

Daniel 7

God's Word is Most Important

- **Book of Daniel: Not chronological**
 1. Chapter 7 is after Nebuchadnezzar/before Darius the Mede
- **Chapters 2-7 written in Aramaic.**
- **Chapters 1 and 8-12 are in Hebrew**
 1. Most OT Scripture: Perspective relating to Israel
 2. **Book of Daniel:** Gentile perspective focusing on the **"Times of the Gentiles"**
 - **"Time of the Gentiles"** Nebuchadnezzar to Anti-Christ
 - **"Fullness of the Gentiles"** Church Age: Pentecost to Rapture
- **Chapters 1-6 Historical**
- **Chapters 7-12 Prophetic**
- **Chapter 7 Prophecies Include:**
 1. Daniel's Vision of Four Beasts: 4 Earthly Kingdoms and 1 Eternal Kingdom
 2. Court of Heaven: Guilty verdict on AC
 3. Jesus receiving the Everlasting Kingdom

I. Daniel's Vision of Four Beasts

1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head while on his bed. Then he wrote down the dream, telling the main facts.

- **Dream and Visions:**
 1. One of four prophetic visions in chapters 7-12
 2. Chapter 7: Most in depth of the four

"Vision occurred the 1st year of Belshazzar...Daniel wrote down the dream..."

- **Two facts:**
 1. **Daniel was written *before*** events described [During reign of Belshazzar]
 2. **Daniel is the Author** of Daniel ["he wrote them down"]

2 Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea. 3 And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.

- **Four Winds of Heaven:** Supernatural sovereign moving power of God
- **Great Sea:** Physically the Mediterranean but Spiritually speaking "humanity"

God is moving in/on the earth as He reaches down into the sea of human history and raises up four distinct Great Beasts; i.e. Kingdoms

4 **The first was like a lion**, and had eagle's wings. I watched till its wings were plucked off; and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man, and a man's heart was given to it.

- **First Beast a Lion w/ Eagles Wings: Babylon**
 1. **Lion:** Ferocious
 2. **Wings:** Speed in conquering
- **Great Lion's Wings plucked off**
- **Picture Nebuchadnezzar** humbled for 7 Years lived like an animal then...
 1. Lifted up from earth
 2. Made to stand like a man
 3. Looked up to Heaven and gave glory to God

Daniel 2:34 And at the end of the time I, Nebuchadnezzar, **lifted my eyes to heaven**, and my understanding returned to me; and I blessed the Most High and praised and honored Him who lives forever...

4. **Given a man's heart:** Salvation

"It is doubtful whether God can bless a man greatly until He has hurt him deeply." [Tozer]

Psalm 119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word. 68 You are good, and do good...

- God's purpose/God's plan/God's doing
 1. Wings plucked off
 2. Lifted up
 3. Made to stand
 4. Given a Heart
- **Babylon a Lion w/ Eagles wings:** Majesty/authority of King Nebuchadnezzar

5 "And suddenly another beast, **a second, like a bear**. It was raised up on one side, and had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. And they said thus to it: 'Arise, devour much flesh!'

- **Bear: Medo-Persia**
 1. **Raised on one side:** Persians gain power over Medes
 2. **Three ribs:** 3 Great military conquests; i.e. Babylon, Egypt and Lydia
 - **They?** Angelic messengers say "**arise and devour**"
 - God's purpose/God's plan/God's doing
- **Bear:** Medo-Persia

6 "After this I looked, and there was another **[third beast], like a leopard**, which had on its back four wings of a bird. The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

- **Leopard: Greece**
- **Alexander the Great:** Conquered the world at 28
- **4 Wings of a Bird:** Speed in conquering. "No more kingdoms to conquer"

A dying Alexander was asked his the kingdom should go to..."Give it to the strong"

- **4 Heads:** 4 generals who received the empire after Alexander died

- Greece's Dominion **was given** to it: God's purpose/God's plan/God's doing

Daniel *could* have guessed the Medes/Persians would follow Babylon as they were already on the rise during the Babylonian Kingdom. He *could not* have guessed Greece would be next with Rome following!

