

DANIEL'S DREAM OF THE FOUR BEASTS Pt. 1

(Daniel 7:1-8)

I. DANIEL'S DREAM CONCERNING THE FUTURE

A. The General SETTING and CONTEXT (7:1-3)

1. We are informed that this dream took place in the _____ year that Belshazzar was king, which would place these events chronologically between chapters _____ and _____.
2. For the first 6 chapters Daniel referred to himself in the _____ person; for the final 6 chapters he will use the _____ person, beginning in 7:2.
3. There are some obvious contrasts between the "image" dreamt by Nebuchadnezzar in chapter 2 and the dream that Daniel had in chapter 7...

CHAPTER 2

An _____, pagan king is the recipient of the dream

World history is given in the form of a mighty _____

_____ is the interpreter of the dream

Given from _____ perspective as glorious and imposing

CHAPTER 7

A godly _____ is the recipient of the dream

World history is given in the form of four horrible _____

An _____ is the interpreter of the dream

Given from _____ perspective as being brutal and depraved

4. The "*four winds of heaven*" represents God's sovereign _____ by which He sets the nations of the world in motion; and the "*four winds*" implies that the people from the four _____ of the earth are involved. (Jer. 23:19-20; 49:36; Rev. 7:1)
5. The "*Great Sea*" symbolizes the great masses of fallen _____ on the earth, and the "*stirring*" is most likely the _____ among Gentile world powers. (Isa. 17:12-13; 57:20; 60:5; Jer. 46:7-8; 47:2-3; Rev. 13:1)

B. Daniel's vision of the FOUR BEASTS and the LITTLE HORN (7:4-14)

1. THE 1st BEAST: A lion with eagle's wings symbolized King Nebuchadnezzar and the Babylonian empire which was swift on the battle field. (Jer. 49:19, 22; 50:17; Lam. 4:19)
 - a. He had his feathers "*plucked off*" when the Lord took his pride, by humbling him with a _____ until he repented. (Dan. 4)
 - b. The transformation to a "*man's heart*" very well could be the _____ of Babylon's greatest king.

2. THE 2nd BEAST: A bear represented the Medo-Persian Empire which wasn't as fleet footed as a lion, but still just as ferocious. (Isa. 13:17-18)
 - a. "*It was raised up on one side*" is best understood that the Persians eventually become much more _____ than the Medes and in time _____ them.
 - b. The "*three ribs*" symbolized _____ already subdued, but the command, "*Arise, devour much flesh*" represented future _____.

3. THE 3rd BEAST: A leopard, known for its cunningness and swiftness aptly represented Greece.
 - a. Alexander the Great's army was so fast that it conquered most of the civilized world, and in _____ years of conquests he never _____ a battle.
 - b. The "*four wings*" symbolized great speed and the "*four heads*" great intelligence, which was represented in Alexander's four _____.

4. THE 4th BEAST: It is not represented by any known living animal, it was unique and it symbolized the Roman army.
 - a. In the past Rome was _____ when it literally destroyed people groups.
 - b. In the future there will be 10 _____ who rule out of Rome, symbolized by the 10 _____ in the dream.