

Beyond Globalization

Daniel 7:9-14

9 “As I looked,

thrones were placed,
and the Ancient of Days took his seat;
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames;
its wheels were burning fire.

10 A stream of fire issued
and came out from before him;
a thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him;
the court sat in judgment,
and the books were opened.

11 “I looked then because of the sound of the great words that the horn was speaking. And as I looked, the beast was killed, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. 12 As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

13 “I saw in the night visions,

and behold, with the clouds of heaven
there came one like a son of man,
and he came to the Ancient of Days
and was presented before him.

14 And to him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him;
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,
which shall not pass away,
and his kingdom one
that shall not be destroyed.

Discussion Questions

1. How are you affected by globalization? What are the natural ways in which you have become connected with and interdependent on people from other countries?
2. What is the role and function of “the son of man” in Daniel 7:13-14? How does Daniel 7:2-8 inform how we understand Daniel 7:9-14?

3. How do Genesis 12:1-3, Exodus 19:5-6, and 1 Kings 10:41-43 shape the way we are to think of other nations?

4. What tends to evoke in us the greatest nationalistic view of God—that is, the idea that God exists to bless my family and nation to the exclusion of other families or nations?

5. How does Daniel 7:13-14 shape the way we understand and apply Matthew 28:18-20, particularly in light of verse 18?

6. What are ways in which you can use the reality of globalization for the sake of the Gospel?