- Gain faith from fulfilled Prophecy!

2 Peter 1:19 ...we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you **do well to heed** as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts

7 "After this I saw in the night visions, and behold, a **fourth beast**, dreadful and terrible, exceedingly strong. It had huge iron teeth; it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns.

- **Fourth Beast: Rome:** No animal on earth could describe it
 1. Dreadful/Terrible
 2. Exceedingly strong
 3. Huge *Iron* Teeth
 4. Different from other beasts: Never defeated. Fragmented after 4th Century
 5. Come together again and have Ten horns:
 - Future 10 Kings under AC
 - Strength
- **10 Horns in Daniel 7 are the same as:**
 1. 10 Toes in Daniel Ch. 2 [Nebuchadnezzar's dream of Statue]
 2. 10 Kings over 10 World Sectors of AC Kingdom Revelation 17

End Times Kings that will rule under AC before 2nd Coming of Christ

Daniel 2:41 Whereas you saw the feet and toes, partly of potter's clay and partly of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; yet the strength of the iron shall be in it, just as you saw the iron mixed with ceramic clay. 42 And as the **toes of the feet were partly of iron and partly of clay** [Iron Teeth of Ch. 7], so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile. 43 As you saw iron mixed with ceramic clay, they will mingle with the seed of men; but they will not adhere to one another, just as iron does not mix with clay.

Revelation 17:12 "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. 13 These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast.

- **Fourth beast is Rome**

8 I was considering the horns, and there was another horn, a little one, coming up among them, before whom three of the first horns were plucked out by the roots. And there, in this horn, were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking pompous words.

- **Daniel examined the horns:**

1. Among the ten sprung up **an eleventh**
 2. 11th began as a little one among the ten other horns
 3. As little horn grows 3 out of the ten horns are plucked out *by the roots*
 - Leaves 7 Horns and 1 Little Horn w/ big Mouth
- **Little Horn**
 1. Eyes of a man
 2. Mouth speaking pompous/arrogant words

Little Horn. Ruler of Last Man-Made Kingdom

SUMMARY: Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts. Babylon, Medo/Persia, Greece, come and go. **Rome continues into Tribulation** Period under AC until 2nd Coming of Christ.

II. Court of Heaven in Session

9 "I watched till thrones were put in place, And the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, And the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, Its wheels a burning fire;

- **Daniel still watching the vision:**
 1. Throne[s] put in Place: **Throne of God and Throne of 24 Elders**

Revelation 4:4 Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and on the thrones I saw twenty-four elders sitting, clothed in white robes; and they had crowns[b] of gold on their heads. 5 And from the throne proceeded lightnings, thunderings, and voices. [Elders not mentioned by Daniel as Church in OT is a mystery revealed in the NT]

2. **Ancient of Days** sits down w/ view of "little horn"
3. Description of God the Father
 - Garment white as snow
 - Hair like "pure" wool
 - Throne "was" a fiery flame
 - Wheels of Throne also "burning fire"

Revelation 1:12 [Description of God the Son]Then I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And having turned I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the seven lampstands One like the Son of Man, clothed with a garment down to the feet and girded about the chest with a golden band. 14 His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire; 15 His feet were like fine brass, as if refined in a furnace, and His voice as the sound of many waters; 16 He had in His right hand seven stars, out of His mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and His countenance was like the sun shining in its strength. 17 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as dead.

- **Ancient of days in v9:** God the Father

10 A fiery stream issued And came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him; Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him. The court was seated, And the books were opened.

- Fire shooting out in front of Him and before Him
- Thousands ministered to Him. 10,000 x 10,000 Angels stood before Him

The Court was Seated...the Books were Opened

- **2 Books**

1. **Book of Remembrance:** Those whose daily conversion is God-centered

Malachi 3:16 Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, And the Lord listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the Lord And who meditate on His name.

