

Daniel's Vision of Four Beasts (Kingdoms) and God's Kingdom: A Picture of the Final Kingdom to Govern the Earth (Christ's Kingdom)

Daniel 07:01–14

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>The setting: The first year of Belshazzar's reign</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Daniel received a vision b. Daniel recorded the vision 2. <i>The four winds and the great sea</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The winds of God's judgment will chum up the great sea of humanity, v. 3, 17; Rev 17:15 b. The sea of humanity will give rise to four fearsome beasts or empires 3. <i>The first beast — a lion with wings: Represented Babylon</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. It was injured: Symbolized Nebuchadnezzar's insanity and loss of power b. It (Nebuchadnezzar) was restored and given a human, more compassionate heart, ch. 4 4. <i>The second beast — like a bear: Represented Medo-Persia</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. It was raised up on one side b. It was devouring three ribs (nations) c. It was encouraged to devour many people | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and visions passed through his mind as he was lying in bed. He wrote down the substance of his dream. 2 Daniel said: "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me were the four winds of heaven churning up the great sea. 3 Four great beasts, each different from the others, came up out of the sea. 4 "The first was like a lion, and it had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were torn off and it was lifted from the ground so that it stood on two feet like a human being, and the mind of a human was given to it. 5 "And there before me was a second beast, which looked like a bear. It was raised up on one of its sides, and it had three ribs in its mouth between its teeth. It was told, 'Get up and eat your fill of flesh!' |
|--|---|

5. <i>The third beast — like a leopard: Represented Greece</i> 1) It had four wings: Symbolized a swift conquest by Alexander the Great 2) It had four heads: Symbolized the empire's division 6. <i>The fourth beast — described only as terrifying and powerful: Represented Rome</i> a. It had huge iron teeth: Crushed its victims b. It trampled underfoot many more nations c. It had ten horns: Symbolized a federation of nations, vv. 24-26 7. <i>The little horn — arose from among the ten horns of the fourth beast (the Roman Empire): Represented the last world ruler; the antichrist, Dan 11:36- 37; 2 Th 2:3-12; Rev 13:1-10</i> a. It uprooted three horns b. It had eyes: Intelligence c. It spoke boastfully (against God), 35; 11:36; 2Th 2:3,8 8. <i>The Ancient of Days (God) and His throne of judgment</i> a. The thrones set in place b. The eternal God described • His clothing and hair were white: Holy and righteous • His throne was ablaze with fire: His holy wrath	6 “After that, I looked, and there before me was another beast, one that looked like a leopard. And on its back it had four wings like those of a bird. This beast had four heads, and it was given authority to rule. 7 “After that, in my vision at night I looked, and there before me was a fourth beast — terrifying and frightening and very powerful. It had large iron teeth; it crushed and devoured its victims and trampled underfoot whatever was left. It was different from all the former beasts, and it had ten horns. 8 “While I was thinking about the horns, there before me was another horn, a little one, which came up among them; and three of the first horns were uprooted before it. This horn had eyes like the eyes of a human being and a mouth that spoke boastfully. 9 “As I looked, “thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze.
---	--

• His presence ushered out a flowing river of fire: Holy judgment c. The courtroom described • The angels — hundreds of millions — served Him • The court session began • The books were opened d. The judgment described • The little horn continued its extreme arrogance • The little horn (and its followers) was judged and thrown into the blazing fire, Rev 19:20 • The other beasts — unbelievers of conquered nations — were preserved by God for judgment, 2 Pet 2:9 9. <i>The Son of Man and His eternal kingdom: A picture of Christ ruling in the millennium and in eternity</i> a. He entered the throne room of God in the magnificent clouds of heaven b. He was given eternal dominion over the earth and was worshipped by all peoples and languages c. He will rule a kingdom that will never be destroyed	10 A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened. 11 “Then I continued to watch because of the boastful words the horn was speaking. I kept looking until the beast was slain and its body destroyed and thrown into the blazing fire. 12 (The other beasts had been stripped of their authority, but were allowed to live for a period of time.) 13 “In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. 14 He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshipped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.
--	--