

RESOLVED

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF DANIEL



But Daniel made up his mind [resolved in his heart] that he would not defile himself with the king's choice food or with the wine which he drank; so he sought permission from the commander of the officials that he might not defile himself. Daniel 1:8



Daniel 7

Daniel's dream predated by 14 years his experience in the lions' den (chapter 6) which occurred in or soon after 539 BC.

When the dream came Daniel was about 68 years of age, for he was taken captive (at about the age of 16) 52 years earlier in 605 BC.

Bible Knowledge Commentary



Features of the Book of Daniel

Daniel had been the interpreter of two dreams by Nebuchadnezzar (chapters 2; 4). Then the prophet-statesman became the recipient of four dreams or visions (chapters 7; 8; 9:20–27; 10:1–12:5).

In the first six chapters, Daniel wrote in the third person; in the last six chapters he wrote in the first person.

-Bible Knowledge Commentary



In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon (553 BC) Daniel saw a dream and visions in his mind as he lay on his bed; then he wrote the dream down and related the following summary of it. Daniel said, "I was looking in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds [spirits] of heaven were stirring up the great [Mediterranean] sea." **Daniel 7:1-2**



Mediterranean Sea

Daniel's vision concerns this area



"And four great beasts were coming up from the sea, different from one another. The first was like a lion and had the wings of an eagle. I kept looking until its wings were plucked [Nebuchadnezzar's insanity], and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a man; a human mind also was given to it." **Daniel 7:3-4**



- Like a Lion
- With eagle's wings
- Wings plucked later
- Lifted up from earth
- Man's heart given

Babylon

The lion and eagle were both symbols of Babylon

Jeremiah 4:7

Jeremiah 4:13

Ezekiel 17:3

This statue was a "temporary" exhibit organized by the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations.

It was installed in November 2021 and removed, after much criticism, on December 20, 2021.





"And behold, another beast, a second one, resembling a bear. And it was raised up on one side, and three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth; and thus they said to it, 'Arise, devour much meat!" Daniel 7:5



The bear is an animal of formidable strength 1 Samuel 17:34, Amos 5:19, Hosea 13:8
The Medo-Persian army was strong and fierce Isaiah 13:15–18



- The phrase "one side higher than the other" suggests that though Persia rose later than Media, Persia soon overshadowed the Medes in their united kingdom.
- The three ribs in the bear's mouth may represent the kingdoms of Egypt, Assyria, and Babylon, which had preceded the empire represented by the bear. Or they may represent Babylon, Lydia, and Egypt, three nations conquered by the Medes and Persians.
- The bear was told to devour flesh. This command suggests that kingdoms operate by divine appointment, not their own authority. In devouring other kingdoms and extending its territory into a vast empire, the bear was fulfilling God's purpose.



"After this I kept looking, and behold, another one, 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." Daniel 7:6

The kingdom that conquered Medo-Persia was Greece, which did so with great speed, conquering the entire empire between 334 and 330 BC. A few years after Alexander died his kingdom was divided into four parts (Daniel 8:8, 22). —Bible Knowledge Commentary

The leopard is an animal noted for its swiftness, cunning, and agility

Habakkuk 1:8

Jeremiah 5:6

Hosea 13:7



"After this I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, a fourth beast, dreadful and terrifying and extremely strong; and it had large iron teeth. It devoured and crushed and trampled down the remainder [previous empires] with its feet; and it was different from all the beasts that were before it, and it had ten horns." Daniel 7:7



- Exceedingly dreadful, terrible beast
- Iron teeth, brass nails
- Had 10 horns
- A little horn, which plucked 3 horns
 Rome

