

So here we have the great God, the triune God, referred to here in his great glory in v. 9.

We look down a little further and read in v. 13 that He was brought to the Ancient of days and there was given to him dominion and glory and power and a kingdom. Knowing what we do from the NT about Jesus Christ, I think we are safe in saying in this case there is a distinction between the Son of man and the Ancient of days, so that in this case it is clearly referring to God the Father.

Then we look at v. 22. Verse 21 says I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; until the Ancient of days came and judgment was given to the saints of the most High." Most interpreters before the spirit of truth about the trinity was revealed, would naturally think this == take this in exactly the same sense as v.9, and take it quite figuratively and symbolically,"until God exerted his power and gave judgment to the saints."

But in view now of our understanding of v. 13 we can say, it means, "Until the Son of man came in the clouds of heaven." So the Ancient of days here is Jesus Christ, the second person of the trinity. The term applies to God, the triune God, and it can be applied to any member of the trinity, naturally. I thought that was a very interesting fact of interpretation here.

Just one other point we should look at on this matter of clouds. Clouds can be figurative certainly. Clouds of glory. It can express power, it can express purity, it can express any one of a number of things. Is the word clouds in this (Daniel saw clouds) but is it to be taken as a literal thing? That actually it is pointing to one coming with clouds? Or is it a figure? Well, he said to the High Priest, Hereafter you shall see the Son of Man sitting on the right hand of power and coming with clouds of heaven. That could be figurative-- coming in great glory! It would not from that necessarily have anything to do with literal clouds.

But when you look at Acts, ch. 1, you read in v. 9, When he had spoken these things while he was speaking he was taken up and the clouds received him out of their sight; and great glory and great purity would not receive him out of their sight! It is quite obvious there in v.9 that it is used literally. That he went with clouds into heaven.

Then we read in v. 11, Why stand ye gazing into heaven? This same Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven." If he went with literal clouds, and he is to so come in like manner as ye have seen him go, it would seem very definite to me that the Son of man coming in clouds, which Daniel saw, is a picture, but not a symbol of various things, but an actual picture of something that is going to happen.

We've spent a long time going over the assignment, but it