



The Book of Daniel

The Apocalyptic Genre

Interpreting the Text:

1. What is the difference between apocalypse and prophecy? How does prophecy function in the first six chapters of Daniel and how does this become apocalyptic in the next six chapters?
2. What light do the Dead Sea Scrolls shed on apocalypticism?
3. What are the main thematic concerns that we find in apocalypses? These can be from Daniel or other examples of apocalyptic literature in the Bible (Enoch, Revelation, 1+2 Thessalonians).

Applying the Text:

1. In what ways is apocalypticism important in Christianity? How is the understanding of the eschaton, or end times, and second coming of Christ central to Christian teaching?
2. How do texts written in an apocalyptic genre capture our imagination? Why did authors choose this genre to communicate a message? How does it speak to us today?