

## Sermon Notes – September 11, 2016

### **Why Your View of God Matters So Much**

*“What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us...Almost every heresy that has afflicted the church through the years has arisen from believing things about God that are not true...” — A. W. Tozer*

- ⇒ If you think of God as small or powerless or limited, then we will live as before a small and powerless and limited deity.
- ⇒ If we think rightly of God — seeing Him as holy, infinite, awesome, and good — then our lives will reflect the glory of a great God to others.

### **A Book that is a Corrective to a Low View of God**

- ⇒ The book of Daniel tells the story of four young Hebrew boys taken captive by Babylon in 605 BC. It tells some familiar stories like “Daniel in the Lions Den” and contains prophecies about the end of time.
- ⇒ Of particular interest to us today is the question: *“What does Daniel tell us about what God is like?”*

### **God is the Source of All Wisdom, the Revealer of Mysteries** (Chapter 2)

- ⇒ After meeting the characters in the book in chapter 1, we are met in chapter 2 by an \_\_\_\_\_ situation with dire consequences.
- ⇒ God is introduced as “\_\_\_\_\_” who is to be “blessed forever and ever.”
- ⇒ This is how God showed Himself strong on behalf of four young men in a time of great need! What a way to start a career!

### **God is a Redeemer Like No Other** (Chapter 3)

- ⇒ Three of the guys were present when the king introduced some really \_\_\_\_\_. It happens from time to time, doesn't it?

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- ⇒ The story of Shadrach, Meshach, & Abednego isn't primarily a story about \_\_\_\_\_; it's a story about the greatness of God as a Savior.
- ⇒ The king gets it right as he calls the three guys, “Servants of the \_\_\_\_\_” and as he declares, “There is no other god who is able to rescue in this way.”

### **God is The Ruler of the Kingdoms of Men** (Chapters 4-5)

- ⇒ In chapter 4 the king has a dream...about himself! Daniel is called in and he gives the king the \_\_\_\_\_.
- ⇒ Notice how the main point is repeated in 17, 25, 32 and a repentant pagan king gets the point (34-37).
- ⇒ The same lesson is repeated to the next king in line in 5:18-23...but there is no indication of a changed heart.

### **Responding to God's Word**

- ⇒ What comes into your mind when you think about God? Is He “the Most High God” to you? Does your heart tremble before Him in awe & wonder & reverence?
- ⇒ Do you have a “But If Not” approach to God as you ask Him to do things in your life?
- ⇒ When you see God as highly exalted, King of kings and Lord of lords, it makes the good news of Jesus even more amazing...

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Daniel  
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**Next Sunday: September 18, 2016**

“When God Draws Near”

(I Kings 19)

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