

plan to establish His Son in a position of authority before the actual destruction of the wicked.

Thus the fact that the coming is mentioned before the glorification may suggest one order of events, while the use of the word "come" may suggest another.

However, the Bible does not leave us in uncertainty between these two interpretations. When Jesus specifically echoed this verse in his reply to the high priest his statement was unambiguous, as far as the order of events is concerned. In Matthew 26:64 and Mark 14:62 the words "sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One" precede the words "coming on the clouds of heaven" and there is no grammatical possibility of understanding them in a way that could reverse the order of events.

If we believe that Jesus Christ is truly God and knew all things we are compelled to infer from His statement that the two events mentioned in Daniel 7:13 occurred in Daniel's vision in an order different from that in which Daniel mentioned them, and that the coming foreseen in Daniel's vision was a coming to earth, not a going to heaven.

Does Daniel 7:13 Predict the Ascension?

If the coming on the clouds had pictured a going toward heaven rather than a coming toward earth, it would have been reasonable to think of it as a prediction of Jesus' ascension to heaven, where he would be told to sit at God's right hand and wait until the Lord would make his enemies the footstool for his feet (Ps. 110:1).

But, as we have seen, the word "coming" suggests a motion toward earth rather than the reverse, and the order in which the events are mentioned does not necessarily indicate that the glorification would follow the coming rather than precede it.

The words of Christ as he stood before the high priest give a particularly clear answer to this question. Jesus told his antagonists that they would see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven (Matt. 26:64; Mk. 14:62). Ungodly men did not see the ascension, but when Jesus returns to