

Today, God will persuade us about the identity of the 7 Key players in Daniel's vision of beasts.

1. Vs 1

- a. This chapter takes place between chapter 4 & 5.
 - i. 14 years before chapter 5.
 - ii. Daniel is about 72
- b. What was God's primary means of communicating with followers in the OT?
 - i. Daniel had dreams and visions and passed them along.
 - ii. Read Heb 1:1
 - iii. Read Num 12:6-8
 - iv. Does God still speak to followers thru dreams and visions? Yes
 - 1. Read Joel 2:28-32, Acts 2:14-21
 - 2. It just not his primary means anymore.
 - 3. Any dream today needs its veracity checked against the Bible.

2. Vs 2-3

- a. Four Winds – North, South, East, and West, this is a picture of the entire earth
- b. The Great Sea – This is the Mediterranean Sea, “the sea refers to the great multitude of people, or the whole earth.”
 - i. Reference vs 17 which says that the beasts “shall arise out of the earth.”

c. Literal translation of vs 3 – “Four really huge animals”.

3. Vs 4

a. **The 1st key player in Daniel’s vision is Babylon as a world-ruling empire.**

i. The Lion

1. This lion would be recognizable to everyone in Daniel’s day as being Babylon, THAT WAS THEIR SYMBOL.
2. There were lions on the Ishtar Gate of Babylon.
3. Just as Daniel 2 said “You are the head of gold”, this prophecy is starting with a completely obvious symbol so that there’s a basis to know the rest.

ii. The Eagle’s Wings

1. They picture swiftness and power
2. Pro 23:5 Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for *riches* certainly make themselves **wings**; they fly away as an **eagle** toward heaven.
3. Rev 12:14 And to the woman were given two **wings** of a great **eagle**, that she might fly into the wilderness, into her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent.

iii. Notice that its power was plucked and it was humbled.

1. Remember Nebuchadnezzar was humbled.

4. Vs 5

a. The 2nd key player in Daniel's vision is the Medo-Persians as a world-ruling empire.

i. The Bear

1. Just a slow, big, mean force.

2. Known for its massive armies

a. In fact, later Alexander knew he was so outnumbered by them that he has to trap them in a narrow valley pass to fight them a few at a time.

ii. Raised up on one side

1. B/c the Persians were the dominant of the two.

2. Later the Medo-Persians are pictured with 2 horns but one higher than the other.

iii. Three ribs in its mouth

1. Mystery? But probably refers to their three great conquests of Lydia (East), Babylon (central) and finally Egypt (west).

5. Vs 6

a. The 3rd key player in Daniel's vision is the Greek Empire.

i. Leopard

1. Obviously means fast

2. But the leopard represents "being watchful and smart, knowing where and how to strike.

a. Jer 5:6 Wherefore a lion out of the forest shall slay them, *and* a wolf of the evenings shall spoil

them, a leopard shall watch over their cities:
every one that goeth out thence shall be torn in
pieces: because their transgressions are many,
and their backslidings are increased.

b. Hos 13:7 Therefore I will be unto them as a
lion: as a leopard by the way will I observe
them:

3. 4 wings of a fowl – Unprecedented in the Bible?

4. Four Heads – Alexander conquered the whole world
and died so that his 4 generals ruled going forward.

5. We'll talk much more of Alexander in Daniel 8

b. Daniel 7 verses Daniel 2

i. You can see that Dan 7 is laying out the 4 world-ruling
empires just as Dan 2 did.

ii. Interesting that Nebuchadnezzar saw these 4 as a great
metallic statue and Daniel sees the same 4 empires but
as beasts.

1. **Seeing things and people in the right perspective
can make all the difference in how we act.**

2. Example: Would you hire a guy to teach American
History in your high school if he is a former KGB
agent and was arrested in American for plotting
overthrow the government.....if you knew these
things about him?

3. Recent Example:

Consider: Deut 23:6,
II John 11 & Matt
5:43-44



4. Tell the crow and dove story.

a. Was he judging or just seeing things from the right perspective?

6. Vs 7

a. **The 4th key player in Daniel's vision is the Roman Empire.**

i. We know this is the Roman Empire b/c it follows on the heels of the Greek Empire.

ii. Once you get to the Romans having **10 horns**, now we're talking about something in the last days, not the Roman Empire that fell apart a thousand years ago.

