

Growth Group Bible Study

“Being a Daniel Generation” Sermon Series
The Countdown of Hope



November 18, 2018

Reading Daniel 9:16-27

Opening Questions

1. What was a particularly joyous occasion or event that you “counted down” to?
2. Would you say that you are a particularly hopeful person or do you struggle with feeling hopeful?
3. How much do you think about the “end times” and return of Jesus and as we “wait” for that, how hopeful do you feel?

Study

1. As Daniel gets this new revelation in 9:20ff, what was he doing and how does it tie in with the “answers” given him? cf. 9:1-19
2. What is the connection of what Daniel was doing in 9:2 and rest of chapter and how God “speaks” to us as Christians today?
3. What makes Gabriel a significant angel in Scripture? (cf. Daniel 8:16ff; 9:12ff; Luke 1:11-20; 1:26-38) Are angels still “ministering spirits” to us as Christians today and how so (cf. Hebrews 1:14)?
4. How does Jeremiah 25:10-11 and 29:10-11 tie in with God’s answering Daniel’s prayer and giving him hope?
5. In what way does the prophecy of 9:24-27 give hope to Daniel (and us) that is “exceedingly abundantly” (Eph. 3:20-21) beyond what Daniel prayed for? What does that tell us about who God is and how He answers our prayers?

6. What “countdown of hope” does God give Daniel in 9:24-27 and how can we interpret the timeline Daniel is given? What are the “weeks”?

7. The prophecy of the coming of the Messiah stands as the key part of this prophecy. What does it tell us about what happened to Jesus (vs26) and what is the significance for our Christian faith? cf. Isaiah 53:1-12; 2 Cor. 5:21; 1 Peter 3:18

8. If the prophecy of Jesus’ coming is predicted very specifically to have been fulfilled on Palm Sunday, how does Luke 19:41-44 fit?

9. In what way are we “on the clock” with regards to the end times and return of Jesus and how do we keep a sense of expectancy for what God is doing and will do?

10. In what way(s) is this “countdown of hope” in Daniel 9:24-27 encouraging to you?

Application

1. As your group prays, take time to express gratitude to God for the hope we have as believers in a “future and a hope” from Him.

2. With Thanksgiving coming, also take time to share what you are grateful to God for.