

DANIEL

FAITH UNDER FIRE

DANIEL 7:1-14

“Thy Kingdom Come - Part 1”



Daniel 7:1

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.

Daniel 7:2-3

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.

Date & Setting of this Prophecy

**In the first year of Belshazzar king of
Babylon,**

**It is between chapters 4 and 5, around
553BC, the 1st year of Belshazzar's reign.**

**The four winds of heaven were stirring
up the Great Sea...**

**Four winds - We can't be entirely sure but
could be:**

1. The Spirit of God

**2. A reference to God stirring nations by
allowing them to just raise up these other
nations**

The Great Sea...

The Mediterranean Sea

2015



M E D I T E R R A N E A N S E A

Revelation 17:15

Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.

“Time(s) of the Gentiles”

By that, we mean the Gentile world-ruling powers beginning with Babylon and coming all the way down to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

The Statue in the Book of Daniel

The Kingdoms and King Nebuchadnezzar's Dream



NEBUCHADNEZZAR'S DREAM (Daniel 2)

HEAD (FINE GOLD)

The golden head of the statue represents the kingdom of Babylon, which God gave King Nebuchadnezzar to rule. (Daniel 2:37, 46)

CHEST AND ARMS (SILVER)

The silver chest and arms of the statue represent the kingdoms of Media and Persia, which is the second power that would rise after Babylon falls. (Daniel 2:36, Daniel 7:6)

BELLY AND THIGHS (BRONZE)

The bronze belly and thighs of the statue represent the kingdom of Greece. The four kingdoms would rule over the whole earth. (Daniel 2:36)

LEGS (IRON)

The fourth kingdom would be strong as iron and would break, smash and crush things.

FEET (IRON AND CLAY)

The fourth kingdom would be a divided kingdom, divided from the others, both strong and weak. The kingdom would have a mixture of people who are not united. (Daniel 2:41-43, 7:17)

STONE Cut from a Mountain

In Nebuchadnezzar's dream, a stone was cut out, not by human hands, and struck the statue on its feet and broke it to pieces. Then it became a great mountain that filled the whole earth. This symbolizes Jesus Christ, who will destroy the kingdom of this world and will never be destroyed. (Daniel 2:34, 35, 44, 45)

DANIEL'S VISION (Daniel 7)

LION

With Wings of an Eagle

In Scripture, Nebuchadnezzar is compared to both the lion (Jeremiah 4:7, 23:28) and the eagle (Isaiah 17:1, 25:30). Images of lions with eagle's wings were popular in Babylonian architecture and currency. (Daniel 7:4)

BEAR

With Three Ribs on Its Mouth

The bear was raised on one side, which may illustrate the dominance of Persia over Media. The three ribs in its mouth may illustrate the three main empires Persia conquered. The bear is sometimes depicted without a mouth, which may be a reference to Persia's military expansion throughout the ancient world. (Daniel 7:5) Persia is also symbolized by a lion. (Daniel 6)

LEOPARD

With Four Wings and Four Heads

The leopard represents the kingdom of Greece. The wings might illustrate the speed of Alexander the Great's conquest. The four heads might represent the division of Alexander's kingdom into four kingdoms after Alexander's death. (Daniel 7:6) Greece is also symbolized by a goat. (Daniel 8)

BEAST

With Iron Teeth and Ten Horns

The terrifying beast is also a reference to a major kingdom. Many scholars suggest this to be the Roman empire. The beast's ten horns are ten kings that would rise from this kingdom. Also there, according to the Bible, would rise, speak against God, and persecute God's people. Yet during the reign of the king among them would set up his everlasting kingdom. (Daniel 7:7, 8)

SON OF MAN (Jesus Christ)

In vision of night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and came up to his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed. —Daniel 7:13, 14, 27

THE KINGDOMS (Daniel 2, 7, and 8)

BABYLONIA

605 BC – 539 BC

King Nebuchadnezzar to Belshazzar

MEDO-PERSIA

539 BC – 332 BC

King Cyrus to King Darius III

GREECE

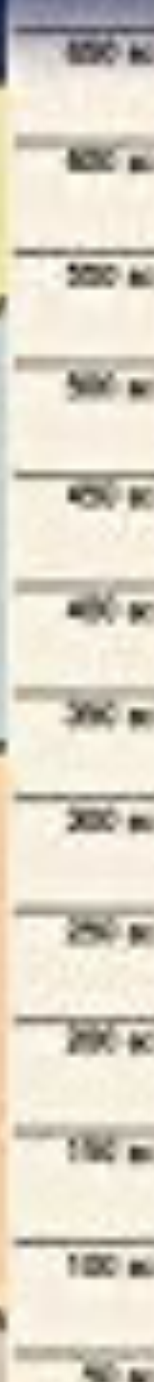
332 BC – 63 BC

Alexander the Great and the Four Divisions

A DIVIDED KINGDOM

Many scholars believe this kingdom to be Rome. Rome conquered Jerusalem in 70 AD and was still in power at the time of Jesus. (Luke 21)

