

Life-Study of Daniel Summary – Messages 9-13

The Vision Concerning the Four Beasts Out of the Mediterranean Sea

Dan. 7:2-3 – ... I was watching in my vision by night, and there were the four winds of heaven, stirring up the Great Sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, each different from each other.

Daniel 7:2-8 describes the **four beasts** which came out of the Mediterranean Sea. The Mediterranean Sea was the center of the inhabited earth. God's economy in His creation was to make the Mediterranean area the center of culture up to the time of Columbus. Human culture has become a great sea full of winds and storms. The **four winds** signify moves of heaven from four directions; the stirring up of the great sea signifies the stirring up of the political situation around the Mediterranean Sea; and the four beasts which came up from the sea signify **four great, fierce, cruel, and inhuman kings with their empires**.

Dan. 7:4 – The first was like a lion and had the wings of an eagle. I watched until its wings were plucked and it was lifted up from the earth and made to stand on two feet like a man; and a man's heart was given to it.

The **first beast** corresponds to the head of gold of the great human image signifying **Babylon with its founder and king Nebuchadnezzar**. The first beast was like a lion—the king of beasts, the most fierce and cruel. It also had the wings of an eagle, the king of the fowls. The beast's eagle wings signify that it was in the air, which belongs to Satan, the ruler of the air, and that its move was swift. The plucking of its wings signifies that its moving power was taken away and that it became like a beast in the field. It also became like a man standing on the earth with a man's heart.

Dan. 7:5 – And there was 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 they said thus to it, Arise, devour much flesh.

The **second beast** resembled a bear and signifies **Medo-Persia**. This signifies that it was not as strong and swift as the lion but that it was still fierce and cruel. Three ribs were in its mouth between its teeth signifies that the three kingdoms, Babylon, Asia Minor, and Egypt, were devoured by it.

Dan. 7:6 – After this I watched and there was another [beast,] like a leopard; and it had four wings of a bird on its back; and the beast had four heads, and dominion was given to it.

The **third beast** was like a leopard signifying that it was fierce, cruel, and swift. This beast had four wings of a bird on its back, signifying that it was swift by means of its four generals. Thus, the third beast signifies **Greece with its king, Alexander the Great**. The third beast was given dominion signifying that it was given authority to rule over the nations.

The **fourth beast** corresponds to the legs and feet of the great human image, signifying the **Roman Empire**. The fourth beast was dreadful and frightful and exceedingly strong. It had great power to devour and crush nations and trample down the remainder. The beast had ten horns, the signifies that it had ten kings. A small horn came up among the ten horns signifies that **Antichrist will come up among the ten kings**. In this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man and a

mouth speaking great things. This signifies that Antichrist will have sharp sight to perceive things and a mouth to speak great things against God. Because of this, **Antichrist will be slain, and his body will be destroyed and given to the burning fire.**

Dan. 7:13 – I watched in the night visions,/And there with the clouds of heaven/One like a Son of Man was coming;/And He came to the Ancient of Days,/And they brought Him near before Him.

The Son of Man, Christ, came to the Ancient of Days and was brought near before Him. To Him was given **dominion, glory, and a kingdom**, that all the peoples, nations, and languages might serve Him. **His dominion is an eternal dominion, which will not pass away, and His kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.** This is Christ's kingdom; it is also God's kingdom. In His second appearing Christ will come as a stone cut out without hands to strike the great human image and crush it. As the stone cut out without hands, Christ will become a great mountain (a great kingdom—the eternal kingdom of God) and will fill the whole earth forever and ever. **Christ's coming will terminate the entire human government on earth from its end to its beginning, and it will bring in the eternal kingdom of God.**

The Vision Concerning a Ram and a Male Goat with Its Successors

The **ram** in chapter 8 signifies **Medo-Persia**. The ram standing before the river signifies that the ram became strong by the river Ulai. Verse 4 indicates that **Medo-Persia had no fear of God and became arrogant in itself**. Eventually, God dealt with Medo-Persia by raising up Alexander the Great. Verses 5 through 8 speak of a male goat. The **male goat** signifies **Greece with Alexander the Great**. The goat came up to the ram in his mighty wrath, struck the ram, broke his two horns, threw him to the ground, and trampled him. This indicates that **Alexander the Great conquered Medo-Persia and destroyed it**. Once Alexander the Great, the great horn of Greece, became strong in power, he died. In the place of Alexander the Great, his four generals rose up from the four ends of his empire to form nations in Macedonia, Asia Minor, Egypt, and Syria.

Human Government Fighting Against God and Being Crushed by Christ In His Coming With His Bride

Human government not only **rebels against God, exalts man, and worships idols** but also **fights against God directly**. However, Christ, the embodiment of God, will come with His bride to crush the human government. Ephesians reveals that **the church is not only Christ's bride but is also a warrior**. In His coming to crush human government, Christ will be the Husband with the overcomers as His bride.

Christ produces the bride by the way of the new creation. Many of us can testify that we did not begin to grow spiritually until we came into the church life. Growth is followed by transformation. **The more we grow, the more we are transformed.** Christ needs the Body and the bride. Before His second appearing, He will continue to work in the church in a mysterious way to make us a new creation.

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