

Briefing Document: His Kingdom Will Come Lesson 5

November 30, 2025

Executive Summary

This document synthesizes a theological lesson on eschatology, focusing on the establishment of Christ's Millennial Kingdom. The central argument posits that Christ's return is a cataclysmic event that will occur only after the rise and fall of a specific sequence of gentile world empires, culminating in the final form of the Roman Empire. Drawing primarily from the prophetic visions in the books of Daniel and Revelation, the analysis outlines a history of world powers as seen from a divine perspective, portraying them as predatory beasts. The fourth and final beast, the Roman Empire, is not considered complete until it reemerges in a final, ten-nation confederacy. From this revived empire, a final global ruler—the Antichrist—will emerge. Only after this figure's reign will Christ return, not in a quiet or gradual manner, but in a sudden, violent holocaust of judgment to reclaim dominion over the earth, an event symbolized by the Lamb taking the seven-sealed scroll, or the "title deed to the earth," in Revelation 5. The doctrine of the Second Coming is presented as a preeminent and frequently repeated theme throughout Scripture, a reality undiminished by modern theological skepticism.

I. The Prophetic Empires of Daniel's Vision

The lesson establishes a prophetic framework based on the visions in the Book of Daniel, which are interpreted as a divine outline of the history of major gentile world powers.

Man's Viewpoint vs. God's Viewpoint

A key distinction is drawn between the visions in Daniel 2 and Daniel 7.

- **Daniel 2:** The vision of the great statue is presented as the human perspective on these empires—impressive, grand, and powerful.
- **Daniel 7:** The vision of the four beasts is presented as God's perspective, revealing the true nature of these empires as savage, predatory, and beastly.

The Four Beasts: A Symbolic History

The first three beasts from Daniel 7 are identified with specific historical empires:

- **First Beast (Lion with eagle's wings):** The Babylonian Empire. The vision was given to Daniel while he was in Babylon, during a period of its decline after the death of Nebuchadnezzar.
- **Second Beast (Bear):** The Medo-Persian Empire.
- **Third Beast (Leopard with wings):** The Greek Empire.

The Fourth Beast: The Roman Empire

The fourth beast receives the most detailed analysis, as it is directly linked to the events preceding Christ's return. It is described not as a recognizable animal but as a consummate beast characterized by its overwhelming power and destructiveness.

- **Key Characteristics:** The text emphasizes its description as "dreadful and terrible," "exceedingly strong," and possessing "huge iron teeth." The presence of iron is noted as a clear identifier of the Roman Empire.
- **Actions:** Its actions are depicted as devouring, breaking in pieces, trampling, and stamping upon its victims, signifying total and brutal conquest.
- **Unprecedented Power:** The Roman Empire is distinguished from its predecessors by its immense duration, lasting for approximately 1,500 years (from its occupation of Sicily in 214 BC to its final fall around 1450 AD), and its control over the entire known world via its dominance of the Mediterranean.

II. The Final Form of Gentile Dominion

The analysis argues that the historical Roman Empire was not the final manifestation of the fourth beast. A future, revived form must appear before Christ's kingdom is established.

The Ten Horns: A Revived Roman Empire

The most crucial feature of the fourth beast for end-times prophecy is its "ten horns," as mentioned at the end of Daniel 7:7.

- **Unfulfilled Prophecy:** This feature is identified as a prophecy that has not yet been fulfilled. The horns are interpreted to represent kings, powers, or countries.
- **A Ten-Nation Confederacy:** It is asserted that the Roman Empire must be revived in a final form as a ten-kingdom confederacy. This interpretation is supported by cross-referencing with the Book of Revelation, particularly *Revelation 17:11-12*.
- **Geographic Scope:** This revived empire is expected to arise in Europe, encompassing the territory of the original Roman Empire.
- **Historical Precedent:** The European Economic Community (EEC), or Common Market, is mentioned as a potential precursor, noting it once consisted of ten nations before expanding.

The Final Ruler: The Antichrist

From this ten-nation confederacy, the final gentile ruler will emerge.

- **Rise to Power:** One leader will rise from among the ten and subdue the others, becoming the single ruler of this final kingdom. This figure is identified as the Antichrist.

- **A Persuasive Figure:** The Antichrist is described as being so persuasive that he will convince the nation of Israel that he is their Messiah and is there to secure their eternal peace.

- **Sequential Fulfillment:** The Millennial Kingdom of Christ will directly follow the reign of this final king from the final form of the final gentile empire.

