

Daniel 7:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Analysis

This verse continues describing the Son of Man's coronation and kingdom. The phrase "there was given him dominion" emphasizes that authority is bestowed by God the Father, not seized through conquest. The Aramaic *yahiv* (יָהִיב, "given") indicates gracious gift and authorized delegation. The threefold grant—"dominion, and glory, and a kingdom"—encompasses complete sovereign authority: practical rule (dominion), honor and majesty (glory), and realm of governance (kingdom).

The kingdom's scope is universal: "all people, nations, and languages, should serve him." This transcends ethnic Israel to encompass every tribe and tongue, fulfilling Abrahamic promises that through Abraham's seed all nations would be blessed (Genesis 22:18). The verb "serve" (*pelach*, פָּלַח) can mean both worship and service, suggesting the kingdom involves willing submission and active participation in God's purposes.

The kingdom's eternal nature is emphasized twice: "his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away" and "his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed." Unlike the beast kingdoms that rise and fall, Christ's kingdom possesses inherent permanence. This fulfills prophecies of an eternal Davidic throne (2 Samuel 7:12-16) and God's indestructible kingdom (Daniel 2:44). The repetition emphasizes absolute certainty—Christ's kingdom cannot fail, cannot be conquered, cannot be corrupted, and will never end.

Historical Context

First-century Jews intensely debated Daniel 7's meaning, particularly during Roman occupation. Many expected a militaristic Messiah who would violently overthrow Rome and establish Jewish political dominance. Jesus' claim to be the Son of Man (Mark 14:61-62) directly referenced Daniel 7:13-14 but redefined messianic expectations—His kingdom came first through suffering and sacrifice, not military conquest. His coronation occurred through crucifixion, resurrection, and ascension, establishing spiritual reign that will culminate in visible, physical rule at His return.

The apostolic writings consistently apply Daniel 7:13-14 to Christ's present and future reign. Paul teaches that Christ must reign "till he hath put all enemies under his feet" (1 Corinthians 15:25), indicating progressive subjugation of opposition until complete consummation. Revelation depicts Christ returning "with clouds" to establish visible, universal rule (Revelation 1:7, 19:11-16), fulfilling Daniel's prophecy completely.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How should understanding Christ's universal authority over "all people, nations, and languages" shape your evangelistic vision and prayer for the nations?
2. What is the relationship between Christ's present spiritual reign (inaugurated) and His future visible rule (consummated)?

Interlinear Text

וְלֹא	וְהָיָה	וְשָׁלַט	וְיָקָר	וּמַלְכוּתִּיהָ	כֹּל	
H0	And there was given	dominion	and glory	and a kingdom	that all	
	H3052	H7985	H3367	H4437	H3606	
עַמֵּי	אֲמֵי	וּלְשׁוֹנֵי	לֵה	יִפְלָחוּ	וְשָׁלַט	וְשָׁלַט
people	nations	and languages	H0	should serve	dominion	dominion
H5972	H524	H3961		H6399	H7985	H7985
עֶלְמִים	דִּי	לֹא	יָעִידָהּ	וּמַלְכוּתִּיהָ	דִּי	
is an everlasting	H1768	that which shall not	pass away	and a kingdom	H1768	
H5957		H3809	H5709	H4437		
לֹא	תִתְחַבֵּל:					
that which shall not	be destroyed					
H3809	H2255					

Additional Cross-References

Revelation 11:15 (Kingdom): And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

Daniel 7:27 (Kingdom): And the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him.

John 3:35 (Parallel theme): The Father loveth the Son, and hath given all things into his hand.

Daniel 2:44 (Kingdom): And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.

Hebrews 12:28 (Kingdom): Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear:

Revelation 17:14 (Kingdom): These shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb shall overcome them: for he is Lord of lords, and King of kings: and they that are with him are called, and chosen, and faithful.

Matthew 11:27 (Parallel theme): All things are delivered unto me of my Father: and no man knoweth the Son, but the Father; neither knoweth any man the Father, save the Son, and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal him.

Matthew 28:18 (Parallel theme): And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.

Revelation 3:21 (Parallel theme): To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne.

Isaiah 9:7 (Kingdom): Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.