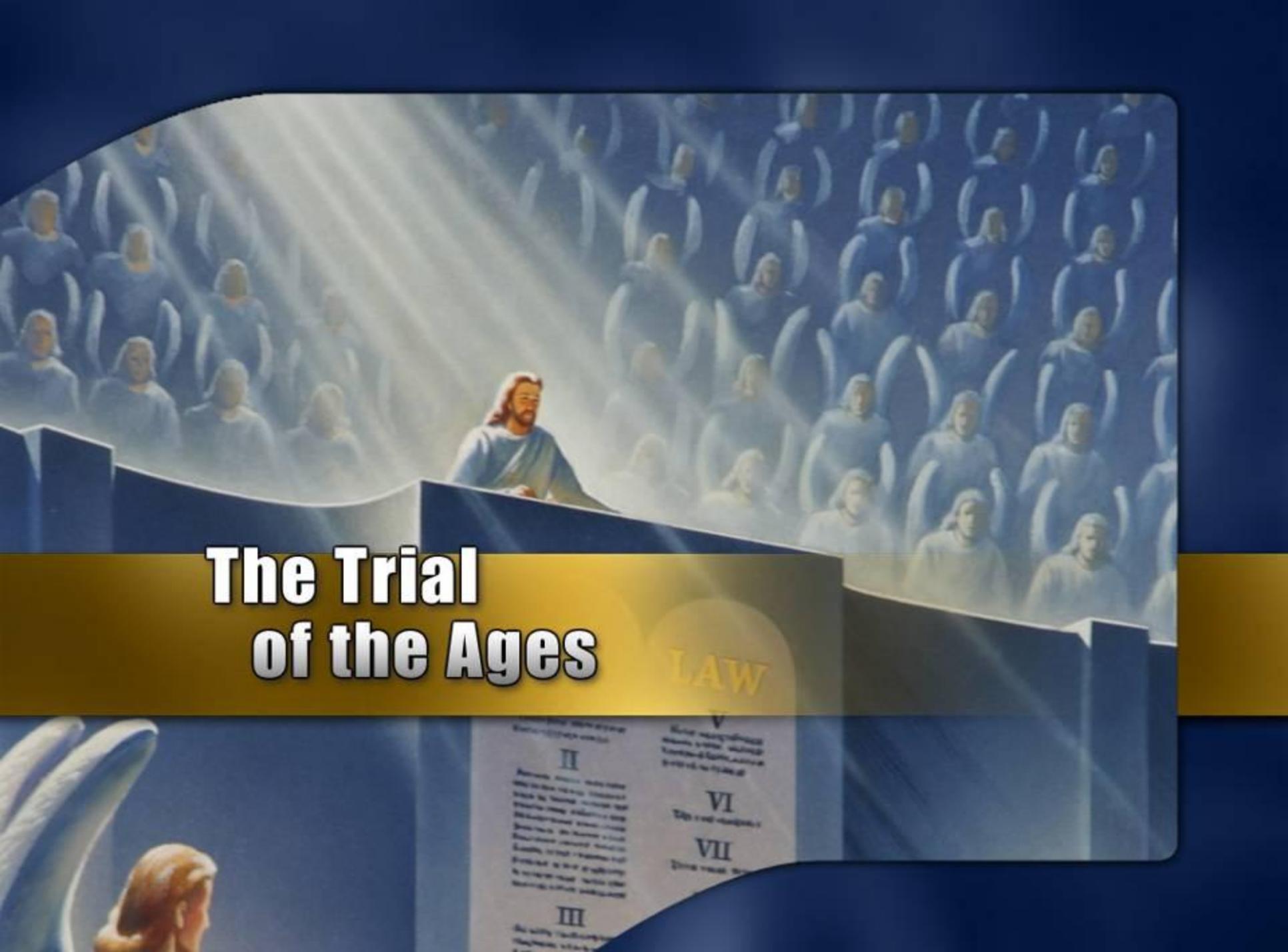
- Daniel 7:13, 14
- Luke 19:12-27

SUMMARY:

Thanks be to God for His indescribable Gift!! Consider that Jesus, the Lamb of God, slain for the sins of the world is also our Intercessor and High Priest! Let us accept Christ today as our atoning Savior that we may have peace with God, assurance in His judgment, and ultimately be counted among His Everlasting Kingdom (Revelation 14:7).

I saw in the night visions, and, behold, [one] like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion [is] an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom [that] which shall not be destroyed. Daniel 7:13, 14





