

The Son of Man Serves and Cares for His People

Name: _____

The prophet Daniel prophesied of a mysterious figure known as the Son of Man. Daniel's prophecy filled the people with hope. They had lived many years exiled from the Promised Land and under the harsh rule of the Babylonian empire. But through Daniel, God reminded them of his promise to send a Messiah. This promised Messiah would rule over them, save them from their enemies, and heal them from their sins.

In Matthew's Gospel, we read passages in which Jesus identifies himself as the Son of Man. In one of these passages, Jesus reveals how he would rule God's people and his everlasting kingdom.

Read Matthew 20:20–28 on page 18 of the Student Text and answer the questions that follow.

Many Jews in Jesus' day believed that the long-expected Son of Man figure from Daniel's prophecy would be a strong military leader who would conquer other nations in battle. **How is this belief different from how Jesus fulfilled Daniel's Son of Man prophecy?**

Answers may include Jesus came not to conquer physical nations but to defeat our spiritual enemies: sin and death; Jesus did not come to restore political power to the Israelites but to give them the power to defeat sin; and Jesus did not seek earthly power but rather came to serve and show God's love and mercy to the world.

In what way specifically does Jesus say he, as the Son of Man, serves us? (Hint: See verse 28.)

By giving his life to ransom us from sin and death

Through his words and actions, Jesus shows us he is a King who rules by serving and caring for his people and offering his life to ransom them from sin and death.

Read Matthew 9:1–8 on page 7 of the Student Text and answer the questions that follow.

What does this miracle reveal about Jesus as the Son of Man? (Hint: See verse 6.)

He has the authority to forgive sins.

In this miracle, Jesus shows through his actions that he is the Son of Man, who comes to save his people from their true enemies: sin and death. Jesus physically heals the paralytic. But this physical healing is a sign of the spiritual healing Jesus offers every person. **What sort of spiritual healing does Jesus, the Son of Man, offer every person?**

Answers may include the forgiveness of their sins, the grace to repent from sin and overcome every temptation, and healing from sin to enjoy eternal life with him forever in Heaven.

How do these passages and Daniel's Son of Man prophecy change how you see Jesus and his role in your life?

Answers may vary.