

Doing hard things well

Daniel 7:15-28

- Daniel has been given a vision that parallels the dream that Nebuchadnezzar had that God used him to interpret over fifty years prior which describes prior and future events. Babylon is the current world power but its about to be overthrown by the Medes-Persians, after them will rise up Greece and finally Rome, this is the same order God gave in Nebuchadnezzar's dream, and it stays to form in Daniel's vision.
- The difference between Daniel's vision and Nebuchadnezzar's dream is that two Kingdom's are added one belonging to Satan and the other Jesus. Just like with the other four Kingdoms, the Kingdom belonging to Satan also falls, and the only Kingdom that lasts is the Kingdom of our Savior Jesus Christ.

V15-28

- Which is where we left off where the Son of Man approaches The Father, The Ancient of Days and Jesus is given dominion, glory and an everlasting Kingdom that will never pass away in which all people, nations, will bow down and serve Him.
- **V15-18** like Nebuchadnezzar before him Daniel is grieved in his spirit, being troubled concerning what he saw, so he asks an angel standing by for understanding. Most believe this is The Angel Gabriel identified in chapter eight that gives Daniel the interpretation of what he is seeing, what is important is God is so merciful that He shares with us His plans for us that we may know He is for us > **Jam 1:5**.
- Daniel is told that those great beasts are the kingdoms of man, and as cruel and violent as these kingdoms will be the only kingdom that will last is the One that he serves which is The Lord's. Another reminder that despite all that we see > the chaos, violence, wars, threats of war, unstable economies, what is important is God's Word and promise to His people is that were fine because God is Victorious.
- **V19-20** Daniel asks specific questions about the fourth beast and the ten horns, in which three arise and speaks of Rome and the Anti-Christ. This speaks of some European confederacy in which ten countries are in control, three will break off from them until one arises from within them with wisdom to see and scheme, speaking pompous and swelling words, that sway the people and nations into following him.

- **2 Thess 2:1-12**- this is a description of a man who's character we're told will be one of lawlessness and a son of destruction which means he's destined to be destroyed. In his actions he'll oppose God while he exalts himself above all to be worshipped. By sitting in the temple means he will rebuild the temple in Jerusalem and place himself on the throne for all to see, and the world will worship him.
- His arrival is empowered by Satan characterized by a counterfeit power of lying signs and wonders, and he uses deception to trick those who refused to love the truth. In the end Jesus will destroy him with the Breath of His mouth and the brightness of His coming. Notice this mystery of lawlessness is already at work but The Holy Spirit is restraining it until the proper time. **Jn 5:43** Jesus is speaking of the Antichrist, as people won't care if he's the Devil as long as the economy is good.
- **V21-25** he is allowed to rise to power and rule the world while ruthlessly persecuting the saints and seemingly having the victory. But after a three and a half period which of course speaks of the seven-year tribulation of **Rev 13:1-8**- he has forty-two months which is three and a half years to make war against the saints.
- **V26-28** after the seven years "**They**" speak of The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, will take away his rule and reign upon the earth, and the saints under rule of The Son will then rule and reign. After hearing this Daniel says "his thoughts were greatly troubles" even though he hears everything will work out in the end the matter still left him unsettled, even causing his countenance to change, but he kept quiet.
- Upon hearing about the history of the world from God's perspective, it blew his mind, but it doesn't cause him to lose trust in God. Reminds me of when after Jesus was born and the shepherds came and told everyone what the Angels told them, while others wondered she pondered and kept them in her heart **Lk 2:19**. Later **Lk 2:51-52** while Jesus advances in wisdom and favor again Mary kept it close to her heart, you don't have to understand everything, you just need to trust that God is in control.