1. Vs 24 – "the ten horns are 10 kingdoms"

2. Read 20-22 – "Until the Ancient of days came and judgment was given to the saints"

3. Vs 11-12 – the Antichrist is put in the lake of fire but the other earth-dweller go thru the Millenium.

7. Vs 8

a. **The 5th key player in Daniel's vision is the Revived Roman Empire of the last days.**

i. Notice how John saw the Antichrist's kingdom in the end days in the exact opposite order.

1. Read Rev 13:1-2

2. Daniel was looking forward in time, while John was looking backward in time.

- ii. 10 horns represents 10 sub-kingdoms of the antichrist (see vs 24)
- iii. 3 of these 10 sub-kingdoms are subdued or 'plucked up by the roots' by this 11th "little horn"
- iv. The "little Horn" represents the antichrist

8. Characteristics of this "Little Horn"

a. Read the rest of the chapter.

b. Vs 8

- i. "Eyes like the eyes of man" – seeing all?
- ii. "A mouth speaking great things"

1. Same thing said of the antichrist in Rev 13:5

c. Vs 20

- i. His "look was more stout than his fellows" – He was more lord-ish, captain-ish, master-ish.

d. Vs 24

- i. He will be different than the first 10 kings.

9. What will this "Little Horn" do?

a. Vs 25

- i. He will speak great words against the most High God

1. Read [2Th 2:4](#)

2. Same thing said of him in Rev 13:6

- ii. He shall "wear out the saints" – this is talking specifically of mentally wearing down the saints.

1. II Cor 4:4, I Tim 4:1, Rom 12:2, Eph 4:23, II Cor 10:5, Heb 12:3, Col 3:2, Act 14:2, Isa 26:3, Rom 7:25, Lam 3:19

iii. “He shall think to change times and laws”

1. We don’t know which ones but these verses probably relate to this:
2. Read Dan 11:36-39

iv. Vs 21

1. “He will make war with the saints and prevail against them.”
 - a. Same thing said of the antichrist in Rev 13:7
 - b. Notice this isn’t the church being prevailed against according to Matt 16:18
 - i. This is one more indication that this Revived Roman Empire isn’t during the church age, but after that, during the Trib

v. Vs 11

1. “He was slain and given to the burning flame.”
 - a. Same as in Rev 19:20

10. Vs 9-11

a. **The 6th key player in Daniel’s vision is the Ancient of Days!**

- i. Ancient of Days = the most honorable of all time.
- ii. This is God the Father
- iii. The thrones were cast down...just like the rock from chapter 2 of Daniel.
- iv. White = pure and clean, holy.
- v. Fire = judgment, see Psalm 97 (always consistent)

vi. We see another picture of God the Father like this in Ezekiel chapter 1. Let read Ezekiel for homework!

11. Vs 12

a. The nations that don't serve the anti-christ will be preserved to live into the millennium.

12. Vs 13-14

a. **The 7th key player in Daniel's vision is the Son of Man!**

i. None other than Jesus Christ Himself!

ii. The Son of Man is Jesus favorite title for Himself using it no less than 80 times.

iii. If you want to read the detailed version of these 2 verses please read Revelation 5!

13. Vs 15-25

a. Time, times and the dividing of time = 3.5 years.

14. Vs 26-28

a. Just that God gives the kingdom to us in the end is amazing!

15. Conclusion

a. Being now persuaded as to the identity of these 7 key players in Daniel's vision, we are now enabled with more knowledge of how God is shaping events and players for the last days that we are in.

b. What do you do with this knowledge now?

i. Look for a handsome world-leader that wants to really change things up.

ii. Guard your mind against Satan's attempt to wear you down.

Self-study from Daniel 7:25

Dan 7:25 And he shall speak *great* words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.

To “wear out the saints” literally means a mental wearing out. Have you ever felt as if you were mentally worn out?

Solution:

Lam 3:19 Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall.

Lam 3:20 My soul hath *them* still in remembrance, and is humbled in me.

Lam 3:21 This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.

Lam 3:22 *It is of* the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.

Rom 7:25 I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.

Isa 26:3 Thou wilt keep *him* in perfect peace, *whose* mind *is* stayed *on thee*: because he trusteth in thee.

2Cor 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

1Tim 4:1 Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils;

Rom 12:2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

Eph 4:22 That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

Eph 4:23 And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

Eph 4:24 And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

2Cor 10:5 Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ;

Heb 12:3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.

Act 14:2 But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles, and made their minds evil affected against the brethren.

Col 3:2 Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.