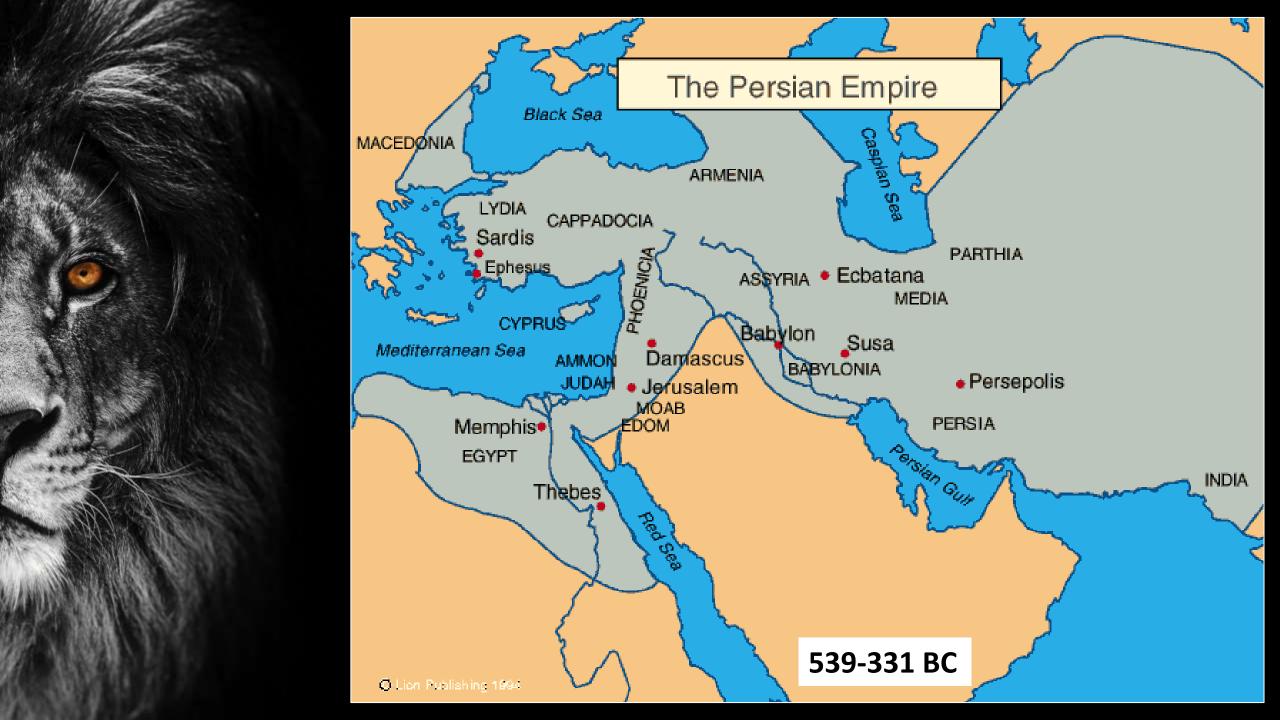
Instead of likening it to some known animal Daniel simply called it a beast. Apparently it was a mongrel composed of parts of a lion, bear, and leopard (cf. the beast in Revelation 13:2). - Bible Knowledge Commentary



Drawing of King Nebuchadnezzar's dream

Daniel chapter 2











"While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man [intelligence] and a mouth uttering great boasts." Daniel 7:8



(1st segment of the vision)

"I kept looking until thrones were set up, and the Ancient of Days took His seat; His vesture [garment] was like white snow and the hair of His head like pure wool. His throne was ablaze with flames, its wheels were a burning fire." Daniel 7:9





The "Ancient of Days" is the sovereign God

- "Even from eternity I am He, and there is none who can deliver out of My hand; I act and who can reverse it?" Isaiah 43:13
- For thus says the high and exalted One Who lives forever, whose name is Holy, "I dwell on a high and holy place, and also with the contrite and lowly of spirit in order to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite." Isaiah 57:15

His white clothing and hair speak of His holiness

His head and His hair were white like white wool, like snow; and His eyes were like a flame of fire. Revelation 1:14



"A river of fire was flowing and coming out from before Him; thousands upon thousands [of angels] were attending Him, and myriads upon myriads were standing before Him; the court sat, and the books were opened." Daniel 7:10

Apostle John wrote, "And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds." Revelation 20:12



(2nd segment of the vision)

"Then I kept looking because of the sound of the boastful words which the horn was speaking; I kept looking until the beast was slain, and its body was destroyed and given to the burning fire. As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but an extension of life was granted to them for an appointed period of time." Daniel 7:11-12



(3rd segment of the vision)

"I kept looking in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, and He came up to the Ancient of Days and was presented before Him." Daniel 7:13



Jesus described Himself as the "Son of Man"

- And He began to teach them that the <u>Son of Man</u> must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. Mark 8:31
- Jesus said, "Then they will see the <u>Son of Man</u> coming in clouds with great power and glory. " Mark 13:26
- Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man." John 1:51
- As Stephen was being attacked, he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened up and the <u>Son of Man</u> standing at the right hand of God." Acts 7:56



"And to Him [Son of Man] was given dominion, glory and a kingdom, that all the peoples, nations and men of every language might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion which will not pass away; and His kingdom is one which will not be destroyed." Daniel 7:14

Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever." Revelation 11:15



"As for me, Daniel, my spirit was distressed within me, and the visions in my mind kept alarming me. I approached one of those [angel Gabriel?] who were standing by and began asking him the exact meaning of all this. So he told me and made known to me the interpretation of these things:" Daniel 7:15-16

And I heard the voice of a man between the banks of Ulai, and he called out and said, "Gabriel, give this man an understanding of the vision." Daniel 8:16

while I was still speaking in prayer, then the man Gabriel, whom I had seen in the vision previously, came to me in my extreme weariness about the time of the evening offering. Daniel 9:21



"'These great beasts, which are four in number, are four kings who will arise from the earth. But the saints of the Highest One [Jewish believers in the one, true God and His Messiah] will receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever, for all ages to come." Daniel 7:17-18



"Then I desired to know the exact meaning of the fourth beast, which was different from all the others, exceedingly dreadful, with its teeth of iron and its claws of bronze, and which devoured, crushed and trampled down the remainder with its feet, and the meaning of the ten horns that were on its head and the other horn which came up, and before which three of them fell, namely, that horn which had eyes and a mouth uttering great boasts and which was larger in appearance than its associates."

