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Sept 27, 2026



RIVERSIDE
CHURCH

Your story matters.

**BIG LAKE
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Message Notes



Your group matters.

DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

*What did you wear when younger
that mortifies you now?*

1. Read **Daniel 2**. What are some things you notice about each of the characters?
2. Think of a time when you were subjected to the authority of a good “ruler” vs. a bad “ruler.” What were the differences that set them apart from each other?
3. How are rulers supposed to rule the people under them? How are the people being ruled to relate to those over them?
4. Pastor Kyle said, “the kings in history are subject to the King over history.” What do you think he meant by that and how does this encourage you – how do you become discouraged when you forget it? See **Ephesians 2:20**; **1 Peter 2:6**; **Mark 1:14-15**; **Matthew 28:18**; **Revelations 11:15**.
5. Where is Jesus described in Daniel 2 and what do you learn from it?
6. How is Jesus’ Kingdom different from worldly kingdoms? Consider any of the following: **Isaiah 42:3**; **Matthew 5**; **John 8:1-11**.

Questions from *Thriving in Babylon*, chapters 5-7

1. What made an impression on you from the reading this week?
2. Osborne said, “He [God] uses hardships and trials to reveal the genuineness or the fraudulent nature of our faith” (pg 61). In what ways has suffering exposed the genuineness or fraudulence of your faith and deepened your relationship with Jesus?
3. “In our day, it’s no longer circumcision, religious rituals, or ancestry that deceives us into thinking we’re right with God despite a pattern of high-handed disobedience. Today it’s more likely to be good intentions, high moral standards, or a fast start that causes us to have spiritual confidence where none is warranted” (pg 69). Why are these so deceptive and how can we be on guard against them?
4. “But once we truly have perspective, it changes everything” (pg 83). What perspective do you need to stand tall and thrive in Babylon?



"The King Over History"

Pastor Kyle Asmus | Sept 27, 2026

If you were to scan the course of human history, there seem to be certain _____ that have always been challenging to navigate.

"...absolute power _____ absolutely." Lord Acton

HOW DO WE EXIST WHEN WHERE WE ARE IS NOT OUR PLACE AND NOT OUR PEOPLE?

Will you _____ or will you Stand Tall?

Daniel 2:1-40, 44-49

Here's Daniel 2 in one thought - the King _____ history rules the kings _____ history.

Daniel wants us to notice _____ between the King over history and the kings in history.

1. The kings in history _____ to the King over history.

Daniel 2:20-20a

- Meaning, God's transcendent rule over all the cosmos is not threatened by earthly rulers. God has never once given up a single inch of His authority. In fact, the only reason earthly rulers have any reign at all is because God has _____ it to them. (Note **John 19:11a**; **Romans 13:1b**)
- Nothing we ever go through is _____ the jurisdiction of His reign.

2. Kings in history are _____. The King over history is _____.

Daniel 2:39a

- That's really good news if you're an exile...because when things are temporary, they're easier to _____ and resist.

3. The King over history is _____.

- Jesus smashed the kingdoms in history by _____ being smashed.
- Jesus is the King over history that Daniel said would _____ history to _____ all of history.

_____ **the King and** _____ **in the King's work.**

- Through His _____: get in your Bible and hear from Him
- In _____: be ministered to by Him
- In _____: through a small group
- On Sundays: when we _____ Him

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

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"The King Over History"

Pastor Kyle Asmus | Sept 27, 2026

If you were to scan the course of human history, there seem to be certain relationships that have always been challenging to navigate.

"...absolute power corrupts absolutely." Lord Acton

HOW DO WE EXIST WHEN WHERE WE ARE IS NOT OUR PLACE AND NOT OUR PEOPLE?

Will you shrink back or will you Stand Tall?

Daniel 2:1-40, 44-49

Here's Daniel 2 in one thought - the King over history rules the kings in history.

Daniel wants us to notice 3 differences between the King over history and the kings in history.

1. The kings in history are subject to the King over history.

Daniel 2:20-20a

- Meaning, God's transcendent rule over all the cosmos is not threatened by earthly rulers. God has never once given up a single inch of His authority. In fact, the only reason earthly rulers have any reign at all is because God has delegated it to them. (Note **John 19:11a**; **Romans 13:1b**)
- Nothing we ever go through is outside the jurisdiction of His reign.

2. Kings in history are temporal. The King over history is eternal.

Daniel 2:39a

- That's really good news if you're an exile...because when things are temporary, they're easier to endure and resist.

3. The King over history is Jesus.

- Jesus smashed the kingdoms in history by Himself being smashed.
- Jesus is the King over history that Daniel said would enter into history to rewrite all of history.

Enjoy the King and engage in the King's work.

- Through His Word: get in your Bible and hear from Him
- In prayer: be ministered to by Him
- In community: through a small group
- On Sundays: when we worship Him

Tell us about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!

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