2. **Book of Life:** All humanity until they reject Savior

Revelation 3:5 He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

11 "I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame.

- **Court convenes:** Those seated view scene on earth:
 1. The horn [no more little] speaks pompous words

Revelation 13:5 [The AC] *was given* a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months. 6 Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven. 7 It was granted to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them. And authority was given him over every tribe, tongue, and nation.

2. As he speaks he is suddenly slain [order from on-high]
 - Body slain
 - Given to the burning flame [of Heaven]

Revelation 19:19 And I saw the beast, the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse and against His army. 20 Then the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image. These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone.

12 As for the rest of the beasts, they had their dominion taken away, yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.

- **Other Beasts:** Lived for a time then dominion taken from successor [God ordained]
- **Last Kingdom:** The Horn during 7 Year tribulation after Rapture

13 "I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven!

- One like the Son of Man...Coming in the Clouds.
 1. **Son of Man:** Self-designated by Jesus and used over 80x in NT
- **Jesus:** Finished with business on earth now back with the Father

Isaiah 63:6 I have trodden down the peoples in My anger, Made them drunk in My fury, And brought down their strength to the earth."

13b He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.
14 Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed.

- **Jesus approaches the Father**

1. "They" bring Him near
2. Father gives Jesus the world which Jesus purchased on the cross
 - a) ALL people of the earth will serve Him forever
 - b) This Kingdom will never pass away

His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed

15 "I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

- **Daniel Grieved:** Troubled by visions in his head. Wrecked
 1. Spirit
 2. Body
- **Commentator Clarke:** The phrase "my spirit *within* my body" has the sense of "within its sheath" and believes it prove 3 things:
 1. That the human spirit is different from the physical body.
 2. The spirit [survives] apart from the body, its sheath for a time.
 3. The spirit may exist independently of the body, as the sword does independently of its sheath subsistence
- Body is just a tent

2 Corinthians 5:1 For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, 3 if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. 4 For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. 5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

2 Peter 1:14 [I know]... that shortly I must put off my tent, just as our Lord Jesus Christ showed me.

16 I came near to one of those who stood by, and asked him the truth of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things:

- **I came near:** Daniel able to speak to "Watchers" **"What does all this mean?"**

17 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth.

- **Four Kings: Chapter 2**

1. Babylon
2. Medo-Persia
3. Greece
4. Rome: Continues fragmented into Tribulation [Rome was never conquered]

18 But the saints of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

- **Don't worry Daniel!**

1. Saints of the Most High will win! Possess and keep the last kingdom forever.
2. Last kingdom will be the everlasting Kingdom

SUMMARY: Court in Session: Thrones in place. Books opened. AC Judged. Jesus receives the everlasting Kingdom.

III. The Everlasting Kingdom of Jesus Christ

19 "Then I wished to know the truth about the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its nails of bronze, which devoured, broke in pieces, and trampled the residue with its feet; 20 and the ten horns that were on its head, and the other horn which came up, before which three fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth which spoke pompous words, whose appearance was greater than his fellows.

- V.1 Vision[s]: One vision including 3 kingdoms and another vision with just the 4th?
- I want more information on the fourth Beast and his kingdom:
 1. Who is it?
 2. When is it?
 3. What is it?
 4. Where is it?

I saw something that troubled me. You said we would win but...

21 "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints, and prevailing against them, 22 until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.

- Little Horn making war against Saints and winning?
- **Until the Ancient of days came** [Jesus in focus this verse]

Micah 5:2 "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Though you are little among the thousands of Judah, Yet out of you shall come forth to Me The One to be Ruler in Israel, Whose goings forth are from of old, **From everlasting.**"

- **Ancient of Days came in judgment:** 2nd Coming of Jesus Christ

23 "Thus he said: 'The fourth beast shall be A fourth kingdom on earth, Which shall be different from all other kingdoms, And shall devour the whole earth, Trample it and break it in pieces.