Daniel 7:19-20



"I kept looking, and that horn was waging war with the saints and overpowering them until the Ancient of Days came and judgment was passed in favor of the saints of the Highest One [Israel], and the time arrived when the saints took possession of the kingdom. Thus he said: 'The fourth beast will be a fourth kingdom on the earth, which will be different from all the other kingdoms and will devour the whole earth [the coming one-world government] and tread it down and crush it." Daniel 7:21-23

Apostle John wrote, "It was also given to him to make war with the saints and to overcome them, and authority over every tribe and people and tongue and nation was given to him." Revelation 13:7



"As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings."

Daniel 7:24

- The fourth empire, in spite of its great power, will be characterized by progressive weakness, deterioration, and division (recall the mixture of iron & clay in the fourth part of Nebuchadnezzar's image).
- When the hordes from the north conquered the Roman Empire in the fifth century AD, they did not unite to form another empire. Instead individual nations emerged out of the old Roman Empire. Some of those nations and others stemming from them have continued till the present day. – Bible Knowledge Commentary



The little horn revealed to Daniel in chapter 7

- It came after the 10 horns (kings; v. 24) were in existence and then was contemporaneous with them.
- It uprooted 3 of the 10 horns (kings).
- It was intelligent (it had the eyes of a man).
- It was arrogant and boastful (v. 11).
- He will persecute the saints of the Most High (v. 25). The horn represents a person. In 7:24 he is said to be a king. As in verse 18, the saints refer to the nation Israel. His persecution of Israel will take place in the Tribulation.
- He will overcome the nation Israel and will bring that nation under his authority (Revelation 12:13–17; 17:7).
- He will be judged by God (Rev. 19:19–20), and Israel, no longer under the rule of the little horn, will enter into her covenanted blessings in the kingdom (Daniel 7:18).



"ten horns" Daniel 7:7

Apostle John would later write, "The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have not yet received a kingdom, but they receive authority as kings with the beast for one hour. These have one purpose, and they give their power and authority to the beast." Revelation 17:12-13

European Union = Revival of Roman Empire

"ten horns" Daniel 7:7

First 10 Nations of EU

Germany

France

Italy

United Kingdom

Belgium

Netherlands

Luxembourg

Greece

Denmark

Ireland

Now 27 member states







"He [the beast] will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One [Jewish believers in the one, true God and His Messiah], and he will intend to make alterations in times and in law; and they will be given into his hand for a time, times, and half a time [3.5 years]. But the court [of God the Father] will sit for judgment, and his dominion [the beast] will be taken away, annihilated and destroyed forever."

Daniel 7:25-26



Satanic/Unholy/Evil Trinity during the End Times

Satan (dragon) – imitates the Father

Antichrist (first beast) – imitates the Son

False Prophet (second beast) – imitates
 the Holy Spirit



Length of the Reign of the Beast

- "time, times, and half a time" Daniel 7:25
- I heard the man dressed in linen, who was above the waters of the river, as he raised his right hand and his left toward heaven, and swore by Him who lives forever that it would be for a <u>time, times, and half a time</u>; and as soon as they finish shattering the power of the holy people, all these events will be completed. Daniel 12:7
- Leave out the court which is outside the temple and do not measure it, for it has been given to the nations; and they will tread under foot the holy city for <u>forty-two months</u>. Revelation 11:2
- Then the woman fled into the wilderness where she had a place prepared by God, so that there she would be nourished for one thousand two hundred and sixty days. Revelation 12:6
- But the two wings of the great eagle were given to the woman, so that she could fly into the wilderness to her place, where she was nourished for a <u>time and</u> <u>times and half a time</u>, from the presence of the serpent. Revelation 12:14
- There was given to him a mouth speaking arrogant words and blasphemies, and authority to act for <u>forty-two months</u> was given to him. Revelation 13:5



Second Coming of Jesus

- Jesus said, "And then the sign of the <u>Son of Man</u> will appear in the sky, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky with power and great glory."

