



READINESS: "THE ANCIENT OF DAYS TOOK HIS SEAT"

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*Could you be described as ignorant of, or obsessing over apocalyptic passages in the Scriptures?
Why do people tend to fit into these stereotypes? What's the response God wants from us?*

Dig In

I am ready for whatever God is planning for our world when I see....

...both the coming chaos on earth (v. 1-8)

- To be ready for the chaos you have to be connected to the right kingdom. What specific activities in your week strengthen your ties to Jesus? What specific activities weaken them? How do you manage your time so that your activity helps you be ready for whatever is coming next for you?

and the current awesomeness of heaven (v. 9-14)

- This word picture describes God in a majestic way. In relationship to a God who shows up like this, who are you? When you worship God, do your words and actions flow from an overwhelming sense of his ultimate sovereignty? What are some signs that you could give to show that God's awesomeness has washed over you?

...both the coming devastation of the church (v. 19-25)

- Knowing that God will allow the church to be troubled by earthly leaders aligned with demonic forces, how are you preparing for increased resistance to the worship of God?

and the already accomplished victory of Jesus Christ (v. 17-18, 26-27)

- Living with an "already, but not yet" perspective is how Daniel and his resolved friends endured their circumstances for decades. What circumstance in your life requires a change of perspective so that you're drawing strength from Christ's victory rather than feeling weak from the daily battles?

Is it okay to still be somewhat confused and a little anxious about it all? (v. 15-16, 28)

- Confusion is not an excuse for apathy towards this revelation; it was given to strengthen resolve to remain faithful under the pressure to conform to the culture of a domineering nation. What have you resolved to do, or not do, as an expression of your commitment to Jesus? What message does this resolution send to our culture as you live it out, even under great pressure?

Break Out: Each person in the group should take the time to express what they've resolved to do. Group members should pray for their strength to continue this faithfulness to Christ in light of culture we live in.