

The Kingdoms: Daniel 7:1-17, 21-22, 24-27
October 19, 2022

I. Introduction

II. Daniel 7 generally

- A. A shift
- B. The center or literary fulcrum of Daniel
- C. Dreams/visions

III. Sections of Daniel 7

- A. Animal allegory of history (7:1-25)
 - 1. Four “beasts” from the “sea” (7:3)
 - 2. Lion with wings as Babylon (7:4)
 - 3. Bear as Medes (7:5)
 - 4. Winged leopard as Persia (7:6)
 - 5. Fourth unnamed beast as Alexander (7:7)
 - a. Ten horns as his generals: Diadochi (7:7)
 - b. Little horn as Antiochus IV (7:8, 21, 24-25)
- B. Heavenly judgment (7:9-10)
- C. Son of man (7:13-27)
 - 1. Identity (7:13)
 - 2. Everlasting dominion (7:14, 27)
- D. Interpretation (7:16)

IV. Lessons

- A. God’s sovereignty extends to the world and its events
- B. Evil will be judged
- D. God will be victorious

V. Revisit the initial question

VI. What else is applicable for us?

VII. Questions and comments

VIII. LET US PRAY!

Schedule

Nov. 2: Daniel 11:36-45

Nov. 16: Daniel 12:1-12

Daniel 7:1-17, 21-22, 24-27

In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: ²I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, ³and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. ⁴The first was like a lion and had eagles' wings. Then, as I watched, its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a human being, and a human mind was given to it. ⁵Another beast appeared, a second one, that looked like a bear. It was raised up on one side, had three tusks in its mouth among its teeth, and was told, "Arise, devour many bodies!" ⁶After this, as I watched, another appeared, like a leopard. The beast had four wings of a bird on its back and four heads, and dominion was given to it. ⁷After this I saw in the visions by night a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth and was devouring, breaking in pieces, and stamping what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that preceded it, and it had ten horns. ⁸I was considering the horns when another horn appeared, a little one that came up among them. Three of the original horns were plucked up from before it. There were eyes like human eyes in this horn and a mouth speaking arrogantly.

⁹As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. ¹¹I watched then because of the noise of the arrogant words that the horn was speaking. And as I watched, the beast was put to death and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire. ¹²As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. ¹³As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. ¹⁴To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

¹⁵As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. ¹⁶I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: ¹⁷"As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. ¹⁸But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever." . . .

²¹As I looked, that horn made war with the holy ones and was prevailing over them, ²²until the Ancient One came; then judgment was given for the holy ones of the Most High, and the time arrived when the holy ones gained possession of the kingdom.

²⁴As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings shall arise, and another shall arise after them. This one shall be different from the former ones and shall put down three kings. . . . ²⁵He shall speak words against the Most High, shall wear out the holy ones of the Most High, and shall attempt to change the ritual calendar and the law, and they shall be given into his power for a time, two times, and half a time. Then the court shall sit in judgment, and his dominion shall be taken away, to be consumed and totally destroyed. ²⁷The kingship and dominion and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven shall be given to the people of the holy ones of the Most High; their kingdom shall be an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey them."