



## A Vision of Conflict and Rest

*“But go your way till the end. And you shall rest and shall stand in your allotted place at the end of the days”*  
(Dan 12:13)

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### God Calls us to Worship

Behold, God is our salvation;  
We will trust, and will not be afraid;  
for the LORD God is our strength and our song,  
and he has become our salvation.

**Sing praises to the LORD,  
for he has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.**

(Isa 12)

Let us pray.

**Sovereign Lord, our Heavenly Father,  
it is our heart's desire, our deepest longing,  
to know you, to love you, and to worship you.  
It is our greatest pleasure,  
our highest privilege, our chief delight,  
to meet with you, the one true and living God,  
and experience your grace and favour.  
Grant us power by your Holy Spirit  
to worship you now, in spirit and in truth. Amen.**

(Valley of Vision)

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## We Confess and Are Assured

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: *“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”* (Matt 22:37-40)

Have mercy on us, O God

**According to your unfailing love;  
According to your great compassion.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins  
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Therefore, let us confess our sins against God,  
and against our neighbour, first in silence and then aloud together.

*Please kneel or be seated.*

### *Prayer of Confession*

**Almighty and most merciful Father,  
We have wandered and strayed from your ways like lost sheep.  
We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.  
We have offended against your holy laws.  
We have left undone those things that we ought to have done;  
and we have done those things that we ought not to have done;  
and there is no health in us.  
But you, O Lord, have mercy upon us sinners.  
Spare those who confess their faults.  
Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises  
declared to mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord.  
And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,  
that we may live a disciplined, righteous and godly life,  
to the glory of your holy name.  
Amen.**

## *Assurance of Pardon*

*"For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,' and you forgave the iniquity of my sin." (Ps 32:3-5)*

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## God Speaks to us Through His Word

### *Daniel 10:1-11:1, Overwhelmed by Reality but Comforted*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### *Psalm 103*

As far as east is from the west,  
So far his love has borne away  
Our many sins and trespasses  
And all the guilt that on us lay.  
Just as a father loves his child,  
So God loves those who fear his name.  
For he remembers we are dust,  
And well he knows our feeble frame.

Each human life is like the grass,  
And like a meadow flower it grows.  
Its place will never be recalled  
Once over it the tempest blows.

But everlasting is God's love  
For those who fear him, and their seed—  
For those who keep his covenant,  
And carefully his precepts heed.

God's kingly rule is over all;  
In heaven he has set his throne.  
O you his angels, praise the LORD,  
Strong ones by whom his will is done.  
O praise the LORD, you heavenly hosts,  
His servants who perform his word.  
Praise God, his works  
throughout his realm,  
And you, my soul, O praise the LORD!

### *Daniel 11:2-39, Warned by Prophecy*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## *Psalm 56*

Be gracious to me, O God, for man tramples on me; all day long an attacker oppresses me; my enemies trample on me all day long, for many attack me proudly.

**When I am afraid, I put my trust in you. In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?**

All day long they injure my cause; all their thoughts are against me for evil. They stir up strife, they lurk; they watch my steps, as they have waited for my life.

**For their crime will they escape? In wrath cast down the peoples, O God! You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?**

Then my enemies will turn back in the day when I call. This I know, that God is for me. In God, whose word I praise, in the Lord, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?

**I must perform my vows to you, O God; I will render thank offerings to you. For you have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever, age after age.**

**Amen!**

## *Daniel 11:40-12:13, Assured by the Promise of Rest*

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Sermon: A Vision of Conflict and Rest (Mark Payne)*

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## We Respond to God's Word

### *Creed (Heidelberg Catechism)*

Believer, what is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I, with body and soul, both in life and in death,  
am not my own, but belong to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who with His precious blood has fully satisfied for all my sins,  
and redeemed me from all the power of the devil;  
and so preserves me that without the will of my Father in heaven  
not a hair can fall from my head;  
indeed, that all things must work together for my salvation.  
Wherefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life,  
and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live unto Him.**

### *Prayers of Intercession*

*After each petition:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever and ever.  
Amen**

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# We Celebrate the Lord's Supper

## *Invitation to the Table*

*All baptised Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, are welcome at this table. If you do not profess faith in Christ, please refrain from receiving the bread and wine.*

## *Gifts and Offerings*

Gifts and offerings may be placed in the offertory box at the back of the hall. "*Honour the LORD with your wealth and with the first-fruits of all your produce.*" (Prov 3:9)

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The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Please join in saying the Sanctus ("The Holy", based on Isaiah 6:3)*

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

*The stewards will distribute the wine and bread.*

*Eat the bread as you receive it, but keep the wine until we all drink together.*

## *Prayer of Thanksgiving*

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us  
with the body and blood of your dear Son,  
Jesus Christ.**

**Through him, we offer you our souls and bodies  
to be a living sacrifice.**

**Send us out in the power of your Spirit  
to live and work to your praise and glory.**

**Amen.**

## *See What a Morning*

See, what the morning, gloriously bright,  
With the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;  
Folded the graveclothes,  
tomb filled with light,  
As the angels announce Christ is risen!  
See God's salvation plan, wrought in love,  
Borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,  
Fulfilled in Christ, the Man, for He lives:  
Christ is risen from the dead!

See Mary weeping,  
"Where is He laid?"  
As in sorrow she turns  
from the empty tomb;  
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name;  
It's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!

The voice that spans the years,  
Speaking life, Stirring hope,  
Bringing peace to us,  
Will sound 'til He appears, for He lives,  
Christ is risen from the dead!

One with the Father, Ancient of Days,  
Through the Spirit who clothes  
faith with certainty,  
Honour and blessing, glory and praise  
To the King crowned with power  
and authority.

And we are raised with Him, death is dead,  
Love has won, Christ has conquered.  
And we shall reign with Him, for He lives,  
Christ is risen from the dead!

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## **We Are Blessed and Sent Out to the World**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the Name of Christ,  
Amen.**

# Sermon Notes

## Outline

Overwhelmed by Reality but Comforted (10:1-11:1)

- The Reality of Spiritual Warfare
- Spiritual Warfare and Prayer

Warned by Prophecy (11:2-11:39)

- Empires Rise and Fall
- Contemptible Evil Rises

Assured by the Promise of Rest (11:30-12:13)

- Double Resurrection
- Wait, Arrive and Rest

## Historical Context

	<u>Superpower</u>	<u>Ch. 2 Statue</u>	<u>Ch. 7 Beasts</u>
605 B.C.	Babylonian	Golden Head	Lion, Wings, Two Feet
539 B.C.	Medo-Persian	Silver Chest, Arms	Bear, Devouring
	<i>Four will follow Cyrus/Darius (Ch. 11:2):</i>		
	- Cambyses (530-522 B.C.)		
	- Smerdis (522 B.C.)		
	- Darius I Hystaspes (522-486 B.C.)		
	- Xerxes (486-464 B.C.)		
331 B.C.	Greek	Bronze Middle & Thighs	Leopard, Four Heads
	<i>Alexander the Great's kingdom broken into 4 (Ch. 11:4)</i>		
	- Ptolemy, Seleucus, Philip, Antigonus		
	<i>Antiochus IV Epiphanes (175-164 B.C.)</i>		
	- "Little horn" (Ch. 8), "Contemptible one" (Ch. 11:21)		
146 B.C.	Roman	Iron/clay Legs & Feet	4th Beast, Horns