 Matthew 24:30
- Jesus said, "But when the <u>Son of Man</u> comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne." Matthew 25:31
- Then the seventh angel sounded; and there were loud voices in heaven, saying, "The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He will reign forever and ever." Revelation 11:15



"Then the sovereignty, the dominion and the greatness of all the kingdoms under the whole heaven will be given to the people of the saints of the Highest One [Israel]; His kingdom will be an everlasting kingdom, and all the dominions will serve and obey Him." Daniel 7:27



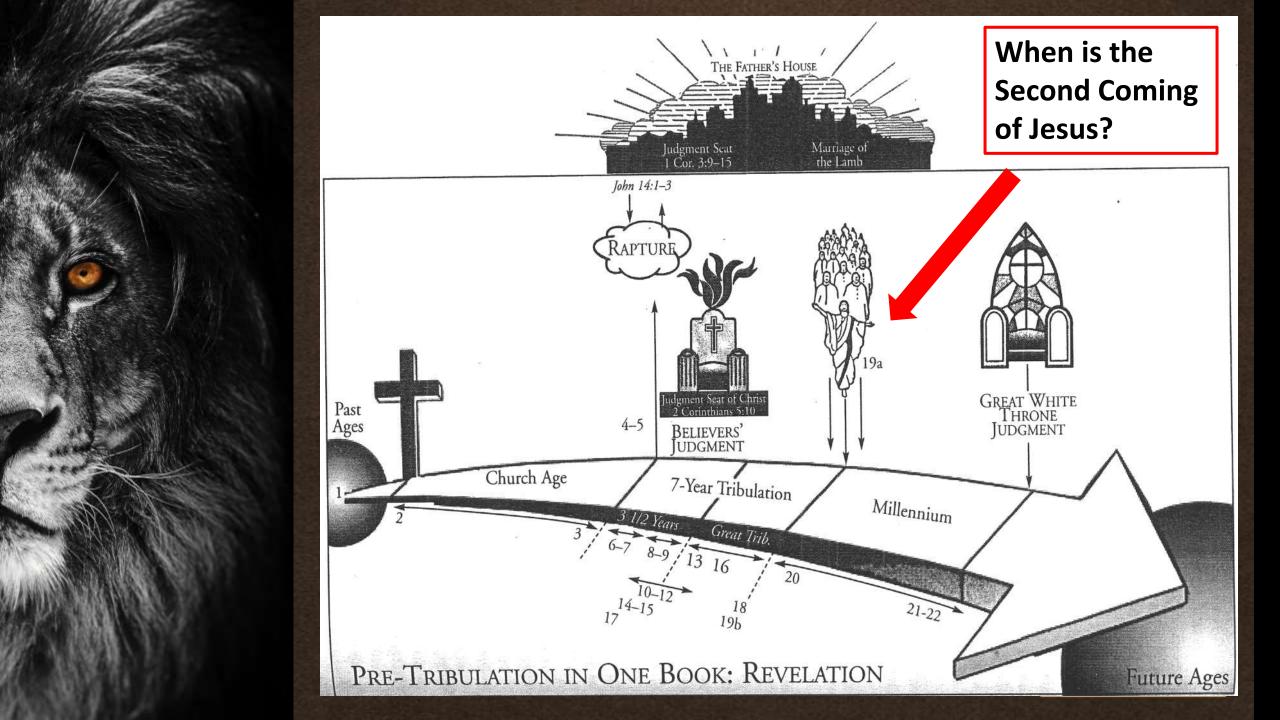
Antichrist defeated at Second Coming of Jesus

Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and bring to an end by the appearance of His coming 2 Thessalonians 2:8

And the beast was seized, and with him the false prophet who performed the signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who had received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image; these two were thrown alive into the lake of fire which burns with brimstone. Revelation 19:20

14 Signs of the Second Coming of Jesus

- 1. Rebirth of the nation of Israel
- 2. Re-unification of Europe
- 3. Rise of radical Islam
- 4. Revealing of the antichrist
- 5. One-world government and religion
- 6. Rebuilding of the Jewish Temple
- 7. Gospel will be preached in the whole world
- 8. Ease of worldwide travel, technological advances
- 9. Increase in deadly diseases
- 10. Worldwide earthquakes
- 11. Possession of Jerusalem disputed
- 12. Return of Jews to their homeland
- 13. Worldwide Famines
- 14. All of the signs coming together





"At this point the revelation ended. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts were greatly alarming me and my face grew pale, but I kept the matter to myself." Daniel 7:28



Lessons from Daniel 7

- Our God has a sovereign, divine plan for mankind.
- We can confidently trust the fulfillment of prophecy in the future because we have seen so many biblical prophecies already fulfilled.
- We do not serve a secret-keeping God.
- Even if you have walked with God for a long time, there is always more to learn.
- God the Father speaks to His children.
- God the Father speaks MORE to His children who listen MORE.



Messiah Jesus has come and is coming again soon.

Have you given your heart to the Savior?

Are you ready to follow Him in baptism?