

Daniel 7

Part 2: “The Nations”

Let us all continue to contend for the faith and are going out daily to help the lost see the truth as you have been given the truth. Let us work and not stop.

John 9:4 - I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

If you all remember, we were in Daniel 7 part 1 and now we are going to finish with Daniel 7 part 2 where we left off with understanding how Nebuchadnezzar was the king of Babylon and is the first beast given in Daniel 7 verse 4.

Even Jeremiah the prophet had proclaimed this to be true in...

Jeremiah 4:6, 7 - Set up the standard toward Zion: retire, stay not: for I will bring evil from the north, and a great destruction. The lion is come up from his thicket, and the destroyer of the Gentiles is on his way; he is gone forth from his place to make thy land desolate; [and] thy cities shall be laid waste, without an inhabitant.

Jeremiah 50:17 - Israel [is] a scattered sheep; the lions have driven [him] away: first the king of Assyria hath devoured him; and last this Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon hath broken his bones.

Jeremiah 50:43, 44, 45 - The king of Babylon hath heard the report of them, and his hands waxed feeble: anguish took hold of him, [and] pangs as of a woman in travail. Behold, he shall come up like a lion from the swelling of Jordan unto the habitation of the strong: but I will make them suddenly run away from her: and who [is] a chosen [man, that] I may appoint over her? for who [is] like me? and who will appoint me the time? and who [is] that shepherd that will stand before me? Therefore hear ye the counsel of the LORD, that he hath taken against Babylon; and his purposes, that he hath purposed against the land of the Chaldeans: Surely the least of the flock shall draw them out: surely he shall make [their] habitation desolate with them.

And Daniel 2:37, 38 finalizes it where it says...

Daniel 2:37, 38 - Thou, O king, [art] a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou [art] this head of gold.

So Babylon is clearly and fitly represented to be that “lion”. Just as gold is supreme of all metals...And so, the “lion” is king among the beasts and the “eagle” is king of the bird world. Babylon’s rise to power and where they swiftly devour nations express the eagle’s wings. Based on historians, it has been said that Babylon gained its independence from Assyria, and it had

conquered the surrounding nations and became the most powerful empire in the region, thus the “eagle’s wings” portray speed.

Habakkuk 1:6, 7, 8 - For, lo, I raise up the Chaldeans, [that] bitter and hasty nation, which shall march through the breadth of the land, to possess the dwelling places [that are] not theirs. They [are] terrible and dreadful: their judgment and their dignity shall proceed of themselves. Their horses also are swifter than the leopards, and are more fierce than the evening wolves: and their horsemen shall spread themselves, and their horsemen shall come from far; they shall fly as the eagle [that] hasteth to eat.

Also understand that later, Babylon would cease to expand and devour others, which is represented by the wings being “plucked” or removed from the beast. After the death of Nebuchadnezzar “the servant of the Most High God”, the succeeding king of Babylon chose to ignore God and mocked him and was overthrown giving way to the next king. We will learn about the king that came after Nebuchadnezzar shortly, which gave way to the next kingdom that was inferior to Babylon. Then Babylon lost its lion-like nobility. It was given a “man’s heart” and made to stand upon its “feet as a man.” King Nebuchadnezzar was humbled just before his death and Daniel 7:5 would later be fulfilled.

Now, let’s go ahead and continue to the next verse in Daniel 7:5 where another beast would arise up...

Daniel 7:5 - And behold another beast, a second, like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and [it had] three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh.

Here, we have another beast, the second nation which is likened to a bear. The bear raised itself up on one side. It had three ribs in the mouth of it between the teeth. And thus, it was told, arise, devour much flesh.

This nation would follow after Nebuchadnezzar and is likened to a bear, but it would be inferior as it said in...

Daniel 2:39 - And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee...

This kingdom does correspond to the chest and arms of silver from the image of Daniel 2. We can see that this would be the Medo-Persia. It is clear that Persia was dominant over Media; which is represented by the “bear” “raise up” and “on one side”, and the “three ribs” in the bear’s mouth represent three kingdoms which Medo-Persia conquered. They are as followed: **Babylon, Lydia (in Turkey), and Egypt**. At the height of its power, this empire has conquered more than six times as much land as had its predecessor Babylon. It did “devour much flesh.”