- **Angel answers concerning 4th Beast**
 1. **Devour the whole earth;** Swallow it up.
 2. **Trample it** [Jerusalem: Times of Gentiles from Babylon to 2nd coming]
 3. **Break it to pieces** [10 Sectors]
- **Angel continues interpretation:**

24 The ten horns are ten kings Who shall arise from this kingdom. And another shall rise after them; He shall be different from the first ones, And shall subdue three kings.

- **10 Horns:** 10 future Kings from fragmented Roman Empire
 1. **Another:** 11th will come from the 10 and start out small [Little horn]
 2. **He will have an Agenda:** 3 of the 10 won't be "on-board"
 3. He will remove 3 leaving himself and 7 other kings whom he will rule

25 He shall **speak pompous words** against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. 25b Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.

- **AC Last Human Ruler:**
 1. **Speak Pompous words:** Words against God. I will arise. I will ascend, etc.
 2. **He will intend** [try] to **change times and law**
 3. **Persecute the Saints? They will be GIVEN** into his hands

Mathew 16:18 And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades [hell] shall not prevail against it.

- **How will AC prevail:** Jesus said gates of hell will not prevail against...**the Church**
 1. Jesus was speaking to Peter about the **Church Age Saints**.
 2. These are **Tribulation Saints** that are given into his hand.
 - Made up their mind after Rapture
 - Time is now to get saved!
 - Persecute: Lit. "Wear away" or "Wear out" by continuous friction
 - Take the mark of the beast or be beheaded
 - a) 3.5 Years; i.e. Time, Times, and Half a Time

Revelation 11:2 But leave out the court which is outside the temple, and do not measure it, for it has been given to the Gentiles. [Time of the Gentiles] And they will tread the holy city underfoot for forty-two months. 3 And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

26 **'But the court shall be seated,** And they shall take away his dominion,

To consume and destroy it forever.

- **BUT...**
 1. The Court the WILL be seated
 2. The Court will take away the AC dominion
 3. **Purpose:** Consume it. Destroy it. Forever

No more Mr. Big Mouth

27 Then **the kingdom and dominion, And the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, Shall be given to the people, the saints of the Most High.**

- **Kingdom/Dominion/Greatness** of ALL Kingdoms under heaven

Shall be given to the people; i.e. The Saints of the Most High

1. Something we receive/ not win [Kingdom Now Theology]

27b His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.'

- v27a "our Kingdom" and 27b "His Kingdom" [NOTE: *They* becomes *His*]

We will rule and reign with our elder brother Lord Jesus Christ. Co-Heirs with Him!

- **Final Kingdom will roll over the previous 4**

Daniel 2:44 ... in the days of these kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever. 45 Inasmuch as you saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it broke in pieces the iron, the bronze, the clay, the silver, and the gold—the great God has made known to the king what will come to pass after this. The dream is certain, and its interpretation is sure."

- **Jesus was tempted to take the Kingdom before the cross**

Matthew 4:8 Again, the devil took Him up on an exceedingly high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. 9 And he said to Him, "All these things I will give You if You will fall down and worship me."

- Every knee will bow to King Jesus!

Psalms 2:8 [Father to the Son] Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, And the ends of the earth for Your possession.9 You shall break them with a rod of iron; You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.'"10 Now therefore, be wise, O kings; Be instructed, you judges of the earth.11 Serve the Lord with fear, And rejoice with trembling. 12 Kiss the Son lest He be angry, And you perish in the way, When His wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

28 "This is the end of the account. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly troubled me, and my countenance changed; but I kept the matter in my

heart.”

- **End of the Dream/Vision/ Reality of talking with Angels**
 1. **Troubled thoughts:** Ferociousness of the AC against God’s people
 2. Changed countenance
 3. Didn’t tell anyone...

I kept the matter in my heart...

SUMMARY: Everlasting Kingdom of Jesus Christ: Daniel want more info on 4th Beast. Angel reveals he will “prevail against the Saints” until 2nd coming of Jesus Christ.