The Transience of Earthly Power

To illustrate the ultimate futility of human empires that defy God, the poem "Ozymandias" by Percy Bysshe Shelley is recited. The poem describes the decaying ruin of a colossal statue of a king who once declared himself "King of Kings," now surrounded by nothing but empty desert. This serves as an allegory for the fate of all great world leaders and empires—including Nebuchadnezzar, Cyrus, Alexander, and the Caesars—who claimed divinity but ultimately ended "in the dust."

III. The Cataclysmic Establishment of Christ's Kingdom

The establishment of Christ's kingdom on earth is depicted not as a peaceful or gradual transition but as a sudden and overwhelming display of divine power and judgment.

A Violent and Sudden Event

The speaker emphasizes that the kingdom of Christ will not "sneak up" on the world. It is described as a "violent, furious, momentary thing" that comes with a "holocaust of judgment against humanity." Its arrival will be an unmistakable and terrifying event marked by blazing glory, fiery judgment, and a "blood bath on the earth."

Scriptural Depictions of Christ's Return

Several New Testament passages are cited to provide a vivid picture of this event:

- **2 Thessalonians 1:7-9:** Describes the Lord Jesus being "*revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God... These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord...*"

- **Jude 14-15:** Quotes Enoch's prophecy: "*Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds...*"

- **Revelation 19:11-21:** This passage provides the most detailed imagery, depicting Christ returning on a white horse, called "Faithful and True," to judge and make war. His features include eyes like a flame of fire, a robe dipped in blood, and a sharp sword proceeding from His mouth to strike the nations. The chapter culminates in the "supper of the great God," where the birds of the air are summoned to feast on the flesh of the armies gathered to oppose Him. The beast (Antichrist) and the false prophet are captured and "*cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.*"

IV. The Right to Reign: The Title Deed to the Earth

The theological basis for Christ's authority to reclaim the world is found in the vision of Revelation 5.

The Seven-Sealed Scroll

- **Symbolism:** John's vision of a scroll in the right hand of God, sealed with seven seals, is interpreted as the **title deed to the earth**. The seven seals are compared to the Roman legal practice of sealing a will or testament seven times to ensure its security.
- **The Usurper:** The earth is currently occupied by usurpers, chief among them Satan, who is called the "god of this present age" and the "prince of this world."

The Worthiness of the Lamb

- **The Divine Dilemma:** No one in heaven, on earth, or under the earth is found worthy to open the scroll and loose its seals.
- **The Rightful Heir:** The one who prevails is Christ, identified by multiple titles: "the Lion of the tribe of Judah," "the Root of David," and "a Lamb as though He had been slain." He is worthy because He redeemed humanity to God by His blood.
- **Reclaiming Dominion:** When Christ takes the scroll from the Father, it signifies the moment He officially receives the right to reign and reclaim the dominion that humanity forfeited in the Garden of Eden.

The Onset of Judgment

The act of unrolling the scroll initiates the final, cataclysmic judgments upon the earth. In a rapid-fire sequence, the breaking of the seals unleashes the trumpet judgments, which in turn unleash the bowl (or vile) judgments, culminating in a holocaust that ends "man's day" and establishes Christ's eternal kingdom.

V. The Preeminence of the Second Coming Doctrine

The lesson concludes by asserting the supreme importance of the doctrine of the Second Coming of Jesus Christ, arguing it is a dominant theme throughout the Bible.

Biblical Frequency and Significance

A statistical analysis is provided to underscore the doctrine's prominence:

- Prophecy constitutes approximately 15% of all Scripture, and prophecies about the Second Coming make up one-third of that total.
- Of roughly 660 total prophecies in the Bible, 333 concern Jesus Christ. Of those, 224 will be fulfilled at His Second Coming.
- In the New Testament, approximately 1 in every 25 verses (330 out of 7,959) refers to the Second Coming.

- Next to the subject of faith, no topic is discussed more frequently in the Bible. Jesus Himself referred to His return 21 times, and Scripture commands believers to be ready for it over 50 times.

A Critique of Modern Theological Views

A sharp critique is leveled against modern theological trends that downplay or ignore this doctrine.

- **The World Council of Churches (WCC):** This organization is described as a dangerous ecumenical movement that promotes universalism (the belief that everyone goes to heaven) and will help "usher in the mystery religion of the end times."
- **Clerical Apathy:** A meeting sponsored by the WCC in Evanston, Illinois, is cited, where it was reported that only 10% of the American Protestant clergy in attendance felt the doctrine of the Second Coming was significant. This is presented as evidence of a modern perversion within the evangelical church, which stands in stark contrast to the doctrine's biblical importance. Despite such skepticism and scoffers asking, "Where is the promise of His coming?", the reality of Christ's return remains unchanged.