The two kings were Cyrus and Darius. Cyrus was the nephew of Darius. Now, regarding king Cyrus, I would like to bring understanding about this king. Take a look at...

2 Chronicles 36:22-23 - Now in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, that the word of the LORD [spoken] by the mouth of Jeremiah might be accomplished, the LORD stirred up the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia, that he made a proclamation throughout all his kingdom, and [put it] also in writing, saying, Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the LORD God of heaven given me; and he hath charged me to build him an house in Jerusalem, which [is] in Judah. Who [is there] among you of all his people? The LORD his God [be] with him, and let him go up.

Cyrus is the one chosen by God to accomplish this great feat. Long before Cyrus' birth, the prophet Isaiah called him the Lord's anointed:

Isaiah 45:1-6 - Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut; I will go before thee, and make the crooked places straight: I will break in pieces the gates of brass, and cut in sunder the bars of iron: And I will give thee the treasures of darkness, and hidden riches of secret places, that thou mayest know that I, the LORD, which call [thee] by thy name, [am] the God of Israel. For Jacob my servant's sake, and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by thy name: I have surnamed thee, though thou hast not known me. I [am] the LORD, and [there is] none else, [there is] no God beside me: I girded thee, though thou hast not known me: That they may know from the rising of the sun, and from the west, that [there is] none beside me. I [am] the LORD, and [there is] none else.

This sounds like another Nebuchadnezzar, but this Cyrus has actually been noted as ANOINTED to do the Lord's bidding. Very nice to hear....And so, Cyrus has been known to typify Christ. The Same prophet Isaiah who prophesied the Messiah, the Saviour, said this:

Isaiah 61:1-5 - The spirit of the Lord GOD [is] upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to [them that are] bound; To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all that mourn; To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he might be glorified. And they shall build the old wastes, they shall raise up the former desolations, and they shall repair the waste cities, the desolations of many generations. And strangers shall stand and feed your flocks, and the sons of the alien [shall be] your plowmen and your vinedressers.

So Cyrus served as a type of Christ. He was anointed to do the Lord's bidding. He ended Babylon's rule and set the captives free. The decree issued by king Cyrus was that the Israelites were to be freed, that they could return to their homeland without cost. This is the same thing, in the same way, where we will see Christ overrule and overthrow spiritual Babylon at the end of time. We shall see Babylon crushed very soon. The day of vengeance is upon this earth. This

earth and the people are mourning for His return. And so, Christ will also set the captives free and take them to their heavenly home. Their redemption will be without cost as it was in the days of Cyrus.

Next...

Daniel 7:6 - After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it.

After the Medes and the Persians, a third power would arise to take control. Daniel 2 and history both tell us that the Greek Empire came after the Medo-Persian Empire. In Daniel 8, we read in a further prophecy, which we will go into later that "Grecian" would subdue the Medo-Persian Empire and that it also would be divided into four subkingdoms before bowing to the Roman Empire. The leopard beast in Daniel 7 has four heads and four wings that symbolize the four subkingdoms. The symbol of the leopard is a fitting symbol for the kingdom of Grecian in view of the swiftness of her conquest in conquering. Medo-Persia was defeated by Macedonian Greece, represented as a "leopard" with "four heads" and "four wings." The "four wings" represent unprecedented swiftness.

The conquests of Macedonian Greece under Alexander the Great were more rapid than even those of Babylon. Historians have said that in just three short years, from 334-331 BC, they had conquered the entire Persian Empire. The leopard as we can all see is more agile and swifter than a lion or even a bear, but yet, it is perfectly and most defiantly frailer. If you watch the animal planet which is the book of nature, you can see this to be true. We also understand that during this time period, historically speaking, historically documented that Alexander died in 323 BC at the age of thirty-two. His death is caused by intemperance where he indulged into appetite and drunkenness. Some say he died of being poisoned by others, but this is not true, he indulged into things he should have not indulged in. And so, because of his recklessness, we see four generals who took over. His four strongest generals (Cassander, Lysimachus, Ptolemy, and Seleucus), divided the kingdom among themselves. And this is symbolized by the leopard's "four heads."

