

Daniel's Vision of the Son of Man

Daniel 7:1; 9-10; 13-14

Based on NLT (2004)

Daniel lived in a time when God's people had been scattered. Daniel was living as a captive in Babylon. He remained faithful to God. Aside from giving Daniel the ability to interpret the king's dreams, God gave Daniel visions about future events.

During the first year of King Belshazzar's reign in Babylon, Daniel had a dream and saw visions as he lay in his bed. He wrote down the dream, and this is what he saw.

Daniel described it this way:

I watched as thrones were put in place
and the Ancient One sat down to judge.
His clothing was as white as snow,
his hair like purest wool.
He sat on a fiery throne
with wheels of blazing fire,
and a river of fire was pouring out,
flowing from his presence.
Millions of angels ministered to him;
many millions stood to attend him.
Then the court began its session,
and the books were opened.

As my vision continued that night, I saw someone like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient One and was led into his presence. He was given authority, honor, and sovereignty over all the nations of the world, so that people of every race and nation and language would obey him. His rule is eternal—it will never end. His kingdom will never be destroyed.

Story Crafting

When telling this story, just describe Daniel's vision as if you were Daniel telling the people it. The phrase "son of man" is used often in the New Testament. So this story gives some prophecy connection to that. Also, the promise of the everlasting kingdom is repeated here. Remember to connect this to God's promise to David.

Drama will work for Daniel's vision as well. Drawing the vision can be interesting as well.

Teaching this Story

What did you like about this story?

Was there something in this story that you did not understand?
What did you learn about “man” (human characters in the story)?
What did you learn about God/Jesus in this story?
What do you need to apply to your life from this story?

For teaching this to those in challenging situations, you might add the following question:
What part of this story can you hold onto as you begin/continue in your situation?