The Trial of the Ages

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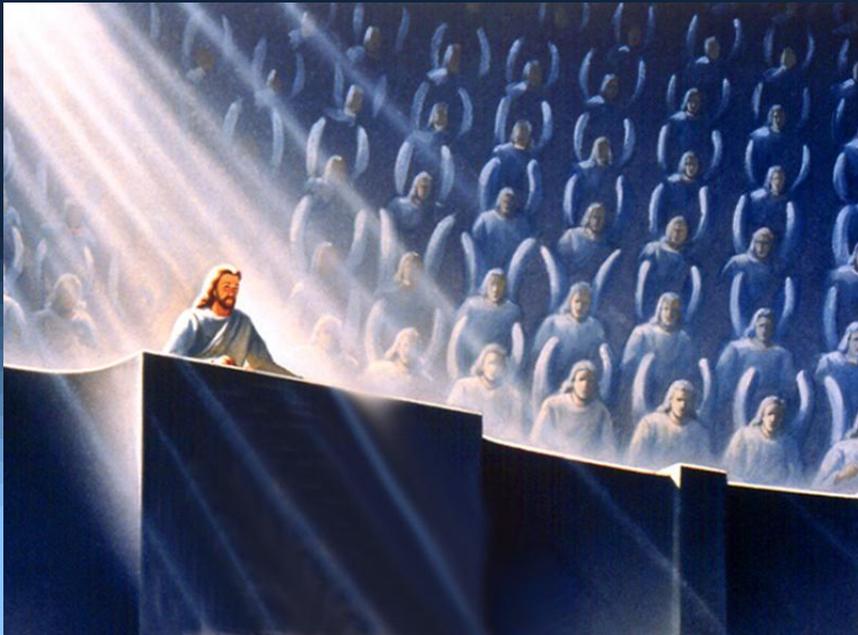
VI

VII

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I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment [was] white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne [was like] the fiery flame, [and] his wheels [as] burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened. Daniel 7:9, 10





For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things [done] in [his] body, according to that he hath done, whether [it be] good or bad.

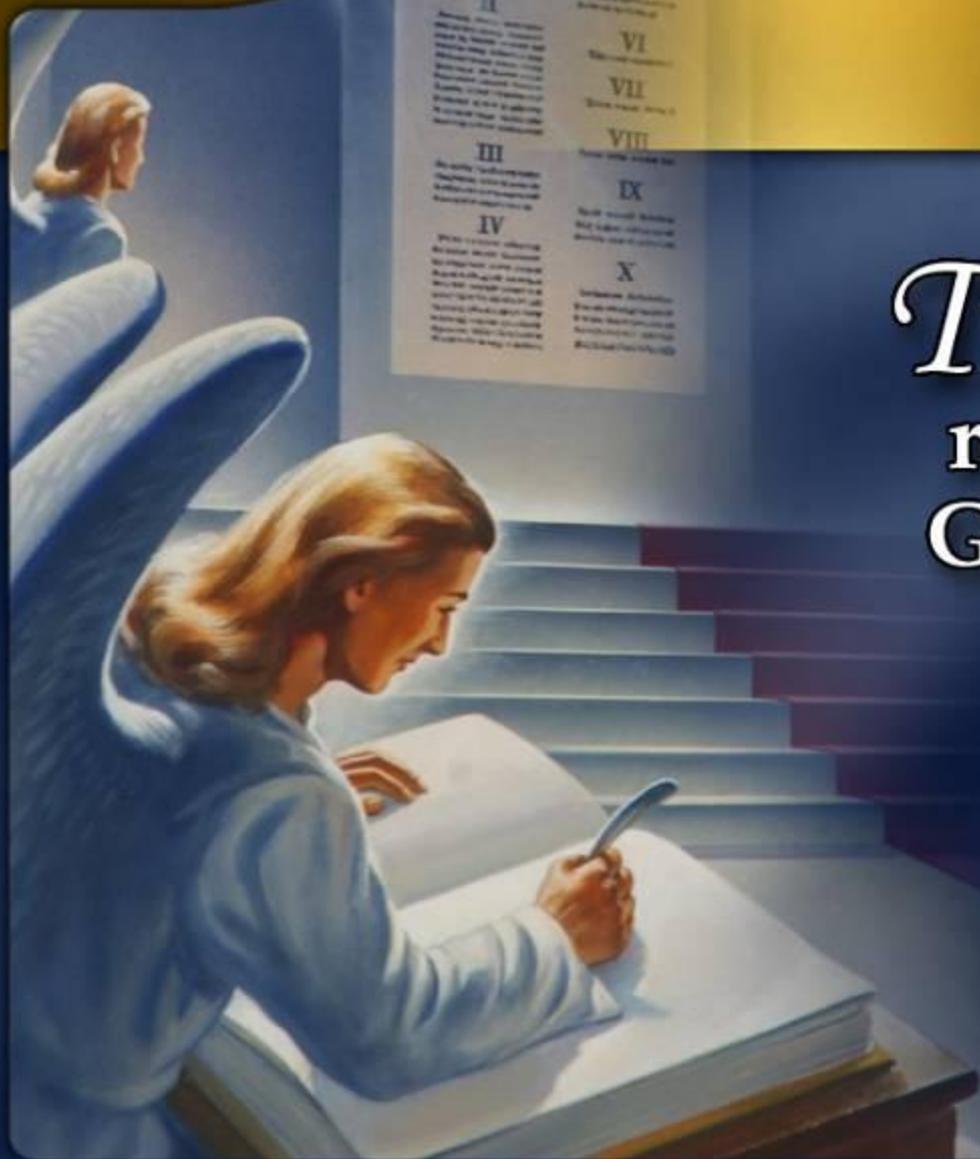
2 Corinthians 5:10

My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, **we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:** And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for [the sins of] the whole world.

1 John 2:1, 2







*The heavenly
records reveal
God's justice.*



Hebrews 4:13

“And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.”