Biblically/Symbolically speaking, heads are what?

Symbol: = HEADS

Meaning: = MAJOR POWERS, RULERS, and GOVERNMENTS

Scriptural facts:

Daniel 7:6, 8 - After this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given to it. Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.

Daniel 8:22 - Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power.

Revelation 17:3, 10 - So he carried me away in the spirit into the wilderness: and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space.

Daniel 7:7 - After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it [was] diverse from all the beasts that [were] before it; and it had ten horns.

The fourth beast defies description. It is terrifying, frightening, and very powerful. It would be the kingdom that would fill up the cup of God's wrath. Although Rome would become divided, the iron would remain even to the time of the destruction by the stone. Following the sequence of Daniel 2, the terrible beast of Daniel 7 represents Rome. Although divided into ten through the ten horns, it is still Rome that rules until the end of time. The iron does not change; it is just separated by clay.

The previous empires were represented by some of the most ferocious animals of prey, but this "beast" is represented by a frightful creature that can't be explained in detail by that which God had created. This is a fitting figure of the Roman Empire as we know it to be unto this day, which dominated the world with its iron legions and continues to do today. The "iron teeth" of this indescribable beast gives it a direct parallel to the iron in the image in Daniel 2:40.

Daniel 2:40 - And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all [things]: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

It was Rome that ruled the Mediterranean world where most of the people dwelt back then when Jesus lived on this earth, and it was the Roman governor, who was called Pilate, who set Him to the cross, who sent him to his death, where he died for the sins of all. The "ten horns," like the leopard's "four heads," show a splitting of the kingdom into multiple parts. And how do we Biblically know this to be true. Well in that verse, it talks about this beast having ten horns. Three would also be removed and replaced which we will find out more about in Daniel 8. So, what are horns?

Symbol: = HORN

Meaning: #1 = POWER AND STRENGTH

Scriptural facts:

Deuteronomy 33:17, "His glory is like the firstling of his bullock, and his horns are like the horns of unicorns: with them he shall push the people together to the ends of the earth: and they are the ten thousands of Ephraim, and they are the thousands of Manasseh."

Zechariah 1:18-19, "Then lifted I up mine eyes, and saw, and behold four horns. And I said unto the angel that talked with me, What be these? And he answered me, These are the horns which have scattered Judah, Israel, and Jerusalem."

Meaning: #2 = KING OR KINGDOM

Scriptural facts:

Psalms 89:17, 24 "For thou art the glory of their strength: and in thy favour our horn shall be exalted. But my faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him: and in my name shall his horn be exalted."

Daniel 8:5, 21, 22 "And as I was considering, behold, an he goat came from the west on the face of the whole earth, and touched not the ground: and the goat had a notable horn between his eyes. And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king. Now that being broken, whereas four stood up for it, four kingdoms shall stand up out of the nation, but not in his power."

So, this beast would have horns that would be joined with it. This beast would rule over the world and the powers of the world where this beast or nations would kill/stamp the residue/remnant. We can see from history that this Roman beast has already exercised its power during the 1260 years of persecution in the past. And based on the past, we can see that the time period was practice for what is coming when Sunday laws are enforced. And anyone who is not familiar with this great and terrible beast and what it is capable of doing, just read about this beast's recorded history in Catholic Ency. vol. 12 p.266.

"That the Church of Rome has shed more innocent blood than any other institution that has ever existed among mankind, will be questioned by no Protestant who has a competent knowledge of history . . . It is impossible to form a complete conception of the multitude of her victims, and it is quite certain that no powers of imagination can adequately realize their sufferings."--**W. E. H. Lecky, History of the Rise and Influence of the Spirit of Rationalism in Europe, vol. 2, p. 32, 1910 edition. The Catholic Encyclopedia, vol. 12, p. 266.)**

And as we continue to read in the book of Daniel chapter 7 verse 8, we will notice that something else is going on with the horns...