THE EVERLASTING KINGDOM OF GOD



I. Vision on Earth (Daniel 7:1-8)

Correlation of Dreams and Visions in Daniel

	Image Chapter 2	Beasts Chapter 7	Beasts Chapter 8	Kingdoms Presented
Times of the Gentiles	Head of fine gold	Like a lion with eagle's wings		Babylon
	Chest and Arms of silver	Like a bear	Ram with two horns	Medo-Persia
	Belly and thighs of bronze	Like a leopard with four wings and four heads	Male goat with horn, four horns, and little horn	Greece
	Legs of iron, feet of iron and clay	Incomparable beast with ten horns and little horn		Rome
	Stone that becomes a great mountain	Messiah and saints receive the kingdom		Kingdom of God

Source: MacArthur Bible Commentary

Daniel 2



Image by Decca Art

Head of Gold

Babylon

Breast and arms of
Silver

Medo-Persia

Belly and thighs
of Brass

Greece

Legs of Iron

Rome

Feet and Toes
of Iron/Clay

Post-Rome

Head of Gold

Babylon

Breast and arms of
Silver

Medo-Persia

Daniel 7

Belly and thighs
of Brass

Greece

Legs of Iron

Rome

A lion with Eagle's Wings

Babylon

A bear with 3 ribs in its mouth

Medo-Persia

Daniel 7

A leopard with 4 wings on its back

Greece

A beast with iron teeth

Rome



Why the two parallel accounts?

In Daniel 2, we have Nebuchadnezzar, an ungodly natural, heathen king looking at the kingdoms of man from his perspective.

Man's View

Why the two parallel accounts?

God's View

God looks at the kingdoms of man, the governments of man. He sees them as wild beasts—ferocious beasts living by their animal instincts, savagery, and power.

1st Beast - Daniel 7:4

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.

1st Beast - Daniel 7:4



1st Beast - Daniel 7:4



1st Beast - Daniel 7:4



2nd Beast - Daniel 7:5

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!"

2nd Beast - Daniel 7:5



3rd Beast - Daniel 7:6

After this I looked, and there was another, 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."

3rd Beast - Daniel 7:6



3rd Beast - Daniel 7:6

Under Alexander the Great, the Grecian Empire with rapidity took over the entire world.

4th Beast - Daniel 7:7

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.

4th Beast - Daniel 7:7



Revelation 13:1-8

The features of these beasts—this lion, bear, and leopard—are all featured in this revived Roman Empire of the last days just before Jesus Christ will return.

3 Groups You Need To Keep Distinct and Separate

- The Gentile nations**
- The Jewish nation of Israel**
- The Church**

A Little Horn...

-Has eyes and a big mouth

In Revelation 13, it actually says that he has a mouth speaking great things, blaspheming against God, and he attacks the saints of God.

4th Beast - Daniel 7:7 - Revived Roman Empire

So, feet of iron and clay and these ten horns coincide—they're the same kingdoms. They're a revived Roman Empire that will exist just before the Second Coming of Jesus Christ in the latter times.

Daniel 7:8

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.

Revelation 13:1

Then I stood on the sand of the sea.
And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.

Revelation 13:2

Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority.

Revelation 13:3

And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast.

Revelation 13:4

So they worshiped the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

Revelation 13:5

And he was given a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies, and he was given authority to continue for forty-two months.

Revelation 13:6

Then he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name, His tabernacle, and those who dwell in heaven.

Revelation 13:7

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.

Revelation 13:8

All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Daniel 7:9

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 7:10

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.

Daniel 7:11

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.

Daniel 7:12

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

Daniel 7:13

I was watching in the night visions, and behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven, He came to the Ancient of Days, and they brought Him near before Him.

Daniel 7:14

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.

Daniel 7:12

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

Matthew 26:64

I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.

Daniel 7:14

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.

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