

THIS WEEK'S STUDY: 5/8-9/2023 Daniel 7:1-28

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MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
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OPENING PRAYER

Daniel - The Sovereignty of God – He Rules Over All; He Overrides All!
Chapter 7 Vision of the Four Beasts – vs. 1-8; Vision of the Ancient of Days – vs. 9-14; Daniel's Visions Interpreted – vs. 15-28!

- **Daniel tells us that this particular dream and visions came to him in the first year** of Belshazzar king of Babylon (around 553 B.C.), which means that Daniel was probably in his mid-eighties, still serving the Lord as an instrument of God. God is speaking to him of the future. The theme changes in chapters 7-12 from the narrative of the first six chapters, into more of the prophetic part of the book. In the final six chapters we have some of the most exact and exciting prophecies in the Old Testament, pointing toward the fulfillment of them through Jesus Christ, in the New Testament! (**Heb 1:1-2**)

God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, [2] has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds;

Chapter 7 - Daniel's Vision of the Four Beasts

Dan 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.*

- **He summed up the matter.** He gave us the summation of the things that he saw in this vision or dream. Daniel both wrote and spoke these things to the church, that it should be taught both by the scriptures and by ministers' preaching, both by the written word and by word of mouth, *telling the main facts* of the matters.

Dan 7:2 *Daniel spoke, saying, "I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea.*

- **The Great Sea.** Although this may refer to the Mediterranean Sea, in the scriptures, the sea is used as a symbol for the people of the nations. In (*Rev 17:15*), which is parallel to this particular vision, it says, *Then he said to me, The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues.* The seas often just represent the multitudes of people upon the earth. What a fitting picture of the world's population as four winds are striving or blowing and creating this restlessness, this troubled sea, like the wicked who are like a troubled sea in a hurricane or a storm, the troubled sea has no rest. It is just restless energy that is there. Thus, he sees the four winds striving upon this *great sea* of humanity.
- **The vision itself, which foretells the revolutions of government in those nations,** to which for the following ages, the church would be under. He observed *the four winds of heaven were stirring up the Great Sea*, striving which should blow strongest, and at length will blow alone. This represents the contests among princes for empires, and the shakings of the nations by these contests! This world is like a stormy tempestuous sea; thanks to the proud ambitious winds that vex it.

Dan 7:3 *And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.*

Dan 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.*

- **There is a familiar sound to Daniel chapter 7, to chapter 2.** There is a similar lineup. Both chapters have four symbols of kingdoms followed by the kingdom of the Messiah. There is one great difference! Chapter 7 introduces **another horn, a little one!** He is the key person of the fourth kingdom, which is the confederacy of ten kingdoms. He will, in and of himself, become the major power of this world! We know him in prophetic terminology as the "*man of sin; the Anti-Christ; the coming world leader; the coming prince.*" He will be empowered by Satan to deceive the whole world!
- **Most Bible commentators see these four beasts as paralleling the four metals** of the great image of Nebuchadnezzar. The head of gold, representing the Babylonian Empire, replaced by the chest of silver, representing the Medo-Persian Empire, replaced by the stomach of brass, the Grecian Empire, crushed by the legs of iron, the Roman Empire, and out of the Roman Empire coming the two feet mixed of iron and clay with the ten toes, that weakened revival of the Roman Empire in the last days. Because there seems to be parallelism in these consecutive kind of kingdoms that rule the world, most people see these as a parallel of Nebuchadnezzar's dream.
- **There have been a few recently, who see in these four beasts or kingdoms that would exist, not chronologically, but contemporaneously** at the end of the world's present Gentile Era. These beasts were different from the others, denoting the different geniuses and complexion of the nations. In this, being in one presence, the first beast is seen as the lion, as being Great Britain or the British Empire that had the symbol of a lion. England has the symbol of the lion. They see the empire and the wings being plucked and thus the weakened condition of the once great British Empire. In the Bear, of

course, the bear has been the symbol of Russia, so they see Russia as the bear. The leopard they see as a federation of Muslim nations that have yet not happened, four of the major Muslim nations combining together. Then, the revival of the Roman Empire in the fourth beast. That is a possibility. One thing about prophecy, we must always keep our mind open. Prophecy is never completely understood until it is completely fulfilled. So, the best we can do is look at it, saying, it appears to be this.

- **The Aramaic language seems to favor the second view.** Not being dogmatic, which cannot be done with any prophecy, but the use of the, Aramaic pronoun, *qodam*, translated “before,” means “in the presence of”, or contemporaneously.” It is never used as meaning chronologically. This word, *Qodam*, is used 42X in the Bible, 7X in this chapter, verses 7,8, twice in 10, 13, 20. It does not fit in Daniel’s interpretation in Chapter 2, where the five kingdom, all defeated the one before them and in a chronological sequence. Also in (*Dan 7:3*) **And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from the other.** At the time of Daniel’s prophecy, Nebuchadnezzar (630 - 561 B.C) had been dead for five years or so, so that does not seem to fit that Nebuchadnezzar would come back to life, coming up from the sea. (**Rev 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.*
- **Daniel saw four great beasts come up from the sea, from the troubled waters.** Beasts represent the monarchs and monarchies, because too often it is by brutish rage and tyranny that they are raised and supported. These kingdoms, *different from another*, do not represent successive historical kingdoms, as in Daniel’s image (which would be redundant), but contemporaneous kingdoms striving with each other (like the four winds) in the last days. This follows clearly from the fact that all four kingdoms were still future in Daniel’s vision (*Dan 7:17*), whereas Babylon was about to fall at the time and Persia would take over. Furthermore, the beast representing the fourth kingdom was slain before the first three (*Dan 7:12*).

Dan 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!'"*

- **Like a bear.** If the lion and eagle represent an Anglo-American alliance, possibly in association with other western nations, then the “bear” would seem to depict Russia and its allies. This colossus has, indeed, “*raised up on one side*” more in its western side than in the east. It did (and does) “*devour much flesh*,” in terms of its menacing influence and control over so many other nations, at one time, almost half the world.
- **Is it possible that the bear does refer to Russia?** It seems these visions apply to the time of the end before the Messiah comes to set up His kingdom, more likely referring to something in the end time, than to three kingdoms that fell long before Rome was ever in existence.
- **Three ribs in its mouth.** The “*three ribs*” are difficult to interpret in prophetic meaning, but may possibly refer to the three Baltic states (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia), still under the strong influence—if not domination—of Russia.

Dan 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.*

- **Many commentators see in this the Grecian Empire,** interpreting that as the tremendous speed with which Alexander the Great conquered the world. **The beast also had four heads, and dominion was given to it.** When Alexander the Great died, at a very early age, there was not anyone in the kingdom that was powerful enough to assume the rule over the whole Grecian Empire. This beast had *four heads*; upon Alexander's death his conquests were divided among his four chief captains; *Seleucus* Nicanor had Asia the Great; *Antigones*, had Asia the Less; *Cassander* had Macedonia; and *Ptolemais* had Egypt. So, the four generals that sort of divided the Grecian Empire and thus the four heads that came out of it.
- **Like a leopard.** The leopard, yellow with dark spots, could possibly represent an alliance of the pantheistic nations of the East (China, Japan, India, Indochina, perhaps suggesting the four heads, with

all insisting on equal authority). (*Rev 16:12*) speaks of “*the kings of the east*” marching toward Armageddon from the other side of the Euphrates. The “*four wings of a bird*” are of uncertain meaning, but may simply denote that other Oriental nations are involved, in addition to the four heads. A strong union of these far-eastern nations would surely pose a serious threat.

- ***The beast also had four heads.*** Those holding the view that this beast refers to the Grecian monarchy sweep this together with the four wings. But notice, he says “***The beast also had four heads!*** The heads of the beast represent empires as they do in Revelation, where we find the beast with seven heads and on the seventh head, there are ten horns. If they represent empires of kingdoms, why don’t they represent that here? Is it possible that this leopard that comes to power in the midst of the continuance of the lion and the bear nations is something different than we have ever thought before? Could this refer to some sort of Arab alliance of the end time? Could the result of handling the difficult Middle East problems be the emergence of an Arab empire with four powerful nations all looking at the question of domination? We do not know!

Dan 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.

- ***A fourth beast! A beast that was indescribable!*** He cannot liken it unto any beast of the forest. This powerful nondescript beast will gain control over the others and assume the characters of all. It is probably the same as the beast of (*Rev 13:2*), which will be like a leopard, a bear, and a lion, but with the nature of the old Dragon. It may also be the same as the final phase (feet and toes) of Nebuchadnezzar’s dream image. For a very brief period, this beastly federation will control the whole world (*Dan 7:23; Rev 13:7*).
- ***It had huge iron teeth! Iron was the symbol of Rome*** in the dream of Nebuchadnezzar.
- ***it was devouring, breaking in pieces, and trampling the residue with its feet.*** This surely seems to describe the Roman Empire and how it has bludgeoned the world into submission.
- ***Different from all of the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns.*** This may parallel the ten toes of the dream of Nebuchadnezzar, and the final ten nations that will federate together in the last days, which will be related in some way to the Roman Empire. Possibly the European Community will develop into this, the federation of those kingdoms in Europe.

Dan 7:8 I was considering (gazing intently) 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.

- ***As Daniel continued to gaze intently upon the vision, he saw another horn, a little one, coming up*** from the head of the beast, and in the process, uprooting three of the first horns, that is, three of the ten horns previously described. The little horn is described as having eyes like the eyes of a man and a mouth *speaking pompous words*. If there were no commentary upon this passage and the interpreter was left to find its meaning simply on what the text states, it would be a reasonable conclusion that the little horn is a man, and that, therefore, the ten horns which precede were also men who were rulers in relationship to the fourth kingdom. The fact that the horn has eyes, and a mouth identifies the human characteristics.
- ***Is this little horn Antiochus Epiphanes?*** Commentators have been quick to note that in chapter 8 there is also a little horn which conservative expositors have identified with Antiochus Epiphanes. This has been taken as evidence that the little horn of Daniel 7 is also from the Grecian or Maccabean period in its latter stages. Further consideration is given to this in chapter 8. It must be observed, however, that the little horn of chapter 8 comes out of an entirely different context than the little horn of chapter 7.
- ***A mouth speaking pompous words***, which are both “flatteries” of men, and “marvellous things against the God of gods” (*Dan 11:32,36*). Three times in the chapter he speaks of the mouth that

speaks *pompous words*. One of the names of the Anti-Christ could be big mouth, but he is known by many different names, son of perdition, the beast, the Anti-Christ, the man of sin.

The Ancient of Days Reigns

Dan 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;

- ***Ancient of Days*** seems to be the Father (*Dan 7:13*) receiving the *Son of Man*, yet His appearance is like that of the *Son of Man* as described in (***Rev 1:13-15***) *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; .* This phenomenon emphasizes the doctrine of the Trinity—one God in three persons, but not three Gods. “The “*wheels*” associated with the throne may suggest the cherubim (*Eze 1:1-28*).

Dan 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 (deen – also translated as judgment) was seated, And the books were opened.

- ***A thousand thousands...Ten thousand times ten thousands.*** Thousand thousands would be millions. Ten thousand times ten thousand would be one hundred million.
- ***In Revelation 5, we find John as he beheld the throne of God*** and he gives us somewhat of a similar picture in verse 11: (***Rev 5:11***) *Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels around the throne, the living creatures, and the elders; and the number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands.*
- ***We see a similar scene in the book of Revelation.*** John saw it as Daniel saw it. These are sort of parallel types of visions as they behold the throne of God. Can you picture that? Can you picture this awesome throne of God with millions upon millions of angelic beings, one hundred million plus millions of millions?
- ***So the books were open. It could be the scroll is referred to here.*** In the fifth chapter of the book of Revelation, John sees a scroll sealed with seven seals written both on the inside and the outside of it. He saw Jesus as He came forth, taking the scroll out of the right hand of the Father sitting upon the throne. It was at that time that this worship and praise arose to Christ from the one hundred million, plus millions of angels. The passages are parallel in that the scroll is the title deed to the earth when it is open.
- ***In Revelation chapter 10, Jesus comes with the open book or open scroll,*** puts one foot upon the sea and one upon the land and he proclaims the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Messiah. Therein is the glorious day that we are anticipating and looking forward to when God’s kingdom comes, and His will is done on the earth even as it is in heaven. This has to do with that same period of time when the Lord sets up His kingdom and His righteous reign over the earth.

Dan 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.

- ***Here we have the eleventh horn, which plucked up three.*** It means that when the Antichrist comes into power, three of the nations that form a part of this ten-nation confederacy will be rooted out and he will take their place and then take over.
- ***I watched till the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame.*** He watched it until the Anti-Christ was slain and his body was cast into Gehenna, into the burning flame. In (***Rev 19:20b***) *These two were cast alive into the lake of fire burning with brimstone. He watched until the beast was slain, and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame.*

Dan 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.*

- **As for the rest of the beasts.** They had been superseded, but not destroyed. It would seem that they were still represented in vision to Daniel, as retaining their existence, though their power was taken away, and their fierceness subdued. They were not cut down, destroyed, and consumed as the fourth beast was.
- **They had their dominion taken away.** They no longer exercised power. They no more appeared exerting a control over the nations. They still existed, but they were subdued and quiet. We should naturally look for the fulfillment of this in the fact that the nations referred to by these first three beasts were still in being, and could be recognized as nations, in their boundaries, or customs, or languages; but that the power which they had wielded had passed into other hands.
- **Yet their lives were prolonged for a season and a time.** The fourth beast kingdom, led by the Beast, who is the man of sin, with all who have received his “mark” (*Rev 13:18; Rev 14:9-11; Rev 19:20*), will be cast into the lake of fire. The other three beast kingdoms may have enough sheep left among their citizenry (*Mat 25:33-34*) so that their nations will be able to continue as distinct nations during the millennial period that follows.

The Son of Man Is Given Dominion

Dan 7:13 *"I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man (Jesus' favorite term for Himself, used only here in the Old Testament), Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.*

- **Coming with the clouds of heaven!** Jesus said, (*Mat 24:30*) *Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory!*

Dan 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.*

- **These other dominions have passed away** and were destroyed, but not His.
- **Right now, hell would like to break forth over all the earth.** The men of the world are straining against the ropes. Evil is just wanting to flood the earth. The Anti-Christ wants to take over, but the church, weak as it is, the influence of the righteous following after the Lord, is withholding that unrestrained evil!
- **It is as when Abraham was talking to God about the impending destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah,** saying, “Should not the Lord of the earth be fair? Suppose there are fifty righteous people in Sodom? Would you slay the righteous with the wicked?” The Lord said, “If I find fifty righteous, I will spare the city.” “What if there is just forty-five?” “I’ll spare it for forty-five.” “What if there is just forty?” “I’ll spare it for forty.” “What if there is just ten?” “I’ll spare it for ten.”
- **God is sparing the world of His judgment today, because of the church.** Though we as the church are weak, as the Lord said to the church at Philadelphia, “You have a little strength,” not much, but enough that God is sparing the world His judgment until as He took Lot out of Sodom! Then the judgment came. When the Lord takes out His church the judgment will come!
- **As the judgments of God begin to fall against the unbridled evil** of man, and we see this period of tribulation such as the world has never seen before, so God will speak to them in His wrath and vex them in His sore displeasure. (*Psa 2:6*) *"Yet I have set My King On My holy hill of Zion,* Immediately after the tribulation of those days they will see the Son of man coming with clouds and great glory to establish God’s kingdom! God will set His king, Jesus Christ, upon the holy hill of Zion!
- **We pray, “Thy kingdom come,” and those prayers shall be answered!** God’s kingdom shall come to this earth. His king shall reign! Jesus shall reign where err the Son does His successive journeys run. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end!

- ***That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.*** Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father. *His dominion is an everlasting dominion, Which shall not pass away, And His kingdom the one Which shall not be destroyed!*

Daniel's Vision Interpreted

Dan 7:15 "I, Daniel, was grieved in my spirit within my body, and the visions of my head troubled me.

- **Daniel was wondering what this was all about.** What does this mean? Notice it was in the first year of Belshazzar. Daniel was close to Nebuchadnezzar, who had a real conversion type of experience as acknowledged in the fourth chapter as he praises and extols the God of heaven.
- **But when young, Belshazzar came to the throne, he was not really experienced enough** to have the responsibility of the whole kingdom. He starts making some foolish moves, inaugurating some ridiculous kind of laws. Daniel probably thought what in the world was going to happen to the kingdom now. Because of the character of Belshazzar. It made for a questionable future. The Lord is responding to Daniel showing him what the future holds. But Daniel was grieved in his spirit. The visions troubled him. He did not understand them.

Dan 7:16 I came near to one (probably an angel) 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:

Dan 7:17 'Those great beasts, which are four, are four kings which arise out of the earth.

- **Those who stood by were probably angels,** or in the book of Revelation there were elders. When John saw the visions and did not understand what was going on, the elders often times would explain it to him. When no one could take the scroll and loose the seals, John began to sob. One of the elders said, "Do not weep John. Watch! The Lion of the tribe of Judah is going to prevail. He will take the scroll. Do not cry about it. God has it in control." At other times the angels would explain to John a little more fully the visions that he was seeing. Here was one standing by, probably an angel, and Daniel *asked him the truth of all this.*
- **This is a very brief summation of the vision.** *So he told me, and made known to me the interpretation of the things. These great beasts, which are four, are four kings(or kingdoms), which shall arise out of the earth.*

Dan 7:18 But the saints (true believers of Israel) of the Most High shall receive the kingdom, and possess the kingdom forever, even forever and ever.'

- **These are the kingdoms of man that will reign for a period of time,** but ultimately the kingdom will belong to the saints, and they shall reign for ever and ever. As in Revelation, as we hear the worship of Jesus, "Unto Him who loved us and gave Himself for us, and He has made us unto our God, kings and priests and we shall reign with Him upon the earth," the kingdom will be given to the saints forever and ever! Right now Satan is in control, but the powers of darkness are being held back by the presence of the Holy Spirit in the church! However, there is coming a glorious day in the future when the kingdom will be given unto the Lord and unto His followers, the saints! That is the brief summation.

Dan 7:19 "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;

Dan 7:20 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 (stronger) than his fellows.

- **Now Daniel wanted to know more.** His attention again focuses on the conflict leading up to this and the items requiring explanation, including aspects of the vision described as *exceedingly dreadful*. Items which produced fear, such as the teeth of iron, the nails of bronze, the trampling of the other

beasts, the ten horns, the other horn which came up later, the three horns which fell, and the horn which had eyes and a mouth speaking great things, which looked stronger than the other horns. Daniel also adds particulars not previously indicated in his recital of the vision, that the *nails* were of *bronze*, that the little horn was stronger than the other horns, that *the other horn made war with the saints and prevailed against them* (Rev 11:7; 13:7), and that judgment was given to the saints of the most High.

Dan 7:21 "I was watching; and the same horn was making war against the saints (Israel, not the church), ***and prevailing against them,***

- **In Revelation 13, we read that the Anti-Christ made war with the saints.** (Rev 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.* Here it says he prevailed against them.
- **(Mat 16:13,16-18)** *When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" [16] Simon Peter answered and said, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." [17] Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. [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 shall not prevail against it.*
- **That is why the saints could not be the church, because the Anti-Christ does prevail** against the saints. As we further study the reign of the Anti-Christ, and as you look at it in chapter 12, he makes war against Israel. Many of them are slain. Of those that escape, they escape to Moab where they are protected for a period of time in the rock city of Petra.

Dan 7:22 until the Ancient of Days came, and a judgment (*deen* – also translated as court) ***was made in favor of the saints of the Most High, and the time came for the saints to possess the kingdom.***

- ***Ancient of Days.*** This refers to God the Eternal One, who confers the Messianic Kingdom on the Son to rule at His second coming and following (*Dan 7:13-14*). Judgment is against the Antichrist, Satan who empowers him (*Rev 13:4; Rev 20:1-3*), and the unsaved who are not allowed into the kingdom at its outset, but are destroyed and await the final, Great White Throne resurrection and judgment (*Rev 20:11-15*).
- ***Saints to possess the kingdom.*** Believers enter the kingdom in its earthly, millennial phase (*Rev 20:1-4*) following Christ's second coming (*Mat 25:34*), having life that continues forever into the eternal state (*Rev 21-22*), even after the thousand years.

Dan 7:23 "Thus he (the angel) ***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.***

- **In the thirteenth chapter of the book of Revelation,** we find the whole world being dominated by the Anti-Christ.
- **The interpreter of the vision states plainly in verse 23 that the fourth beast represents the fourth kingdom,** an earthly kingdom which will be different from the preceding kingdoms and will devour the whole earth, that is, be worldwide in its sway. In the process, *it will trample it and break it into pieces,* the preceding kingdoms. By so much, the interpretation eliminates the idea that the fifth kingdom refers to the rule of God in the new heavens and the new earth (*Rev 21 and 22*) or that it is merely a spiritual kingdom which gradually gains sway by persuasion, such as the kingdom of God in the earth at the present time. By its terminology the interpretation of *verses 23-27* demands that, for the fifth kingdom to overcome the fourth, the fifth must be basically a sovereign and political kingdom, whatever its spiritual characteristics. By so much, it also demands that this be a future fulfillment, inasmuch as nothing in history corresponds to this.

Dan 7:24 *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.*

- **The ten horns of the vision are declared to be ten kings that shall arise.** They clearly are simultaneous in their reign because three of them are disrupted by *the little horn*, which is another ruler, but not given the title of king here. He also will be different from the first, that is, from the ten horns, and shall subdue three of them.

Dan 7:25 *He (big mouth) shall speak pompous words against the Most High, Shall persecute the saints of the Most High, And shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand For a time and times and half a time.*

- **For three and a half years he will have this power over the world and over the Jews.** When we get to the ninth chapter of Daniel, we will read again of the Anti-Christ, seeing the seven-year total reign divided into two three and a half year periods. The part will be a deception. The Jews will be deceived, acclaiming him as savior, until he reveals his true colors. Then they will flee to the wilderness. He will seek to destroy them, making war and prevailing against them until his time of three and a half years is up. *He shall intend to change times and laws.* A lot of that is being done today, the changing of the laws, which is opening the door for more evil to spread its cancer over the world.
- **The three and one-half-year** computation is confirmed by the forty-two months, or three and one-half years, in (*Rev 11:2 and 13:5*), and the 1260 days of (*Rev 11:3*). Daniel also refers to 1290 days in *12:11* and 1335 days in *12:12* which apparently includes the establishment of the fifth kingdom as well as the destruction of the beast. All of these considerations lend support to the futuristic interpretation of this final period of world history.

Dan 7:26 *'But the court (deen – also translated as judgment) shall be seated, And they shall take away his dominion, To consume and destroy it forever.*

- **God's judgment will prevail, and the powers of the Anti-Christ will be taken away, consumed, and destroyed!**

Dan 7:27 *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. His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, And all dominions shall serve and obey Him.'*

- **The glorious reign of Jesus Christ over the whole world, reigning with the saints!** The Old Testament saints as well as the church of Jesus Christ, will be reigning with Him!

Dan 7:28 *"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.*

- **He was humbled by it. He was troubled by it,** but he just pondered it, keeping it in his heart, these things that God had revealed unto him. Of course, they were not for Daniel to really know. When we get to the twelfth chapter and Daniel is asking some questions about the vision, the Lord said to seal it up. It was for the last days. In the last days knowledge will be increased and people will then begin to understand as they see these events unfold. Daniel did not understand it, but wrote it down.
- **But it really was sealed until these days** as now we see these things happening and we begin to understand more clearly, more fully, the plan of God for this world. We are seeing it is in the final stages of world history under Gentile control. It began with Nebuchadnezzar, but it has just about run its course. Soon, the world will again be under the control of Jesus Christ and God's people! It will be a new world, a glorious true new age in which the Lord will reign in His eternal kingdom!

SUMMARY:

- **Daniel's prophecy in chapter 7, which is remarkable proof** that the Bible was inspired by God, is further clarified as we see in *Revelation chapter 13* – The Beast from the Sea, and in *chapter 17* – The Scarlet Woman and the Scarlet Beast!
- **Daniel tells us that this particular dream and vision came to him in the first year of Belshazzar** king of Babylon (around 553B.C.), which means that Daniel was probably in his mid-eighties, still serving the Lord as an instrument of God. God is speaking to him of the future. What a testimony of life-long faithfulness!
- **He summed up the matter.** He gave us the summation of the things that he saw in this vision or dream. Daniel both wrote and spoke these things to the church, that it should be taught both by the scriptures and by ministers' preaching, both by the written word and by word of mouth, *telling the main facts* of the matters.
- **The theme of the Book of Daniel, changes in chapters 7-12** from the narrative, of the first six chapters, into more of the prophetic part of the book. In the final six chapters we have some of the most exact and exciting prophecies in the Old Testament, pointing toward the fulfillment of them through Jesus Christ, in the New Testament!
- **The Futility of Idols** – the LORD say let the idols show you two things. Let them show you the former things. Let them declare things to come! (*Isa 41:21-23*) "*Present your case,*" says the LORD. "*Bring forth your strong reasons,*" says the King of Jacob. [22] "*Let them bring forth and show us what will happen; Let them show the former things, what they were, That we may consider them, And know the latter end of them; Or declare to us things to come.* [23] *Show the things that are to come hereafter, That we may know that you are gods; Yes, do good or do evil, That we may be dismayed and see it together.*
- **It is absolutely phenomenal the things that Daniel writes about!** They give proof that this book the Bible, was inspired by God. Jesus said, (*Joh 14:29*) "*And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe.* When we see the tremendous accuracy with which Daniel spoke of the future events, we will look at history and see where these things took place just exactly as Daniel prophesied, realizing that surely God is the author of this book!

CLOSING SONG:

I SPEAK JESUS *_Here be Lions, Darlene Zschech (4:00)*

I just want to speak the name of Jesus Over every heart and every mind

'Cause I know there is peace within Your presence I speak Jesus

I just want to speak the name of Jesus Till every dark addiction starts to break

Declaring there is hope and there is freedom I speak Jesus

'Cause Your name is power Your name is healing Your name is life

Break every stronghold Shine through the shadows Burn like a fire

I just want to speak the name of Jesus Over fear and all anxiety

To every soul held captive by depression I speak Jesus

Your name is power Your name is healing Your name is life

Break every stronghold Shine through the shadows Burn like the fire

Shout Jesus from the mountains Jesus in the streets Jesus in the darkness over every enemy Jesus for my family I speak the holy name Jesus (2x)

Your name is power Your name is healing Your name is life Break every stronghold Shine through the shadows Burn like a fire

I just want to speak the name of Jesus Over every heart and every mind 'Cause I know there is peace within His presence I speak Jesus

CLOSING PRAYER:

Read and meditate on *Daniel Chapter 8!*