Daniel 7:8 - I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn [were] eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

So here, we see that there were three powers, because horns are powers or if you will nations, kings that were plucked up and replaced and then another little horn, but this horn had eyes of a man who would speak great things. So, the great and terrible beast Rome would have a little power come out of it who would actually be a man that would rule by speaking great things. Most of us know and understand that this little horn that would arise in the midst of this beast is none other than the popes of Rome who would speak great things against the most high and

would think to change times and laws of God. We go will over the facts of this more with all the historical events and information that we will have in Daniel 8, which looks to be a multiple sermon series, that again, will bring forth great amounts of historical and prophetic facts to give support to who this horn with eyes is and the nations that were removed during the time of this horn with eyes rising to power, and what have you. Daniel 7, 8 and 2 are in great connection with one another along with the book of Revelation.

Daniel 7:9 - I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment [was] white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne [was like] the fiery flame, [and] his wheels [as] burning fire.

Daniel 7:10 - A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

We know that this is the day of judgment where the books will be opened and all will give an account.....

Revelation 20:12 - And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is [the book] of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

And we also see in Daniel 2 where a stone destroys the image, then fills the whole earth, where it is portraying the time when these nations will be judged and destroyed. At that time, God will set up His kingdom and reign forever once the wicked are removed and turned to ashes.

This chapter adds the fact that God will “sit” for a solemn day of judgment before He sets up His “everlasting dominion.” His verdict will be both just and merciful because He commits the judgment to His Son, who gave His life for us and is worthy to open the books. Let us continue on to verse 11...

Daniel 7:11 - I beheld then because of the voice of the great words which the horn spake: I beheld [even] till the beast was slain, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame.

If we take a look into the book of Revelation, we can also see how this beast of Rome will be cast into the lake of fire where the second death resides...

Revelation 19:20 - And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Now, if you notice in the book of Daniel chapters 8, 2 and also 7, we have some of the same stuff going on, but in chapter 8, we have more info being given that go along with the rest of Daniel chapter 7. So for time sake and for the Daniel 8 sermons that are coming, we will go ahead and

stop here and connect the dots with Daniel 7, 8 and 2 next time. Until then, be blessed in the Lord. Open your Bibles and study as much as you can. Let us clean up our lives in this New Year and prepare more for the coming of the Son of God. Let us remove ourselves from the filth of the world and allow Christ to change our garments without murmuring and complaining any longer. Endure the trial, endure the test, endure the mental battles and don't allow it to enter into the heart and be manifested with works of evil. Allow God to stamp out the residue of sin that remains hidden and let's get moving forward and end the great controversy by the working out of our own salvation and seeking out the lost so they may have a chance. I leave you with some encouraging words of peace and strength...

Romans 15:13 - Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

And the Lord of Host proclaims to...

Isaiah 41:10 - Fear thou not; for I [am] with thee: be not dismayed; for I [am] thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.

And let us remember evermore...

Psalms 16:8 - I have set the LORD always before me: because [he is] at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

And to:

Psalms 55:22 - Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and he shall sustain thee: he shall never suffer the righteous to be moved.

Furthermore:

1 Peter 5:7 - Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you.

For:

Psalms 118:14-16 - The LORD [is] my strength and song, and is become my salvation. The voice of rejoicing and salvation [is] in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly. The right hand of the LORD is exalted: the right hand of the LORD doeth valiantly.

And we all need to understand dear striving commandment keeping saints of God that it is good for us to be afflicted; that we may learn of His statutes.

Psalms 119:71 - [It is] good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes.

And by doing this and contending for the faith, Jesus will hear our cries in our distress.

Psalms 120:1 - A Song of degrees. In my distress I cried unto the LORD, and he heard me.

So until next time dear brethren, let us pray for one another as I go in peace and leave you with the Words of our Lord who is soon to come...

John 14:27 - Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Amen and God bless....