

“The Ancient of Days & the Last Days” Daniel 7

1. Sixteen years before Daniel was thrown into the lion’s den (Dan 6), in the first year of King Belshazzar’s reign (553 B.C.), a revelation is given to Daniel in a dream through visions. The dream was so significant that Daniel immediately wrote down a summary of it. Daniel had been the interpreter of two dreams (chaps. 2 & 4) and now he will become the recipient of 4 dreams or visions (chaps. 7, 8, 9, 10). What is the first thing Daniel sees in 7:2?

2. The 2nd thing Daniel sees in this vision was 4 great beasts emerging from the sea. We see later in verse 17 that the 4 beasts represent 4 kings or kingdoms.
 - ◆ The 1st beast was like a _____ (v.4) with the wings of an eagle. Both of these animals are symbols of Babylon. The plucking of its wings could refer to Nebuchadnezzar’s insanity (4:31-33) or his empire’s deterioration after his death. What part of the statue is this in 2:31?
 - ◆ The 2nd beast was like a _____ (v.5). This represents the Medo-Persia Empire (the chest & arms of silver in 2:32) that conquered Babylon in Daniel 5:31. The bear was raised up one side indicating that Persia would soon overpower the Medes.
 - ◆ The 3rd beast was like a _____ (v. 6) with 4 wings of a bird. What is the leopard noted for?
The kingdom that conquers Medo-Persia was Greece (the belly and thighs of bronze in 2:32), which did so with great speed behind Alexander the Great. This beast had 4 heads which points to Alexander’s kingdom dividing into 4 parts after his death.
 - ◆ The 4th creature is not compared to any animal but simply called a beast. It was extremely strong with large iron teeth (legs of iron in 2:40) and claws of bronze. What kingdom does this beast represent? How many horns did this beast possess?

3. As Daniel focuses his attention on these 10 horns in verse 8, a little horn emerges and it uproots 3 of the existing horns (or kings). What do we know about this horn from verses 8, 11, and 25?

The little horn’s reign will be terminated by the Second Advent when Christ returns to establish His millennial reign on earth (Revelation 20:1-6).

4. In verses 9-12, Daniel sees thrones of judgments set up and one throne was occupied by the Ancient of Days. Who is the Ancient of Days?

5. In the 3rd major portion of this vision, Daniel saw the Son of Man approaching the Ancient of Days. Who is this pointing to?

The title, “Son of Man” was His favorite title for Himself. What does Jesus begin teaching about Himself in Mark 8:31?

6. What is Daniel’s response to this amazing prophetic panorama that is revealed to him (v.28)? What’s your response when you reflect and meditate on God’s glory and majesty?