

His kingdom cannot fail (Daniel 10-12)

“cope” *noun (Gen Z/internet slang)*

1. Used when in denial and seeking to avoid facing an unpleasant truth; to tell oneself comforting stories that make losing feel like winning.

Is the conviction that God’s kingdom never fails just “cope”?

Is real life like...

- Daniel 1-6, or
- Life back in the land, after Cyrus’ announcement?

How God answers this question: Daniel 10-12

- A word when faithfulness feels like folly

How it unfolds

Chapter 11: How hard life in this world can be

“A great war”; “true” (10:1)

A rerun of Daniel 8, but with even more detail

The kings of the north (Seleucids) vs the kings of the south (Ptolemies)

Why is this vision so interested in describing these wars?

Antiochus IV (v21-35) – see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gaius_Popillius_Laenas

The even worse version (v36ff)

The big point

Chapter 10: Even then, you’re not on your own

Daniel’s feelings

The person

What God wants to tell us:

i. I love you

ii. I’m strengthening you

iii. I’m fighting for you

Chapter 12: Lift your eyes to the everlasting hope that will never fade

Be wise, because God’s kingdom cannot fail

If you would like to explore more in Daniel

If you wish to journey through Daniel on your own again, the expositions by the following authors are layperson-friendly, warm and reliable:

- Dale Ralph Davis (Bible Speaks Today series)
- Iain Duguid (Reformed Expository Commentary series)
- Andrew Reid (Reading the Bible Today series)

For particular issues in Daniel

For a Christ-centred interpretation of the 70 “sevens” in Daniel 9, check out chapter 3 of Sam Storms’ *Kingdom Come*, and/or Mitchell Chase, *‘Seeing the Atonement in Daniel 9:24-27’*

For a helpful overview of the history behind Daniel 11, you might want to access David Schrock’s handout: *An Historical Key to Daniel 11*, found here: https://davidschrock.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/handout_an-historical-key-for-daniel-11.pdf

For an engagement with a contrasting theological framework that interprets texts like Daniel 7–12 differently, see Rob Dalrymple, *These Brothers of Mine*.

Tear off

Name (Optional): _____ / Question: